

Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3

#### **Invite Sharing**

To give children a chance to share what they have already learned, show a picture of Jesus being baptized, and ask them to tell you what is happening in the picture and how they feel about being baptized.

#### Teach the Doctrine

 Click here for the "Younger Children's" Program





Click here for the "Older Children's" Program



Our Closing Prayer will be given by

• (Enter name here)



## THE END

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- Teachers should refer to the manual, scriptures and other resources when preparing and conducting the lesson.

# Younger program

#### I can be baptized as Jesus was.



How can you use the account of Jesus's baptism to help the children prepare to be baptized?

#### I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activities

- Click on the Activity below that you want to go to:
- Possible Activity 'A'
- Possible Activity 'B'
- Possible Activity 'C'
- Possible Activity 'D'
- Possible Activity 'E'

#### The Holy Ghost helps me.

- In addition to preparing for baptism, the children are also preparing to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- How can you help them?

#### The Holy Ghost helps me. Possible Activities

Click on the Activity below that you want to go to:

- Possible Activity 'A'
- Possible Activity 'B'
- Possible Activity 'C'
- Possible Activity 'D'

#### Older program

## I am blessed by the ordinances of the Aaronic Priesthood.

John the Baptist held the Aaronic Priesthood, so this is a good opportunity to teach the children about the Aaronic Priesthood and help them recognize the plessings and power that come to both men and women through this priesthood.

### I am blessed by the ordinances of the Aaronic Priesthood.— Possible Activities

Click on the Activity below that you want to go to:

- Possible Activity 'A'
- Possible Activity 'B'
- Possible Activity 'C'

#### I can keep my baptismal covenants.

The account of Jesus's baptism is a good opportunity to help the children review their baptismal covenants and recommit to keeping them.

#### I can keep my baptismal covenants. Possible Activities

Click on the Activity below that you want to go to:

- Possible Activity 'A'
- Possible Activity 'B'
- Possible Activity 'C'
- Possible Activity 'D'

#### The Holy Ghost can guide me.

- Children are learning how to recognize and follow the Holy Ghost's guidance.
- How can you teach them that keeping their baptismal covenants will help them be worthy to receive this guidance?

### The Holy Ghost can guide me. Possible Activities

Click on the Activity below that you want to go to:

- Possible Activity 'A'
- Possible Activity 'B'
- Possible Activity 'C'
- Possible Activity 'D'

#### Younger Possible 1

## I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activity 'A'

- Summarize the story of the Savior's baptism (see Matthew 3:13–17; see also "Chapter 10: Jesus Is Baptized," New Testament Stories, 26–29, or the corresponding video on LDS.org).
- Repeat the story several times and invite the children to share the details they remember.
- Explain that Jesus was baptized by immersion by someone who had priesthood authority.

# I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activity 'B'

- Show a picture of Jesus being baptized and this week's activity page.
- Let the children point out similarities between the two pictures.

## I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activity 'C'

- ►You might review the promises the children will make when they are baptized (see Mosiah 18:8–10; D&C 20:37; True to the Faith, 23).
- Ask them which of these things they are already doing.

# I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activity 'D'

Invite a member of the bishopric to tell the children about the baptismal interview they will have before they are baptized.

## I can be baptized as Jesus was. Possible Activity 'E'

- Sing <u>"Baptism,"</u> Children's Songbook, 100–101, with the children.
- Consider asking a child who knows the song well to lead the other children while they sing.

# Younger Possible 2

## I can give good gifts to Jesus. Possible Activity 'A'

- ■Use Matthew 3:11, 16 to teach the children that the Holy Ghost descended on Jesus when He was baptized (a dove appeared as a sign to show that this had happened).
- Art Book, no. 105), and explain that we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost when we are confirmed.

## I can give good gifts to Jesus. Possible Activity 'B'

- Bring a box containing things such as a picture of Jesus, a comforting blanket, and a compass.
- Invite the children to select an item and then share how each object represents a way the Holy Ghost can help us—He testifies of Jesus, comforts us (see John 15:26), and shows us the right way (see 2 Nephi 32:5).

# I can give good gifts to Jesus. Possible Activity 'C'

Share your own experiences with receiving help from the Holy Ghost.

# I can give good gifts to Jesus. Possible Activity 'D'

Invite the children to listen for ways the Holy Ghost helps us as they sing "The Holy Ghost," Children's Songbook, 105.

#### Older Possible 1

#### I am blessed by the ordinances of the Aaronic Priesthood.- Possible Activity 'A'

- Invite the children to make a list of Aaronic Priesthood duties, using <u>Doctrine and Covenants 20:46, 58–</u> 60; 84:111.
- Explain that priests in the Aaronic Priesthood can "baptize, and administer the sacrament."
- Priests, teachers, and deacons are to "teach, and invite all to come unto Christ" (D&C 20:46, 59).
- Ask the children to look in <u>Matthew 3</u> for examples of John fulfilling these duties.
- How can all of us invite others to come unto Christ, as ohn did?

#### I am blessed by the ordinances of the Aaronic Priesthood.- Possible Activity 'B'

- Display some pictures of Aaronic Priesthood holders performing the ordinances of baptism and the sacrament (see Gospel Art Book, nos. 103, 108).
- Discuss how these ordinances prepare us to receive Jesus Christ and His Atonement.

#### I am blessed by the ordinances of the Aaronic Priesthood.- Possible Activity 'C'

- Read together <u>Doctrine and Covenants 13:1</u>, and explain that John the Baptist restored the Aaronic Priesthood to Joseph Smith.
- Ask the children how they have been blessed because the Aaronic Priesthood was restored.

#### Older Possible 2

## I can keep my baptismal covenants. Possible Activity 'A'

- Ask two children to read <u>Luke 3:7–9, 15–17</u>, one reading the words of John the Baptist and the other reading the rest of the words.
- After each verse, pause and help the children understand what the verse means.

# I can keep my baptismal covenants. Possible Activity 'B'

- Review the covenants the children made at baptism, found in Mosiah 18:8–10 and Doctrine and Covenants 20:37. (See also True to the Faith, 23–26.)
- Invite the children to write these references on this week's activity page.

# I can keep my baptismal covenants. Possible Activity 'C'

- Prepare several pairs of cards with matching phrases or pictures that represent our baptismal covenants.
- Place the cards facedown.
- Invite the children to take turns turning over two at a time, looking for a match.
- After a match is made, invite children to share ways they have kept that covenant.

# I can keep my baptismal covenants. Possible Activity 'D'

Share how keeping your baptismal covenants has blessed you.

# Older Possible 3

# The Holy Ghost can guide me. Possible Activity 'A'

Ask each child to choose one of the following scriptures to read and explain how the Holy Ghost speaks to us: <a href="Doctrine and Covenants 6:23">Doctrine and Covenants 6:23</a>; 8:2–3.

# The Holy Ghost can guide me. Possible Activity 'B'

- Ask a child to read Matthew 3:11.
- ► How is the Holy Ghost like fire?
- For instance, fire is comforting, and it gives light to guide us (see <u>John 15:26</u>; <u>2 Nephi 32:5</u>).

# The Holy Ghost can guide me. Possible Activity 'C'

- Invite the children to close their eyes and hold out their hands.
- Then lightly brush their palms with a feather or string.
- Invite them to tell you when they feel it.
- What does this activity teach about recognizing the impressions of the Holy Ghost?

# The Holy Ghost can guide me. Possible Activity 'D'

- Invite the children to share experiences they have had with the Holy Ghost.
- Why does keeping our covenants help us to have the guidance of the Holy Ghost?

# Resources

Jesus came to John the Baptist,
 In Judea long ago,
 And was baptized by immersion
 In the River Jordan's flow.

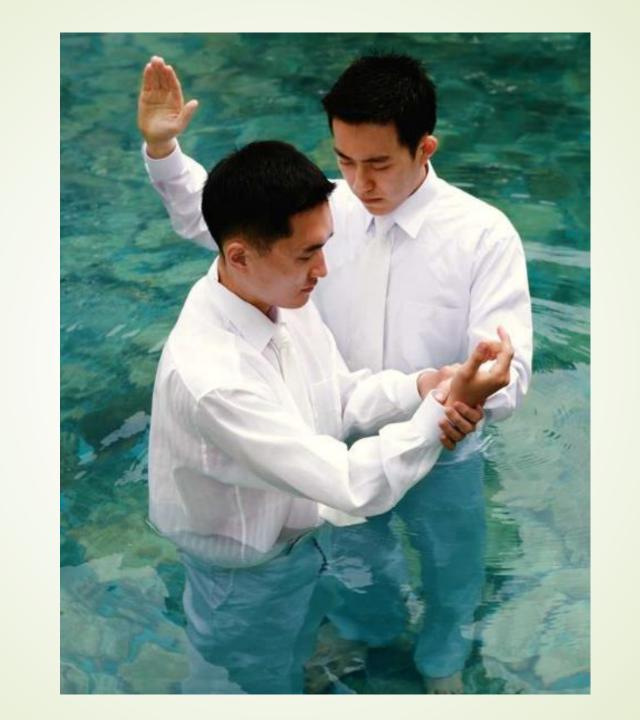


2."To fulfill the law," said Jesus,
When the Baptist questioned why,
"And to enter with my Father
In the kingdom up on high."

3. Now we know that we must also Witness faith in Jesus' word,
Be baptized to show obedience,
As was Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Words: Mabel Jones Gabbott, 1910–2004. © 1969 IRI

Music: Crawford Gates, 1921–2018. © 1969 IRI. Arr. © 1981, 1989 IRI



## 105 The Holy Ghost

1. When Christ was on the earth, He promised he would send The Holy Ghost to comfort us, Our true, eternal friend. The Holy Spirit whispers With a still small voice. He testifies of God and Christ And makes our hearts rejoice.

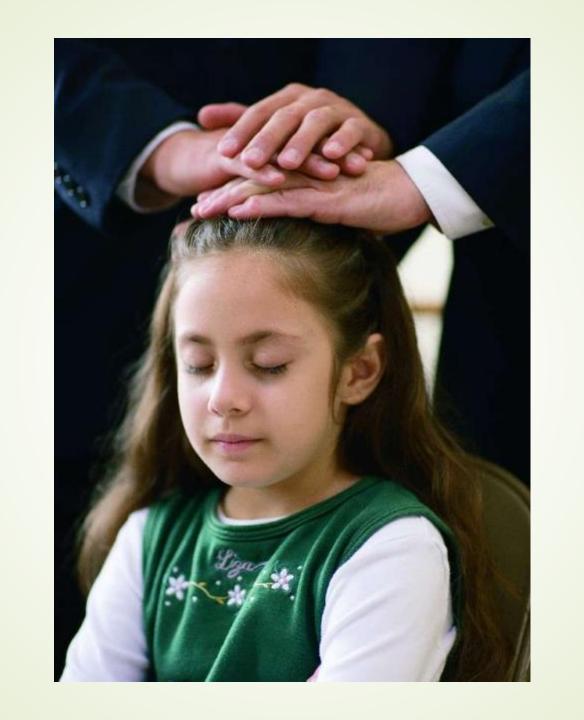


## 105 The Holy Ghost

2. And when we are confirmed By sacred priesthood pow'r, The Holy Ghost is giv'n to us To guide us ev'ry hour. Oh, may I always listen To that still small voice. And with his light I'll do what's right Each time I make a choice.

Words: Jeanne P. Lawler, b. 1924; alt. © 1977, 1989 IRI

Music: Jeanne P. Lawler, b. 1924. © 1977 IRI





# Referenced Scriptures

#### Matthew 3:13-17

- 13 ¶ Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
- 14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
- 15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
- 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightwayout of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
- 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

#### Mosiah 18:8-10

- 8 And it came to pass that he said unto them: Behold, here are the waters of Mormon (for thus were they called) and now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light;
- Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life—
- have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenantwith him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?

#### D & C 20:37

-37 And again, by way of commandment to the church concerning the manner of baptism—All those who humble themselves before God, and desire to be baptized, and come forth with broken hearts and contrite spirits, and witness before the church that they have truly repented of all their sins, and are willing to take upon them the name of Jesus Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end, and truly manifest by their works that they have received of the Spirt of Christ unto the remission of their sins, shall be received by baptism into his church.

- The Book of Mormon tells of a group of people who learned the gospel and were baptized at a place called Mormon. From the time of their baptism, they regarded Mormon as a place of beauty because while they were there, they "came to the knowledge of their Redeemer" (Mosiah 18:30). Strengthened by their testimonies and their baptismal covenant, they remained faithful to the Lord, even in times of intense trial (see Mosiah 23–24).
- Like the people in this Book of Mormon account, you can rejoice as you remember your baptismal covenant and the Lord's promises to you. You can find strength in the ordinance of baptism, whether you were baptized recently or many years ago.

### Matthew 3:11, 16

- 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:
- 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

#### John 15:26

**26** But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

## 2 Nephi 32:5

■5 For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do.

#### D&C 20:46,58-60

- 46 The priest's duty is to preach, teach, expound, exhort, and baptize, and administer the sacrament,
- ■58 But neither teachers nor deacons have authority to baptize, administer the sacrament, or lay on hands;
- ■59 They are, however, to warn, expound, exhort, and teach, and invite all to come unto Christ.
- be ordained according to the gifts and callings of God unto him; and he is to be ordained by the power of the Holy Ghost, which is in the one who ordains him.

#### D&C 84:111

also the elders, and also the lesser priests; but the deacons and teachers should be appointed to watch over the church, to be standing ministers unto the church.

### D&C 20:46,59

- 46 The priest's duty is to preach, teach, expound, exhort, and baptize, and administer the sacrament,
- **59** They are, however, to warn, expound, exhort, and teach, and invite all to come unto Christ.

- In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judæa,
- 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

- 4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.
- 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judæa, and all the region round about Jordan,
- 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.
- P7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- 8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:
- Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

- 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.
- 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but hethat cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:
- 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.
- 13 ¶ Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
- 14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

- 15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
- 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
- ■17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

#### D&C 13:1

■1 Upon you my fellow servants, in the name of Messiah I confer the Priesthood of Aaron, which holds the keys of the ministering of angels, and of the gospel of repentance, and of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; and this shall never be taken again from the earth, until the sons of Levi do offer again an offering unto the Lord in righteousness.

#### Luke 3:7-9,15-17

- Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to ourfather: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.
- 9 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

#### Luke 3:7-9,15-17

- 15 And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;
- ■16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:
- **17** Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

#### D&C 6:23,8:2-3

- ■23 Did I not speak peace to your mind concerning the matter? What greater witness can you have than from God?
- Yea, behold, I will tell you in your mind and in your heart, by the Holy Ghost, which shall come upon you and which shall dwell in your heart.
- Now, behold, this is the spirit of revelation; behold, this is the spirit by which Moses brought the children of Israel through the Red Sea on dry ground.