

Get active with the story

Tiny treasure hunt

Mary and Joseph were worried when they lost Jesus. It took them a few days to find him and in the end he was puzzled because he thought they would know he would be in his Father's house -the temple.

Its your turn to hunt for some things around the room. Your leaders will let you know in what areas you should search. You will have to be very skilled to find everything. The items are small and aren't easily to spot. How many can you find?

Pick up a Tiny Treasure hunt sheet and begin your search – remember you will sometimes be looking for just a small piece of the object. When you find it write down the place you found it – leaders will help you with spelling if you need it.



Recreate a scene

Play dough Locust

John the Baptist was a wild man, a different kind of a man. He lived out on his own in the desert. He didn't have much money; he survived by eating locusts and wild honey. He wore rough clothes made from camel hair and his hair and beard were long and bushy and untamed. He was a second cousin of Jesus and his job was to be a messenger- to tell as many people as would listen an important, life changing message; that the Messiah had come!

Use the play dough to recreate a scene or an object/person from the story about Jesus baptism by John in the River Jordan. Here's something you can try below or do something completely different and use your imagination!



Push a flattened lump of dough onto a comb and press hard.



Roll the dough into a cylinder shape to form a body



Make "banana shaped" wings with another colour of dough.



Make a small ball of dough to be the head



Add eyes –these can be stuck on with a small piece of toothpick



Add legs and antennae using green wire

Prayer response to the story

Washing Sins Away

John the Baptist told people to repent or turn away from their sin and be baptised.

The water is a symbol of having your sins washed away and being made clean.

Write or draw on the people shapes with the non-permanent markers. Focus on things you are sorry for or the names of people you have hurt or upset or somebody you find hard to forgive.

Then dip the people in a container of water, as a symbol of confessing your wrong to God and asking Him to forgive you, the writing dissolves and you are left with a clean person!



Make the story Foil Boats

Jesus used the fishermen's boat to teach the crowd at a safe distance. He then instructed the men to row out to deeper waters to fish. They caught so many fish the boat almost sunk!

Make your own boat with the materials provided and test it with cargo to see how well you have designed it!

You must make your boat strong and as big as you can.

Make sure your boat isn't too large to fit in the container of water.

When you have finished, test out your boats making sure there are no leaks.

Make sure it boat holds its shape. If not, try adding a little tape to make it stronger.

Flatten the bottoms of your boat.

Use a permanent marker to write your name on your boat.

When you are satisfied that the boat is seaworthy, add the cargo one at a time to see how much it holds.



Draw the story

Large group banner

Matthew 4:19 Modern English Version (MEV)

¹⁹ And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Use the ideas below to make a banner or adapt them to suit your group.



Use thick brushes to paint all over a large piece of thick paper or card with blue paint. You could also sponge paint, rollers, or crayons for a less messy option.



While the background is drying, draw a simple fish shape on a piece of kitchen foil. Tape it to a net vegetable bag. This stage can be pre-done for younger children.



Press down on the fish shape with your finger nail to make the impression of scales.



Use green and yellow permanent marker pens to colour in the fish. Keep an eye on younger children with these pens!



Add purple and orange lines on the head. Add an eye with a black pen. Cut out the fish and make several more.



When the background is dry stick the fish on with glue sticks. You could use self-adhesive foam letters or use the get the kids to colour the “Fishers of men” printable sheet.

Know the Story Puzzle sheets

Pick up a puzzle sheet or try some colouring. Think about the story as you do the activity.

Can you retell it to someone near you?

