



# KIDTOWN GUIDE

*for 3K-4K*

**DATE:** 3/29/20 - 4/4/20

**SCRIPTURE:** *Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1*

**LESSON:** *Jesus' Baptism*

## INTRO

*Parents read this to your kids at the beginning.*

Well, it's been another week of being out of school, and we just found out that we're going to be out of school for even longer--at least another month or so! What has been your favorite part of this past week?

Even though lots of things are different and changing, it is good to remember the good things that have come out of being at home, like spending time together and having fun together as a family!

And so we're going to take some time to do Kidtown together at home! Just like we would do if we were all gathered together on a Sunday. We're going to play, sing, learn from the Bible and talk about how Jesus wants to grow us as His followers. At the end we'll pray for our family and for others! Y'all ready to go?

## BIBLE VERSE

*Read and memorize the Bible Verse together. "He must increase, I must decrease." John 3:30.*

Say the key passage multiple times using the hand motions to help kids remember the passage. You may use the suggested motions below.

- He [Point up towards heaven.]
- must increase [Move hands apart.]
- I [Point to yourself with both thumbs.]
- must decrease [Move hands together.]

SAY • This key passage is short, but very important. John the Baptist spoke these words about Jesus when many people who were following John began to follow Jesus instead. John knew that his job was to point people to Jesus, not to take glory for himself. That's our job too!

# SING

*Kids love singing and it's a great way to start to direct their energy in a Godward direction before the lesson. To make it easy, you can have the kids sing along to the lyric videos linked below.*

- [A Future and a Hope](#)
- [Jesus Strong and Kind](#)

# LESSON

## Tell the Bible Story

*Open your Bible to Matthew 3, you can even point out that this story is also found in Mark 1, Luke 3, and John 1. Show the Bible story video [Jesus's Baptism](#).*

What a cool story about Jesus getting baptised! Let's get into our story with...

**Story Point #1: (Kids repeat, "Story Point #1!) John the Baptist was very different (kids repeat).** John lived out in the desert and ate honey and bugs - do you think you could do that?! The prophet Isaiah wrote about a man in the wilderness who would prepare the way for Jesus. That man was John the Baptist!

**Story Point #2: (Kids repeat, "Story Point #2!) John lived differently to draw attention to Jesus (kids repeat).**

John knew that Jesus, the Messiah was coming! He wanted to do anything he could to point people to Jesus. He told people to repent (turn away from their sin and toward God) He would baptize people as a picture that they needed to be washed of their sin to get ready for Jesus, the Messiah who was coming!

**Story Point #3: (Kids repeat, "Story Point #3!) Jesus' baptism was very different. (kids repeat)** John was completely shocked when Jesus wanted to get baptized. Everyone else John had baptized needed to repent of sin, but Jesus didn't have any sin! Jesus didn't need to repent! Jesus didn't need to be washed. John just didn't understand. But Jesus knew baptism was part of God's plan. Jesus was obeying God by being baptized.

**Christ Connection! (Kids repeat, "Christ Connection!) Jesus' baptism was different because it pointed to His death and resurrection. (kids repeat)** Jesus never sinned, but when He was baptised, it was to give us a picture of Him dying for our sin on the cross and being buried. When he rose from the water it gave us a picture of him conquering death and coming back to life!

# SNACK & DISCUSSION

*In Kidtown we use snacks as simple reward/incentive for focus during discussion time. Feel free to grab a snack and begin the discussion questions. The goal of this time is to discuss and apply what we learned from the Bible.*

What was your favorite part of the story?

Where did John the Baptist live?

*In the wilderness*

What did John do when people said they were sorry for their sins?

*He baptized them in the Jordan River.*

What did Jesus ask John to do?

*He wanted John to baptize Him*

What happened when John baptized Jesus?

*The sky opened, and Jesus saw God's Spirit coming down on Him like a dove. Then God's voice came from heaven. "This is My Son," the voice said. "I love Him, and I am very happy with Him!"*

Parents, if you or your kids have questions about baptism, you can...

- Watch [this video of our Kids' Baptism Class](#).
- Utilize [this chart](#) as a resource for thinking through your child's readiness for baptism.
- Email us at [hdisbrow@midtowncolumbia.com](mailto:hdisbrow@midtowncolumbia.com)

## LESSON ACTIVITY

*The Lesson Activities are designed to help reinforce what the kids learned in the lesson. You can choose one or more activities to do based on your child's interest and time available.*

### **Special handshakes**

Invite each kid to make a personalized special handshake with you. Suggest kids incorporate high-fives, fist bumps, hand-clapping, and other moves. Practice each handshake a few times. Then lead kids to line up and demonstrate their handshake with you.

*SAY • People all over the world shake hands as a greeting. It's a sign to say, "Hello, nice to meet you." What other actions do we do that communicate messages without using words? (waving, bowing, hugging, saluting, crossing your arms) What do they mean? In the Bible story we heard today, we learned about baptism—a symbol that shows what it means to follow Jesus.*

### **Draw someone strong and powerful**

Give each child a piece of paper and crayons or markers. Encourage him to draw someone strong and powerful.

*SAY • The Jewish people knew that God had promised to send a Messiah, or Savior. They thought God would send someone strong and powerful. They had been waiting for many years for this Messiah to come. They were probably very excited when they heard John say that his job was to get people ready for the Messiah. John said Someone greater than him was coming. Listen to hear what happened as John was teaching and baptizing.*

## PRAYER TIME

*From an early age, we want to teach our kids that prayer is the fuel for our lives as Christians. We depend on God for everything and prayer helps us remember that. Especially in these uncertain times, prayer is one of our most important disciplines as God's people.*

**Pray For Each Other:**

**Questions to Ask:** (Ask your children these questions, but also have them ask you!)

- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?

**Pray:** As the parent, you go first and encourage your children to pray for the person on their right.

**Pray For Jesus' Mission:**

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!