

A Baptism Unlike Any Other | *Matthew 3:1-17*

Big Idea: *Baptism isn't just a ritual; it's a declaration that "I belong to Jesus." Jesus identified with us in His baptism, and now we identify with Him in our lives.*

START TALKING

- Share about a time when you made a public commitment or took a stand for something important.
 - Why do you think public declarations carry so much weight?
- What comes to mind when you hear the word "baptism"?

KEEP TALKING

- Read **Matthew 3:1-17** together. (+ *Isaiah 40:3, Malachi 4:5-6* for context.)
 - Why were people drawn out to hear John in the wilderness?
 - What does that say about what they were looking for?
- John called even the religious leaders to repent. Why was that so shocking then and *how* might something similar happen today?
- If Jesus was sinless, why did He choose to be baptized?
 - What does that tell us about His heart and His mission?
- What do you notice about the moment when Jesus comes up from the water?
 - How does this shape how we see baptism?

START DOING

- Baptism is a public act of identification with Jesus. What would it look like for you to "live your baptism" in everyday life?
- Where in your week could you be more open about your faith, perhaps through your words, your actions, presence, or even intent of your heart?
- What step could you take this week to follow Jesus in simple, visible obedience?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Thank Jesus for identifying with us.
- Ask for courage to reflect Him publicly and to celebrate the work He's doing in others.