

# 1. Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

Find the Gospel references for the Baptism of Jesus.

Is it in more than one Gospel?



# 1. Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

It is in ALL 4 Gospel accounts. Compare and contrast the different accounts

<p><u>Matthew's Gospel</u></p>	<p><u>Mark's Gospel</u></p>
<p><u>Luke's Gospel</u></p>	<p><u>John's Gospel</u></p>

# 1. Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

Compare and contrast the different accounts

<p><b><u>Matthew's Gospel</u></b> Jesus asks John to baptise Him John doesn't want to but obeys Jesus and God. He thinks Jesus should baptise him. Heaven opening Dove and light God spoke "This is my beloved Son whom I am pleased"</p>	<p><b><u>Mark's Gospel</u></b> Doesn't mention Jesus asking him, just mentions the baptism Heaven opening Dove – spirit Doesn't mention light God spoke "This is my beloved Son whom I am pleased" Mentions going to the desert</p>
<p><b><u>Luke's Gospel</u></b> Said that Jesus prayed in the water Heaven opening Dove – spirit Doesn't mention light God spoke "This is my beloved Son whom I am pleased"</p>	<p><b><u>John's Gospel</u></b>  John the Baptist's testimony/version Water Dove Holy Spirit "And I tell you , He is the Son of God"</p>

# Prayer

*Dear heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise that in your mercy you brought us to baptism, and there gave us Jesus' holiness in exchange for our sin and impurity.*

*Thank you for our parents who brought us up in the faith and to baptism, thank you for those other people whom you used to bring us the gospel, and thank you for our pastors and teachers in the faith.*

*Lord, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.***

## 2. Empathise with John's thoughts and feelings

- How might John have felt about his special role and responsibility?
- Did he fit in with the crowd or was he different from them? Think of his clothes and the things he ate.
- How do we react when we are in close contact with people who are different?
- **TASK:** Write an account of Jesus' arrival at the River Jordan from John's point of view and the reaction of the people at that time.
- What did John feel like when Jesus came to him and asked for Baptism?

Work as a group to come up with some ideas to share on the next slide.

Today was a wonderful and bizarre day all in one. I was down by the River Jordan baptising people, teaching people about God, to repent and prepare for someone who is coming - the Chosen One.

You know me, I am a simple man, I dress simply and eat simple food (like honey and locusts). I don't fit in with the crowd. I am nothing special and God is enough for me.

Who should come by today, but Jesus! My cousin, but more importantly the Messiah. I was so happy to see him. The Saviour was here and I hoped he would give me the honour of baptising me. However, things turned. He asked ME to baptise HIM! I protested... A LOT!

Jesus replied, "It's important that I do this now. I am ready and I want to be an example to others and show them that it's important."

Reluctantly, I placed my hand on His back and laid Him down into the water until He was covered. Then I brought Him back up again. As soon as Jesus was baptised, the sky opened up and the Holy Spirit came like a beautiful white dove, and landed right on Jesus shoulder. Then, a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, I love him and I am pleased with him."

I couldn't believe my eyes and ears. Well actually, I could! The Father, Son and Holy Spirit were all present. The crowd around me were in awe but I could feel they all now believe too.

I will never forget this jubilant day for the rest of my life!



## 2. Empathise with John's thoughts and feelings.

Any more planning ideas?

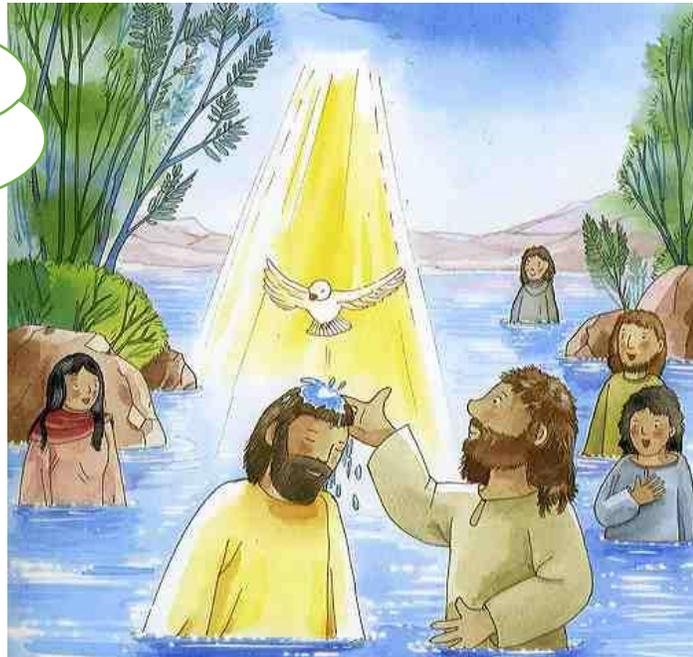
Diary entry?

## 2. Empathise with John's thoughts and feelings

Plenary: Illustrate the story and create speech/thought bubbles to record the conversations and thoughts happening here.

### Jesus

I need to do this for strength and courage for the next stage in my life.



### John

What is happening?  
I am not worthy.  
Why me?

And I tell you , He is the Son of God

### Crowd

Wow! The Son of God!

# Prayer

*In the waters of Baptism we were made God's children and called to serve one another as we have been served by Christ.*

*Therefore let us pray for one another and for all people who will not or cannot pray for themselves.*

*Amen*