



LITTLE TOTS

@HOME LESSONS

LITTLE LEARNERS FAITH FORMATION

Topic: **Jesus is Baptized**

Scripture Reference: **Matthew 3:13-17**



Read of Jesus' Baptism in your Story Bible.

STORY

Explore the Story with Infants

Pretend to play in the water. Touch the water. Splash around. Take a drink.

Explore the Story with Toddlers on the Move

Spread your wings! Flap your arms like the wings of a dove. Swoop down from the sky. Fly up to the clouds.

Explore the Story with Talkative Toddlers

Count all the houses (or other images) in the pictures. Next tell all the people in the story that God is pleased with them.

Ask these questions and encourage toddlers to respond.

- Who was in the river? Point to them.
- What did John do to Jesus in the river?
- Find the bird. When did the bird appear in the story? Use your fingers to fly the bird down from the sky & around the pg.
- What did God say about Jesus?

Time to explore! Time to play! Let's all Learn with God today.



Let's Color Together.....For Toddlers

Supplies: Jesus Is Born Coloring Page, crayons, and blank paper

This activity supports **coloring skills**.

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Encourage your child to color the images and delight in their colorful creations.

Your child is learning this...

- When I color, I develop my fine motor skills.
- I also learn the names of colors.
- **When I color pictures of from this story, I remember Jesus' baptism.**



Bible Verse

"And the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'"

—Luke 3:22



Today's Ritual

Share a baptism blessing with each other. Parents make the sign of the cross on their child's forehead with water and say, "God is pleased with you and so am I!"



Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you the unexpected moments in my parenting journey. Be with _____. I ask for your presence and guidance as we gather here today. Amen.

Living Water People.....For Infants & Toddlers

Supplies: Dishpan, towel, hand towel, and play people (that can get wet). Fill dishpan halfway with warm water. Place on a small toddler table with the towel underneath. Have a hand towel and play people next to the pan. This activity can also be done during tub time.

This activity supports **cognitive and sensory development**.

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Together do the work of John the Baptist, baptizing the people. Drop the play people in the water. Tell them God is pleased with them. Hold infants so they can feel the water. Swirl it around. Make the sign of the cross on your child's forehead.

Your child is learning this...

- Copying what others do helps me learn.
- Feeling water helps me know what water is.
- I am learning about baptism.

I am Pleased.....For Infants & Toddlers

Supplies: None. Ask caregivers to sit in front of their children. Demonstrate today's activity.

This activity promotes **emotional development**.

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Sit in front of your child. Point to their nose and say, "I am pleased with your nose." Point to their ears and say, "I am pleased with your ears." Keep pointing to your child's body parts repeating the "I am pleased..." sentence and adding the appropriate word. End by saying, "I am pleased with (insert child's name)."

Your child is learning this...

- Healthy attention from people who love me helps me learn that I am worthy of being loved.
- When the people who love me are pleased with me, I learn that God is pleased with me, too.

River Swim.....For Toddlers

Supplies: Beach towels, water goggles, and toddler life vest or floaties. Place all items on your pretend river bank.

This activity promotes **pretend play** and **physical development**.

Caregivers, while you do this . . .

Together, dive into the pretend river and take a swim. Float, splash, and dive under the water. When you come up repeat God's words from today's story.

Your child is learning this...

- Swimming is fun and good for my muscles.
- When I pretend, I learn to think in the abstract.
- Jesus got into the water. I can too!

Play time is over For you and me. Let's finish in Prayer. One two three!

Dear God,

We praise you! (*Jump up in the air.*) **You are pleased with us.** (*Twirl around.*)

We praise you! (*Jump up in the air.*) **Amen.** (*Fold hands in prayer.*)



PRAY



When Jesus came up from the water,
a dove flew down from the sky.