

Baptism Bags: An Interactive Resource for Children



Children love to learn through experience. They can do just that with Baptism Bags! Each bag comes with a downloadable children's book that engages children in the theology of baptism through storytelling, and props that can be used to tell the story of Jesus' baptism.

The following items will be used to assemble your Baptism bags. Links to specific items have been provided.

Holy Spirit Doves:

https://www.amazon.com/ZZYFGHMiniatureFigurinesWeddingDecoration/dp/B0BZRTFYHN/ref=sr_1_1_rid=1H86IKOW5I8RM&keywords=1.5+inch+doves&qid=1689617522&srefix=1.5+inch+doves%2Caps%2C178&sr=8-1

Jesus and John:

https://www.amazon.com/Juvalle-Wooden-Traditional-Clothespins-Pack/dp/B07XFM6XPR/ref=sr_1_2?crid=1TXR647DEZZGM&keywords=doll+pins&qid=1689617556&srefix=doll+pin%2Caps%2C154&sr=8-2

*If you plan on allowing your children to keep their Baptism bags, consider allowing them to paint and personalize their doll pins to resemble Jesus and John.

The River Jordan:

https://www.amazon.com/HGUAN-Fabric-Decorative-Handicraft-Projects/dp/B0BXD4RTYL/ref=sr_1_39?crid=I47AT5O4UX86&keywords=blue+felt&qid=1689617623&srefix=blue+fel%2Caps%2C158&sr=8-39

Baptism Bags:

https://www.amazon.com/Legigo-Canvas-Cosmetic-Multi-Purpose-Toiletry/dp/B07XYB2DNC/ref=sr_1_5?crid=303GBSDUVFN3K&keywords=blank+canvas+zipper+bags&qid=1689617714&srefix=blank+canvas+zipper+bag%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-5

Baptism Bags: An Interactive Resource for Children

****Please note**

The design on the bag was custom made. If you are interested in adding a custom design to your bags, please contact Brittany DiGiammarino at: britd@flintriverpresbytery.org. Brittany will only charge for cost of materials!

****Options for Children's Book**

The downloadable children's book can be printed and laminated or printed on cardstock. Lamination is recommended for more long term use.

The Baptism of Jesus

An interactive storytelling

Use the items in your bag to follow along with the story!



John tried to stop Jesus. John said, "I need to be baptized by YOU, but you come to me?"

-Matthew 3:14

John did not feel that he was 'good enough' to baptize Jesus because he was a sinner. Have you ever felt like you're not good enough? You are good enough for Jesus. He understands you.



And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the sky opened to him and he saw God's Spirit coming down like a dove toward him.

-Matthew 3:16

The Holy Spirit is also called, "The Giver of Life". The Spirit is God's gift to us. The Spirit helps us to follow Jesus. When God's Spirit came upon Jesus, Jesus was changed and prepared for ministry!



What does Jesus' Baptism mean for me?



Jesus' baptism marked the start of his ministry. A ministry is all the things we do for God. Jesus set an example when he was baptized by John. We should follow Jesus' example by being baptized!

But Jesus answered John and said, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then John agreed to baptize Jesus.
-Matthew 3:15

Jesus was telling John that it was good for him to baptize Jesus because it was what God wanted. So John changed his mind and agreed to baptize Jesus.



Jesus came from Galilee ('Ga-lih-lee), to be baptized by John.
-Matthew 3:13

Jesus walked about 40 miles from Galilee to the River Jordan. That's a long hike!



The symbols in our baptism.



A symbol is something that stands for something else. There are lots of symbols in the Bible that help us to understand things. We use water to clean things. In baptism, water is a symbol which reminds us that God cleans away our sins. God takes away everything that keeps us apart from God! We also use water to help things grow. In baptism, water is also a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which guides us to grow closer to God.

It stands for the cleansing of our sin. Water can also be a symbol for new life like in Creation. What other places in the Bible is water used as a symbol?

And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."
-Matthew 3:17

God claimed Jesus as his son and chose him for this role.



What happens when I am baptized?



When you are baptized, you are welcomed as a member of the Church, the body of Christ. After Jesus was baptized God claimed him as God's son, and chose him for ministry. When we are baptized, we understand that God is the one that chooses us before we can even choose God.

My Baptism

Baptism is a sign and seal of God's promise of redemption. John told Jesus he wasn't good enough to baptize him because John knew he was a sinner. Even though he was a sinner, Jesus came to John. We are all sinners, but Jesus still loves us. He loves us the way we are, and He wants us to join him by being baptized in his Church and sharing in His ministry. The cleaning waters of baptism are a symbol for our being set free from sin, and living with Jesus forever. Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ!