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# Jesus is worth following

## CHAIRPERSON'S PLAN

Water games  
Sing  
Opening prayer  
Water poster  
Bible reading  
Baptism discussion  
Baptism Worksheets  
Chain Prayer  
Sing  
Offering  
Sword Drill  
Memory Text  
Sing  
Benediction  
**Next week's jobs**

### To Prepare

**Praise Leader:** Select songs on theme of **Jesus: His standards** e.g.

JP 233 Thank you, God, for sending Jesus MP 638  
 JP 239 The greatest thing in all my life MP 647  
 JP 295 Your ways are higher than mine  
 JP 314 Be holy in all that you do  
 JP 364 His ways are not our ways  
 JP 303 A new commandment I give unto you MP 1  
 JP 124 I want to walk with Jesus MP 302  
 JP 161 Make me a channel MP 456

**Water games:** Select which games you wish to play. Procedure is below. Materials needed are as follows:

**Balloon Toss:** Half fill balloons with water (enough for one between two) and tie a knot in the neck.

**Drink a cup:** A paper or plastic cup for each player. Water.

**Water Collection:** A bucket of water, a sponge or egg cup and a measuring jug, for each team.

**Water Poster:** Use as a team quiz or for all the group together. Enlarge or duplicate as required.

**Bible reading - Mark 1: 4-11** Select a Junior to prepare these verses.

**Baptism Worksheets:** Decide which to use and with which age group of Juniors. Make copies as appropriate. Bring felt tipped pens.

**Sword Drill:** Select from verses on **Cleansing**

Acts 4:12, Galatians 5: 22, Romans 6: 23, 2 Kings 5:14  
 Mark 1: 5 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 3: 23, 1 John 1: 9

**Memory Text: John 3: 30** Use the 'John the Baptist' worksheet.



### Programme

**Balloon Toss:** Everyone finds a partner. They then stand in two rows opposite their partner, about one metre apart. One side have a balloon. On the signal, they throw the half-filled-balloon to their partner who carefully tries to catch it. If successfully caught, that person takes a step back. Repeat throwing, catching and stepping back until the balloon bursts and then the pair are eliminated. The last two players remaining are the winners.

**Drink a cup:** Players, or first of the team, stand at the starting line. The finishing line is marked. Each player is given a cup half filled with water. On the starting signal, players run, cup in hand, to the finishing line where they turn to face the starting line and kneel down. They put the cups between their teeth and their hands behind their backs. They drink the water then run back to the starting line. The first one to return to the starting line, wet or dry, is the winner.

**Water collection:** Teams line up in relay style at the starting line where there is a bucket of water. In front of the teams is a measuring jug. On the starting signal, the player soaks his sponge, or fills their egg cup with water, and runs to put as much water as they can in the measuring jug. The player runs back to give the sponge or egg cup to the next player and play continues. The winning team is the one with the most water in the measuring jug when all have competed.

**Baptism discussion:** What should you do before you touch food? (wash hands) Why? (To get rid of germs.) People came to John to be 'washed'/ baptised in the River Jordan, not so they were clean on the outside, but to show that they wanted to be clean on the 'inside'. All the people who

came had done wrong things which they knew stopped them being the people God wanted them to be. Baptism itself didn't get rid of the wrong things - only God could forgive those. But they asked John to baptise them to tell God, and to show everyone else, that they wanted to be different 'inside' in the future and change their lifestyle.

Who else came to be baptised? Why do you think John did not want to baptise Jesus? (John knew who Jesus was and that He had done no wrong. John realised how special Jesus was.) Jesus gave us a good example to follow.

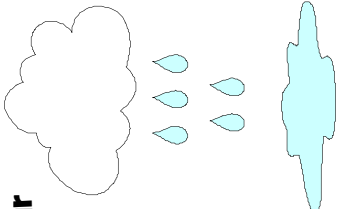
Chain Prayer: \*Repent means being sorry for doing or thinking wrong things and changing your lifestyle. Juniors could say sorry for some of their wrong doings. \*Give thanks for water and its many good uses. \*Remember the people who are starving in countries where there is insufficient rain or irrigation to grow good crops. \*Ask for strength and safety for those working with relief agencies who are trying to help them.

Junior Christian Endeavour

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Water

Circle the things that water can do



walks

rinses

used for cooking

retreats

drives

helps plants grow

sings

freezes to make snow

dilutes fruit drinks

puts out fires

keeps us alive

sleeps

washes

fights

cleans

washes

fights

cleans

walks

used for cooking

retreats

drives

helps plants grow

sings

freezes to make snow

dilutes fruit drinks

puts out fires

splashes

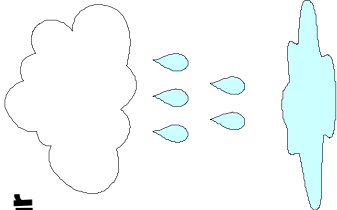
keeps us alive

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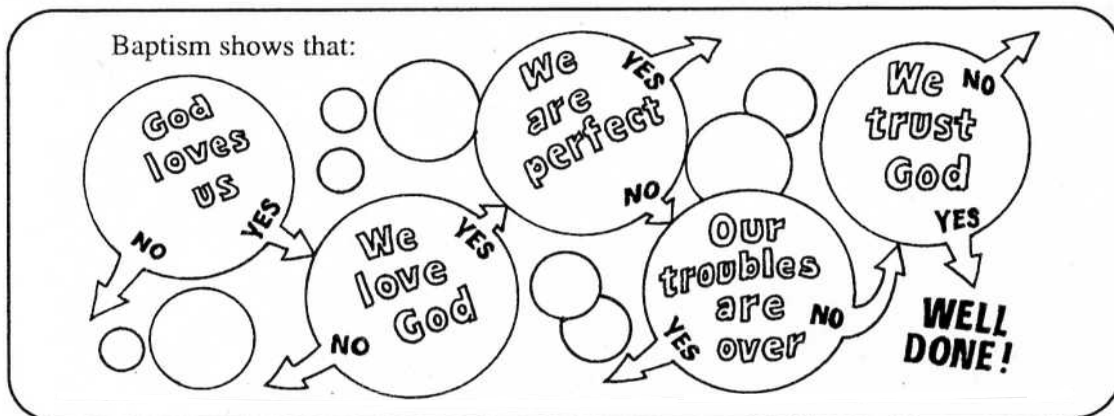
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# BAPTISM

In some churches, a baby or young child is baptised at the request of his/her parents. They wish to have their child grow up in the Christian faith. So at this ceremony they promise publicly that they will teach him/her Christian beliefs and values. Godparents may also be chosen to set the child an example of Christian living, to pray for him/her and encourage him/her to make a 'confirmation' of his/her faith at a later stage.

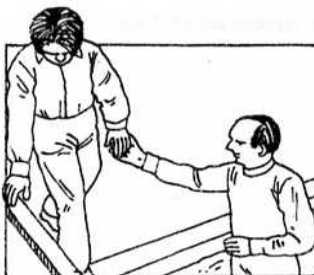
Everyone gathers round or faces the font. The parents and the godparents are asked about their beliefs in God and about their willingness to pray for and teach the child they brought for baptism. Then the baby is given to the minister. A small amount of water is poured over the baby's forehead as the minister says, "I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit" and he draws a cross in water on the baby's forehead.



In other churches, baptism is only undertaken by people who request it and understand it for themselves. Baptism by immersion is seen as a powerful symbol of what happens when a person makes a commitment to Jesus. It is a way for the baptismal candidate to say: my old life is over, buried, and I now rise to a new life, in Christ.

The minister steps down into the baptistry and the candidate joins him. As they stand in the water, the minister asks, 'Have you accepted Jesus as your personal Saviour?'

If the answer is 'Yes', the minister may say, 'On your confession of faith, I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.' The candidate is then immersed in the pool of water. A friend comes to the top of the pool and offers a towel as he/she steps out of the water.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

B	R	A	S	P	N	F	B
E	E	G	F	R	E	E	A
G	P	L	I	T	N	H	P
N	E	C	I	A	R	M	T
A	N	K	D	V	J	Q	I
H	T	R	I	V	E	R	S
C	O	O	L	D	S	E	T
J	O	H	N	U	A	P	E

# John baptises Jesus

Find the words, which are written in capital letters, in the word grid. (All directions.)

Colour the picture and the words of John 3: 30.

Now learn the words of this Bible verse.

JOHN the BAPTIST called people to REPENT and CHANGE what was wrong in their lives, so they could be SET FREE to LIVE. To show they were forgiven John baptised them in the RIVER JORDAN.



**John said** Jesus must become more important while I become less important. **John 3 : 30**