



# The Story @ Home

3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

**Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**

Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2017-2018)

**Lesson #4-17**

John 1:19-34; John 1:35-51

## Last Week

Last week concluded the study of God's presence among people with the story of God dwelling with the people from the beginning of time.

## This Week

This week we join John the Baptist and the disciples at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus.

## Story Summary

### Preparing the Way for the Messiah

John the Baptist travels the country, preparing for Jesus' arrival. Over and over again, John corrects the assumption by many of his followers that he is the Messiah for whom they wait by pointing to the coming of Jesus, the true Messiah.

### Come and See the Messiah

Many of those who saw Jesus named him as the Messiah. Some became his disciples. The word "disciple" means "student." At this time, the disciples of a rabbi (teacher) were not there to learn some facts and figures, but to learn the rabbi's way of thinking and acting.

## Practice: Prayer

Prayer can be both a corporate and a personal practice. We remember the gift of the Holy Spirit through baptism, which often happens in the corporate setting of worship. Jesus also calls each of us by name; yet we travel together in community along this journey of faith. Practice different types of prayer, both as a family and as individuals.

## The Point

We see what it looks like to give testimony to the Messiah and how we deepen our trust in Jesus by following him.

## Bible Nuts & Bolts

### Gospel

The word "gospel" means "good news", and includes the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. People often find it difficult to understand how four writers who are essentially telling the same story can take such different viewpoints. Readers must take into consideration the personality and focus of each individual writer, the culture of the day, the circumstances in which each lived, and the audience to whom each wrote. Much as witnesses to an event may have different accounts based on where they were standing and what affected them the most, the gospel writers have a different perspective and view to the story of Jesus. By including all four gospels to inform the narrative, we have a full and complex picture of Jesus' ministry on earth.

## Next Week

Next week the wedding at Cana is the setting for Jesus' first public miracle.



### Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text speak to our theme of Encountering the Messiah?
- ✚ What does this scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

#### **Sunday—Read John 1:19-34**

Preparing the way for the Messiah.

Compare this story of John the Baptist with those in Matthew 3 and Mark 1. How are they the same? How are they different?

#### **Monday—Read 2 Kings 2:7-8**

Elijah parts the waters of the Jordan.

Fill a sink with water. Try to part the water into two sides. Thank God for miracles.

#### **Tuesday—Read Malachi 4:5-6**

God will send Elijah.

If you were a prophet, what would your message be? Stand and deliver it.

#### **Wednesday—Read Luke 3:1-18**

John the Baptist preaches.

How does this version of John the Baptist compare with the ones you read on Sunday?

#### **Thursday—Read Matthew 3:13-17**

Jesus is baptized.

Imagine this scene. What would you have thought was happening if you had seen the dove and heard a voice from the clouds?

#### **Friday—Read Matthew 4:1-11**

The temptation in the wilderness.

What tempts you to stray from your faith? Pray for strength to withstand temptation.

#### **Saturday—Read Matthew 4:12-17**

A prophecy about Jesus.

Take out a map or GPS. Choose a spot and pray for the people there.



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#### Sunday—Read John 1:35-51

Come and see the Messiah.

Play a short game of "Follow the Leader" doing things that show love to God and to each other, such as praying, waving your hands in the air, giving hugs, etc.

#### Monday—Read Matthew 4:18-20

Simon and Andrew become disciples.

Simon and Andrew were brothers. Is it hard to talk to your family about Jesus? Why or why not?

#### Tuesday—Read Matthew 4:21-22

James and John become disciples.

Immediately James and John left their life's work and followed Jesus. What would be the hardest thing for you to leave behind?

#### Wednesday—Read Matthew 9:9-13

Matthew becomes a disciple.

Matthew was unpopular because he was a tax collector. Who are the people today that other people look down on or do not like? Those are the people that Jesus called; pray for them.

#### Thursday—Read Matthew 9:35-37

The harvest is great but the laborers are few.

Jesus had compassion for the crowds. For whom do you have compassion? Pray for those people.

#### Friday—Read Matthew 10:1-4

The twelve disciples.

If you could cure diseases, which would you cure first? Why? Pray for people who suffer from these diseases.

#### Saturday—Read Matthew 10:5-12

The mission of the twelve disciples.

What do you pack for a trip? What did Jesus tell the disciples to take?