

## LESSON 17

### JESUS IS BAPTISED

John 1:19-28; Matthew 3:13-17

When Jesus was a grown man, he met John the Baptist by the River Jordan. Jesus asked John to baptise him, to show that he would love and serve God all his life.

When John baptised Jesus, Jesus went right under the water in the River Jordan. As Jesus came out of the water, the spirit of God, which looked like a dove, flew down onto his shoulder and God said, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased".

God was telling all the people there that this was His son, whom He had promised to send. If we want to follow Jesus, we too must do as God asks and be baptised.

### ACTIVITY

Attach a piece of blue cellophane to cover the water, leaving an opening near John the Baptist's hands. Cut out a cardboard figure of Jesus and pass it through the slit to indicate baptism. Decorate the illustration.

### FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

On a paper plate, make the River Jordan scene from playdough using blue and green colours for the water and land respectively. Make two pipe cleaner men standing in the river. Add pieces of shrubs for trees.

Paint a paper plate or meat tray blue (or cover with blue paper) and make two slits in it. Make cardboard figures for Jesus and John, and slide them through the slits, as Jesus is baptised.

Fill a container with water. Use a plastic or peg doll and completely immerse it in water to demonstrate baptism.

If possible, have the children witness a baptism.

