



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JOHN'S MINISTRY BEGAN



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:2-8; Luke 3:1-18; and John 1:6-8,15,19-28 from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

No pilot would just jump in a plane and take off. Before they fly a plane, pilots have a special checklist—a list of important things to check to make sure the plane is safe and ready for the flight. Pilots check the engines, the fuel, the controls, and more. Every step is necessary to make sure they are prepared to fly.

John the Baptist wore simple clothes and ate simple food, but his message was very powerful. He told people to “repent,” which means to turn away from doing wrong and turn toward God. John’s message was like a checklist for our hearts. He helped people prepare and make sure their hearts were ready for Jesus—checking for anything that might get in the way of recognizing Him as the promised Messiah.

John’s message reminds us to get our hearts ready for Jesus. But no one can prepare perfectly on their own—because we all sin and do things that separate us from God. That’s why Jesus came! He died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins and rose again to give us new life if we repent and believe in Him.

**John prepared the way for Jesus by calling people to repent of their sins. If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus, we will be saved.**

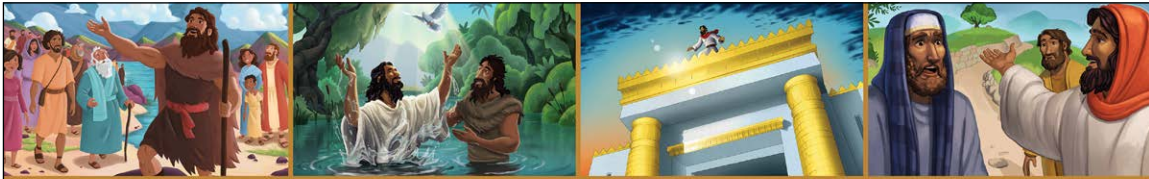
***Pray:** Dear God, thank You for sending John to help people get ready for Jesus. Help us turn away from sin and follow You with all our hearts. Amen.*



## Family Worship Experience

LEARN SCRIPTURE

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

John 1:14



## Family Worship Experience

SING SCRIPTURE

Finish your family worship experience by playing the key passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## Family Prayer Time

### **Mornings**

Ask God to help you recognize when you need to repent—to say you're sorry and turn away from sin. Pray for a heart that is ready and eager to follow Jesus today.

### **Evenings**

Thank God for His forgiveness when you choose to sin. Thank Him for sending Jesus to pay the price for our sin and offer us forgiveness when we put our trust in Him.



## Family Activities

### **For Fun**

Create an obstacle course in the living room or outside. Be sure there are several obstacles scattered along the path. Divide the family into two teams and explain the goal of the race is to remove the obstacles as quickly as possible. Each player runs part of the course, removes one obstacle, and then tags the next runner to do the same until all obstacles are removed. Remind kids that God gave John the Baptist a special mission to prepare the way for Jesus.

### **To Serve**

Use white paper sacks and battery-operated tealights to create lanterns. During the day, use chalk to write Bible verses or encouraging phrases like Jesus loves you on the sidewalk or driveway. Line the lanterns around the writings and invite neighbors to walk through the pathway that evening. Share the message that Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness and people can find hope and guidance in Him.