Becoming a Member of God's Family

Written by Glenys Nellist Illustrated by Anna Kazimi

ACTIVITY PACK

Five Tips for Talking to Children About Baptism

- 1. Explain that although there are many different ways, times, and places to be baptized, those differences are not really important. What matters is that in baptism, we all belong to God.
- 2. Tell the child that no matter how or where or when we are baptized, water is always used. Water is a powerful symbol in the Bible. Brainstorm together all the Bible stories you can remember that involve water. (The parting of the Red Sea/Baby Moses in the Nile/ Jesus' own baptism/ Turning water into wine/ The woman at the well etc.)
- **3.** As you look at the pictures in the book, encourage the child's natural curiosity and wonder. 'Wondering questions' are a great way to allow the child to ponder the meaning and mystery of baptism. Examples might be:

I Wonder why Jesus decided to be baptized...

I Wonder why a dove flew down...

I Wonder why water is so important...

I Wonder how God feels when someone is baptized...

- **4.** If your child has an opportunity to be present at a baptism, make sure they can hear and see what is happening. Initiate a conversation about it afterwards and encourage their questions. Ask how it made them feel/ how they think the person's family felt/ how the pastor might have felt.
- **5.** If children have questions about baptism that you don't know the answer to, don't be afraid to say something like: That's a great question. I'm not sure. Let's ask our pastor about that.

Older children may like to compare the different gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism found in Matthew 3:13-17/ Mark 1:9-11/ Luke 3:21-22





SIGNED BOOKPLATES

Cut out and glue inside the book.



BOOKMARKS

Cut out, punch a hole where indicated and thread a ribbon through. (Lamination would make this a keepsake.)





CERTIFICATE OF **BAPTISM**

NAME

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BAPTIZED ON

BY

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CROSSWORD



Down:

- 1. A church leader who baptizes people.
- 2. The number of children on the cover of the book.
- 3. The place where Jesus was baptized.
- 5. "We were all baptized by one _____

6. We often sing these at baptisms.

8. The number of people holding hands on the last page of the book.

Across:

- 4. Who baptized Jesus?
- 7. A place outdoors where some people get baptized.
- 9. Baptism is a sign that we belong to God's
- 10. This bird landed on Jesus when he was baptized.
- 11. A building where many people are baptized.
- 12. This is poured on a baby's head.



WORD SEARCH

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love pastor dove jesus church belonging god river jordan lake water family holy spirit john the baptist river baptism













ANSWER KEYS

CROSSWORD



WORD SEARCH



MORE PICTURE BOOKS BY GLENYS NELLIST



Love Letters from God



Love Letters from God



Easter Love Letters from God



'Twas the Evening of Christmas 'Twas the Season of Advent





'Twas the Morning of Easter



I Wonder: Exploring **God's Grand Story**



The Wonder That is You



Glenys Nellist was born and raised in a little village in northern England. Her writing reflects a deep passion for bringing the Bible to life for young children. She lives in Dearborn, Michigan, with her husband, David. Find Glenys online: glenysnellist.com

