

# THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Baptism is a celebration of faith.*

## Lesson Plan

**Prepare For It**  
(Teacher prep,  
before class)



**Get To It**  
(Begin the lesson)



**Dig Into It**  
(The meat of the  
Bible lesson)



**Make It Real**  
(Hands-on activity)



**Own It**  
(Lesson wrap-up,  
review, & challenge)



## COLLIDE WITH THE WORD

*Pick a verse from any of the units you've already covered—*

*1 Timothy 4:8, NLT    Mark 16:15, NLT    1 Peter 4:10, NLT*

## PREPARE FOR IT

*This time is for you to prepare for the week's lesson—heart, soul, mind, and strength. Read, contemplate, and pray.*

This lesson is about an often misunderstood topic—baptism. Baptism is a sacrament in the church, a special ceremony we use to testify to God's work in our lives. This lesson will teach your preteens about some instances of baptism in the Bible, as well as how that relates to their lives. At the end of the lesson you will give preteens a chance to respond to an invitation of salvation, and also to know more about baptism. Before you teach this lesson, find out from a pastor what the process for baptism is in your church.

*Check out the words in **BOLD** throughout the lesson. This is suggested conversation for you to use with preteens. Remember to use your own words and to speak naturally.*



*This Bonus Lesson does not include any Crashbook activities.*

### Related Topics

Baptism  
Forgiveness  
Community

### Primary Texts

Matthew 3:1-6, 11-17  
Acts 16:23-34  
Galatians 3:26-28

### Grab It

- Bibles
- *Collide DVD*
- *Crashcards* (send these home with parents)
- DVD player
- butcher paper
- colored pencils
- white board and dry erase markers
- notecards
- marker
- access to YouTube, opt.
- blank paper, opt.

## GET TO IT

Dive into the lesson and encourage conversation.



### Grab It

Collide DVD  
DVD player  
access to  
YouTube, opt.

## MEMORIZE IT

**View It:** Play the *Collide with the Word* video you chose to review (or play all three).

Access it on the DVD, on the WordAction Publishing YouTube channel, or at [bitly.com/collidewiththeword](http://bitly.com/collidewiththeword).

Take 90 seconds to see if any preteens can quote the verse(s)

## DIG INTO IT

The meat of the Bible lesson: where you and your students will discover the **BIG POINTS** and what God has to say

### Big Point #1: *Baptism shows everyone that you are a Christian.*

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1. What is baptism? What happens during a baptism? Give students time to respond.
2. Baptism is “a sacrament in which a [Christian] is immersed in water or has water sprinkled on his or her head. It symbolizes and gives public testimony to God’s forgiveness, the believer’s repentance, receiving the Holy Spirit, and beginning a new life in Christ” (*Faith Words for Kids*, Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 2011). Check to make sure your preteens understand that definition, and offer clarification if needed.
3. Baptism announces to the world that you have accepted God’s love and you love Him right back as your Savior, King, and Friend.

### What Does God Say About It?

1. Lay butcher paper on the floor or table. Draw a line on it dividing it in half. (If you don’t have butcher paper, just pass out blank sheets of paper.) Pass out colored pencils. Have students gather around the butcher paper.
2. As you read the two passages listed below, have the class draw pictures of what is happening in each story. Have them draw pictures from one story on one half of the paper, and the other story on the other half.
3. Read **Matthew 3:1-6** twice. **What did the people coming to be baptized all have in common?** (*Their sins were forgiven.*) **What does it mean to have your sins forgiven?**
4. Let me give you some backstory on this next passage. Paul and Silas were put into prison. While there this happened. Read **Acts 16:23-34** twice. Discuss,
  - How would you have felt if you were Paul? The other prisoners? The jailer?
  - What was the question the jailer asked Paul and Silas?
  - What happened as a result of the jailer being saved?
  - Who became baptized that night? To whom do you think those people shared what had happened?

### Grab It

Bibles  
butcher paper  
colored pencils  
blank paper, opt.

### Big Point #2: *Baptism is a way for God to tell you how much He loves you.*

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1. Baptism is a celebration of our faith. It's a way for God to show us His great love for us. Baptism is a work of grace; and grace is given out of love. God makes us a new person because He loves us. Baptism is a reminder of our salvation, a salvation given to us out of love.
2. So if you're being baptized that means that you've accepted His love, and that you love Him back!

### What Does God Say About It?

**Grab It**

1. Pass out Bibles and have everyone turn to **Matthew 3:11-17**. Have one person read it out loud twice.
2. **Did you know that Jesus was baptized? Jesus didn't have any sin, so why did He need to be baptized?**
3. Wait for responses, and then add this if needed: **Jesus's baptism was a testimony of God's work in His life. It signifies the beginning of His public ministry. It was a way of God announcing to the world that He was pleased with Jesus, His Son, and was going to continue to be with Him throughout His life.**

Bibles

## Big Point #3: *Baptism is a way for the church to celebrate having you in the family.*

1. Baptism is a celebration. It tells the world that you belong.
2. But you don't just belong to the group of people you see at church every week. You are part of God's family all over the world.

### What Does God Say About It?

**Grab It**

1. Write the reference for **Galatians 3:26-28** on the white board. Have your preteens find this passage in their Bibles. Choose one person to read each verse out loud. You might need to explain the word "Gentile." **It's a word used to describe a person who is non-Jewish.**
2. Write these words on one side of the white board: Jew, slave, male. Write these words on the other side: Gentile, free, female. **This passage is using words to describe opposites or different types of people. Let's come up with some other words that describe different, opposite things.** Write these on the white board, one word on each side. Be careful that this doesn't turn into derogatory statements about others. Some examples are: grandmother, grandson; boss, employee; son, daughter; coach, ball player; football player, fan, etc.
3. **This passage isn't listing opposites to point out the differences of people. It's pointing out that all believers are grouped together, whether they have a lot in common or nothing in common. We all belong together, and we belong to Him. We are one.**

Bibles

white board  
and dry erase  
markers

## MAKE IT REAL: REVIEW TIME

**Grab It**

*A hands-on activity to solidify the lesson*

1. In this next activity you will spend time reviewing the stories with your students. Then, if there's time you will spend some time working on the memory verses.
2. Pair up your students. If you have an odd number, put that person with another group. **You are going to retell a story from today to your partner. One of you choose to retell the Matthew passages; the other choose to retell the Acts passage.**

Collide DVD

DVD player

notecards

marker

white board  
and dry erase  
markers

access to  
YouTube, opt.

If there are three people in one group, assign one of them one of the Matthew passages. Give about 5 minutes for this activity.

3. Spend some time reviewing the memory verses mentioned earlier: 1 Timothy 4:8, NLT; Mark 16:15, NLT; 1 Peter 4:10, NLT. Choose one to focus on for now. You can work on memorizing these in a few ways:
  - Re-watch the *Collide with the Word* video for that verse. After the video, recite the verse with students and give them a chance to say it out loud. Send them to the link: [bitly.com/collidewiththeword](https://bitly.com/collidewiththeword) to watch the videos online at home.
  - Write each word on a notecard. Scramble them up, pass them out, and have the class put them in order.
  - Write the verse on the white board. Recite the verse together. Erase a couple of words, and recite it again. Do that again, and again, until there aren't any words left.
  - Write the verse on the white board. Erase a couple of key words. Replace them with wrong words and have students correct you.

## OWN IT

Wrap up the lesson and challenge students to OWN the theme in everyday life.



## Grab It

Crashcards, one per family

1. Are there preteens in your class who aren't Christian? If so, use this time as an opportunity to share the salvation story with your class.
2. You can follow this guide: **Jesus loves us as our Savior, King, and Friend. Jesus loves you and wants a relationship with you. Do you want to be in a relationship with Jesus? You can do that today. Repent from your sins. What does it mean to repent? Repenting is turning away from sin and turning towards God. It is deciding to live in relationship with God. Then, love Jesus as your Savior, King, and Friend.**
3. Pray with students who want to do this today.
4. Maybe there are ones who would like to be baptized. Use this section as a time to check in with students. Do they know the baptism process for your church? Before class, find out the process for baptism that your church does. Do they do it twice a year, is there a class that is taught, etc.? Share this information with your students. You might even have the pastor come in and talk about baptism.
5. Close the class with this, **Just like Jesus's baptism was the beginning of His public ministry, your baptism is just the beginning. God's love will keep changing you, leading you, and comforting you as you serve Him. It's a testimony to God's work in your life, now and forever.**
6. If any students have shown interest in becoming a Christian or being baptized, be sure to follow up with them, a parent, and a pastor after class.

## Here's your challenge:

1. Share the stories you learned today.
2. Work on memorizing the *Collide with the Word* verses.

Send home the *Crashcard* for this week. This is a short discussion question or activity parents can do with their preteens to reinforce the lesson.