

Let's Talk: Day 190

Today's Reading: Luke 3 / Family Focus: verses 1-6

Ask your family to define the word Baptism. The word baptism is used in different places throughout the Bible. Whether it is with the Israelites in the Red Sea (1Cor 10:2) or the Jews on the Jordan with John, or Christians today, baptism itself is a public symbol of what has already happened in your heart. In each of the Biblical examples, baptism follows the call from God to repent and turn to Him. Baptism is the chance for us to publicly declare that we have chosen to follow God. For Christians that means we have made Christ our Savior. The only skill we need is obedience to God.

Questions:

1. Where did John baptize people?
2. What prophecy (name the book) was fulfilled through John?
3. Share your experience if you have been baptized.
4. Do you need to be baptized to go to heaven?

Let's Talk: Day 191

Today's Reading: Luke 4 / Family Focus: verses 16-24

Take turns standing up and reading a few verses of this passage. Imagine what it was like to be Jesus reading this to his parents and the friends he grew up with. Imagine what it was like for these people who could remember Him being just a little child learning how to use his father's carpentry tools now declaring Himself a Savior to the people.

Questions:

1. When did Jesus go to the synagogue?
2. How was the scripture Jesus read fulfilled?
3. Why do you think all those in the synagogue were in awe of Jesus or marveled at Him?

4. What do you think you would have thought if you had grown up with Jesus and heard him declare he was the fulfillment of a very old prophecy?

Let's Talk: Day 192

Today's Reading: Luke 5 / Family Focus: verses 1-11

Use your creative juices today! Have each family member draw a picture of a fish. Then each family member will tell a brief story about the fish in the picture (tell its name, where it lives, what it likes to do, etc.).

Questions:

1. What lake were Jesus and his disciples near?
2. What happened to the boat when all the fish were brought in?
3. What did Jesus mean when he told the disciples that they would be "fishers of men?"
4. On probably the most successful night of their fishing career, these fishermen walked away from their profession to follow a man they just met but who spoke incredible truth. What are you willing to walk away from so that Jesus can use you?

Let's Talk: Day 193

Today's Reading: Luke 6 / Family Focus: verses 39-49

Jesus often spoke in parables. Once we understand the meaning of these word pictures it help us understand and remember God's truth. Watch this video of the parable about the two men who built a house <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIPMld7ScUQ>, then discuss what Jesus is teaching us through these pictures.

Questions:

1. What is a parable? (Bonus: to find why Jesus spoke in parables read Matthew 13:10-16. The answer may surprise you)
2. What is the parable about "the plank and the speck" teaching us?
3. What does the phrase "every tree is known by its fruit" mean? What kind of fruit are you known for?

4. What does the house built on the rock symbolize? What about the sand? Read the verses carefully - this parable is often taught incorrectly. (James 1:22 is a good companion verse)

Let's Talk: Day 194

Today's Reading: Luke 7 / Family Focus: verses 1-10

Sit down with your family and make a list of any prayer requests that you have. Take a few minutes to pray for the items that are on your list. Be sure to thank Him for all He has done for you too.

Questions:

1. Who was dying in this passage?
2. What makes this story of healing unique?
3. List some of the character qualities you think the centurion had. Do you have any of those qualities?
4. Can you think of a time when you trusted or had faith in God for something? What happened?

Let's Talk: Day 195

Today's Reading: Isaiah 40 / Family Focus: verses 1-5

Before you read the passage, be sure to have Playdoh ready to use. Ask your child to make a mountain out of the Playdoh and then smash it flat. Then make a crooked line with the Playdoh and redo the line to make it straight. Now, imagine trying to make a real hill or mountain flat or a crooked place, like a river, straight. It is impossible for one person to do that, but with God all things are possible.

Questions:

1. Who will be comforted?
2. Who is the person crying out in the wilderness (hint: this is the same person talked about on Monday)?
3. For whom did John the Baptist come to prepare a way?
4. Why did Jesus need someone to come before Him?

Let's Talk: Day 196

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: What is the voice of the one crying out in the wilderness doing?

This week we are reading from the "Gospels." See if you can name the books of the Gospels. Do you know how each of them knew Jesus? See <http://thebereans.net/contrawho.shtml>