

# JESUS IS BAPTIZED BY JOHN

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John did not want to baptize Jesus. He told Jesus, "I should not baptize You. You should be the One to baptize me!"

But Jesus said that John should baptize Him because it was the right thing to do. So John baptized Jesus. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, the sky opened up and God's Spirit came down. The Spirit looked like a dove. It rested on Jesus.

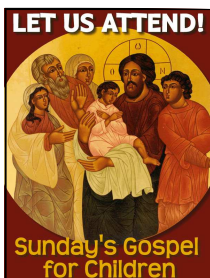
At the same time, a voice from Heaven said, "This is my Son that I love. I am very pleased with Him."



Icon courtesy of Iconographics ([www.theologic.com](http://www.theologic.com))

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Where does our Lord go in this story? Why does He go there?
2. Did John want to baptize Jesus? Did he baptize Him?
3. What happened when Jesus came up from the water?
4. Theophany is when we celebrate Jesus' baptism. When were you baptized?
5. Have you ever seen someone else be baptized? Tell about it.

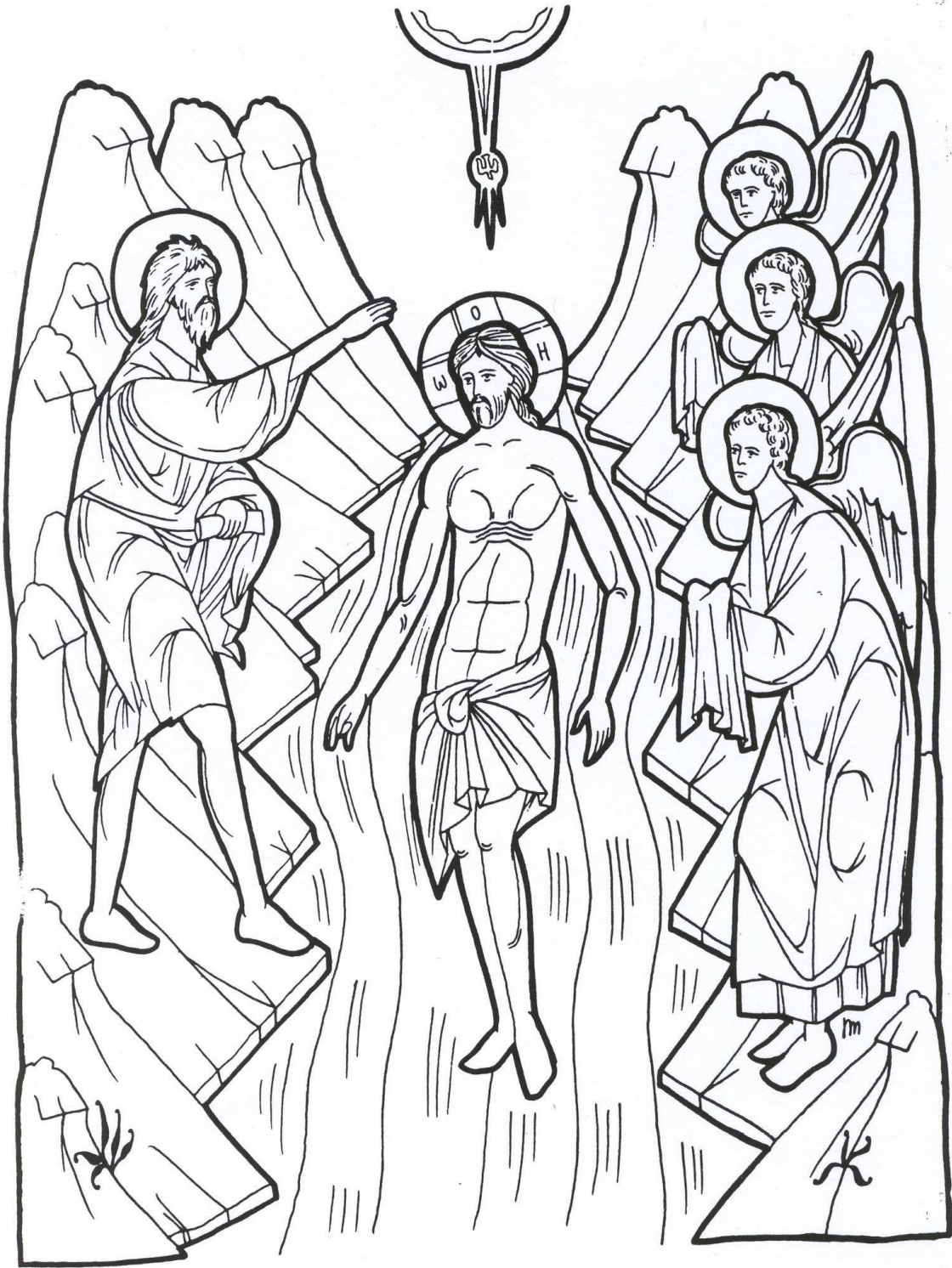


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Pre-12

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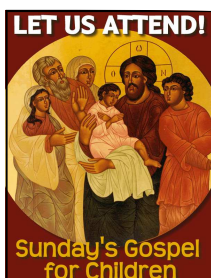
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# JESUS IS BAPTIZED BY JOHN THE FORERUNNER

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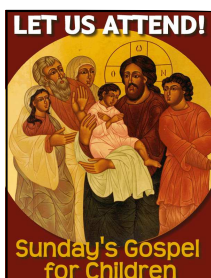
But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”



Image courtesy of unsplash.com: @amichaelbphoto

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What is baptism?
2. How does John baptize people in this story?
3. How does your priest baptize people?
4. What do we do on Theophany? Why?
5. What does the water represent?



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*Characters: Narrator, John, Jesus, Voice*

**Narrator:** At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying,

**John:** I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?

**Narrator:** But Jesus answered him,

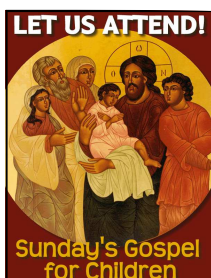
**Jesus:** Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.

**Narrator:** Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying,

**Voice:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.



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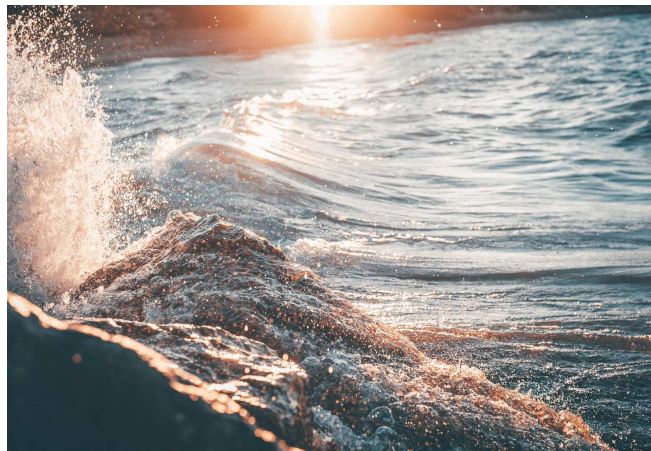
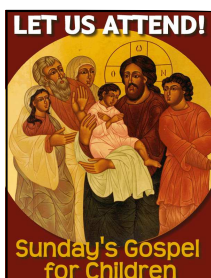


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## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What did John say to Jesus? Why did he think Jesus should baptize him?
2. Do you know what "Theophany" means? Ask your parent, or teacher.
3. Theophany is a major feast day in the Church. Find the phrase that explains why in the words of the troparion. "When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed, the voice of the Father didst bear witness unto Thee, and call Thee His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove, didst confirm the constancy of the Word. O Christ, our God who didst appear and illuminate the world--O Lord, glory to Thee!"



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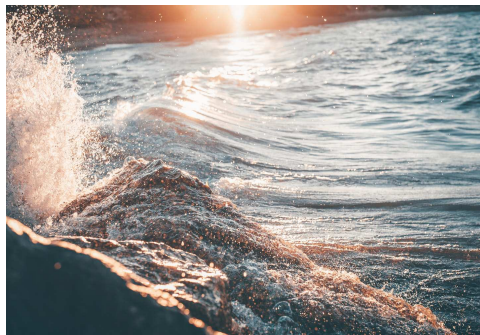
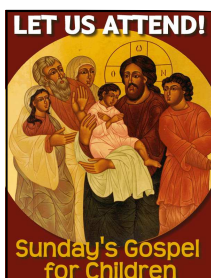


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4. The belief in one God as three persons separates Christians from all other religions. Is it important to you that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Why, why not?



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