

Journal Page

Imagine someone had never heard of baptism before. Write how you would describe baptism and what it means.



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How do you think John felt before baptizing Jesus? After?
- How do you show your family members that you love them?
- How do you know that God loves you?



Jesus Was Baptized

Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:19-34

MAIN POINT: JESUS OBEYED GOD BY BEING BAPTIZED.

John the Baptist began telling the people around him, "Repent and be baptized, for God's kingdom is almost here."

Some people asked John, "Who are you?"

John said, "I am not the Messiah." John said that he was the person Isaiah the prophet was talking about when he said, "There is someone shouting in the wilderness. He says, 'Prepare the way for the Lord; make His paths straight!'"

John was supposed to get people ready for Jesus, God's promised Messiah.

People started to repent; they turned away from their sins and turned to God for forgiveness. Then John baptized them in the Jordan River.

John preached: "Someone more powerful than I will come after me. I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

When John saw Jesus, he said, "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Jesus told John that He wanted to be baptized. But John didn't think he should baptize Jesus. John baptized people who confessed their sins; Jesus never sinned!

Jesus said, "Allow Me to be baptized. God says this is right." So John agreed, and he baptized Jesus.

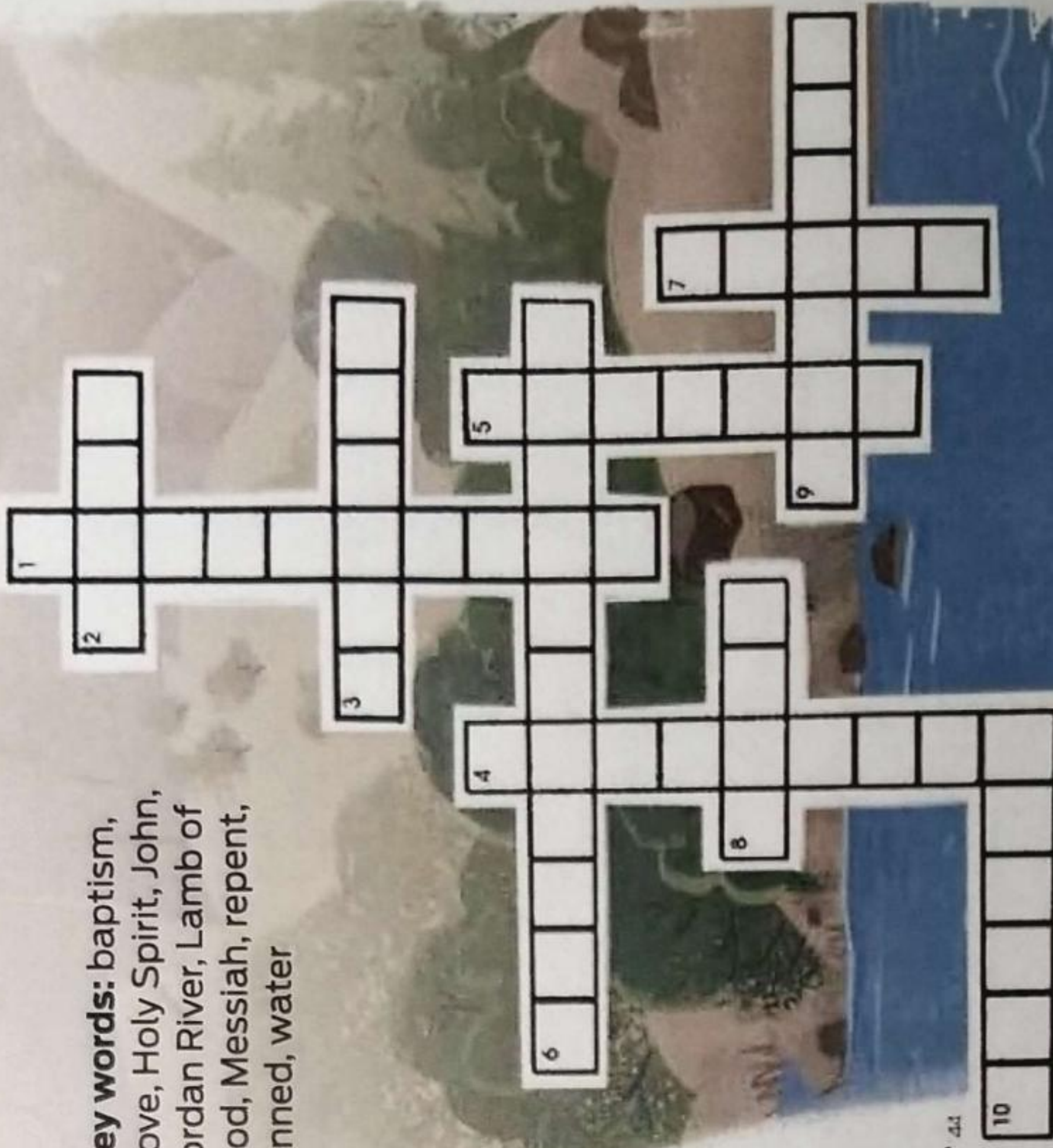
Suddenly, the heavens opened for Jesus, and He saw the Holy Spirit coming down like a dove. And a voice came from heaven. "This is My Son," the voice said. "I love Him, and I am very pleased with Him!"

Christ Connection: Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.

Key Word Crossword Puzzle

Use the clue and key words to fill in the crossword puzzle.

Key words: baptism, dove, Holy Spirit, John, Jordan River, Lamb of God, Messiah, repent, sinned, water



ACROSS

2. the messenger who got people ready for Jesus (John 1:23)
3. to turn away from sin and turn to God (Mark 1:4)
6. the place where Jesus was baptized (Matthew 3:13)
8. The Spirit came down like this animal (Matthew 3:16)
9. a way to show that a person's sins are washed away (Mark 1:4)
10. Jesus never did this (Matthew 3:14-15)

DOWN

1. what Jesus baptizes with (Mark 1:8)
4. John called Jesus this name (John 1:29)
5. John said he was not the promised _____. (John 1:20)
7. what John baptized with (Mark 1:8)

Baptism Dot-to-Dot

Connect the dots to finish the picture. Then complete the sentence:

_____ obeyed God by being baptized by John.