

# John Baptizes Jesus Paper Cup Craft

## WHAT YOU NEED:

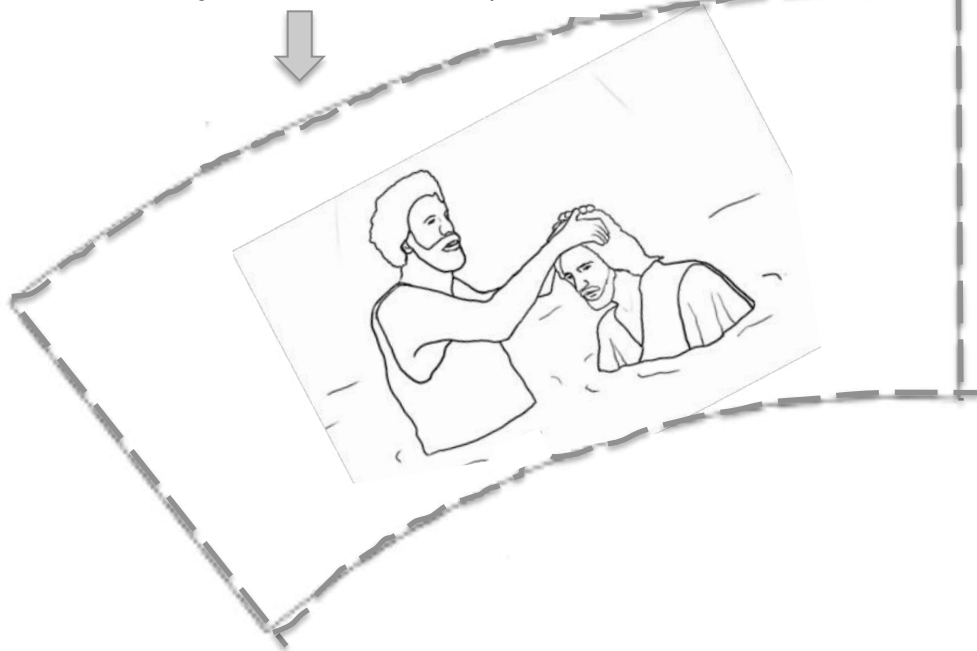
- Paper Cup
- Craft Stick
- Template pictures (*below*)
- Lesson (*pg. 2, to follow*)
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

## WHAT TO DO

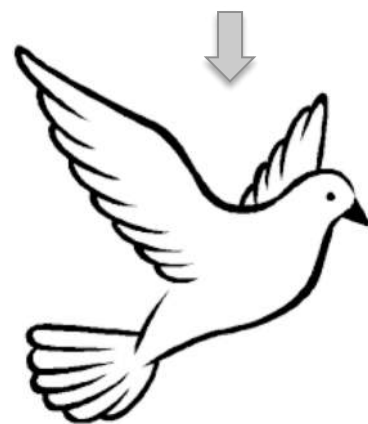
1. Before class print out a copy of each picture below, (*each student needs 1 copy of each*).
2. Have students cut out the dove and glue to the top of a craft stick.
3. Have students color the picture of John the Baptist baptizing Jesus and cut out. Set cup on desk with opening at top. Glue colored picture around the cup.
4. Have an adult cut a slit in the bottom of the cup with sharp scissors. Make sure you cut the slit at the correct angle.
5. Slide the craft stick into the slit from the inside of the cup.
6. Re-read the Lesson and have students re-enact the story by pulling the craft stick with dove up and down from the bottom of the cup.



Cut out and glue around outside of cup



Cut out and glue to top of craft stick



## The Lesson

Today our story is about a man named John. There are thousands of people in this world with the name John. (You may want to ask the children if they know someone with the name John.) But God knew who John was before he was even born. He had a special job for John to do when he grew up to be a man.

God wanted John to have special parents who could teach him to love him and serve him. God gave John to Elizabeth and Zacharias. Elizabeth and Zacharias had been praying for a child for a very long time. They thought that they were getting too old to have children, but God answered their prayers and gave them a son.

They taught John about God and told him that he had a special job to do for God. John was different than most people of his time -- He lived out in the wilderness. (He probably felt closer to God there.) He dressed in clothes that were made from camel's hair and ate things that he found in the desert like locust (grasshoppers) and wild honey.

One day, God's words came to John and John began to preach to the people what God had told him. He told them to "Stop doing wrong, and to get ready because the Savior was coming." He baptized the people who came to him, who said they wanted to stop doing wrong. Soon people began to call him John the Baptist. People from all over would come out to the wilderness and listen to John the Baptist. Some people thought he was their promised Savior, but John told them that he wasn't and that his job was to tell people about the Savior and get them ready to meet him.

Then one special day, the man John the Baptist was telling everyone about showed up! Jesus asked John the Baptist to baptize him. John couldn't believe his ears. The Savior of the world was asking to be baptized by him. John said, "I'm the one that should be baptized by you, yet you come to me and ask to be baptized."

But Jesus insisted, "He said that John should baptize him to fulfill all righteousness." So John did what Jesus told him to do. As soon as John baptized Jesus and Jesus came up out of the water, the heaven was opened and John saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Jesus. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

God knew who John was before he was even born, and had a special job for him. God also knew who you were before you were born and has a special job for you to do. You may grow up to be a minister or a teacher or a great evangelist or you may be a fireman, or a secretary, or a mommy, or daddy. No matter what you become God wants you to grow up to be like Jesus and serve him. He wants you to tell others about Jesus just like John the Baptist and tell them to be ready because Jesus is coming again.