

# LESSON THREE

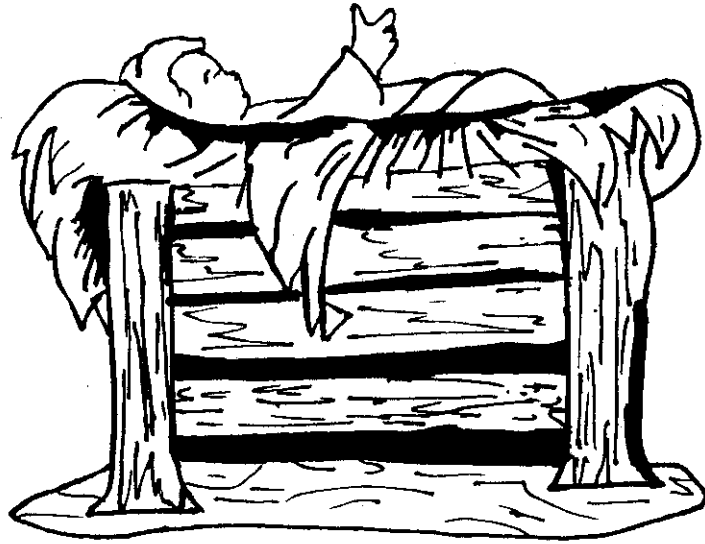
## BAPTISM

*(Baptism means to be dipped or put under the water.)*

### IN LESSON THREE YOU WILL LEARN

- ◆ What the Bible Teaches About Baptism
- ◆ When Jesus Was Baptized
- ◆ What It Means To Be Born Again

## When Jesus Was A Baby



When Jesus, the Son of God, was only eight days old, Mary and her husband, Joseph, took the baby Jesus to the temple to present Him to God the Father.

It was the Jewish Law that babies were to be named when they were eight days old. Mary and her husband Joseph did not have to decide upon a name for their baby. God the Father had already told them what His name was to be. The baby's name was to be Jesus--for He would save His people from their sins.

While Mary and Joseph were at the temple, a man named Simeon and a lady named Anna prayed and blessed the baby Jesus.

What do you think? Does the Bible teach that babies should be baptized? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

*Answer: If you answered No, you are correct. Parents should take a baby to church and dedicate the baby to the Lord. The Bible does not teach that babies should be baptized. Babies are too young to understand about baptism. You should be baptized when you are old enough to understand what the Word of God teaches about baptism.*

## Jesus the Son of God Is Perfect!

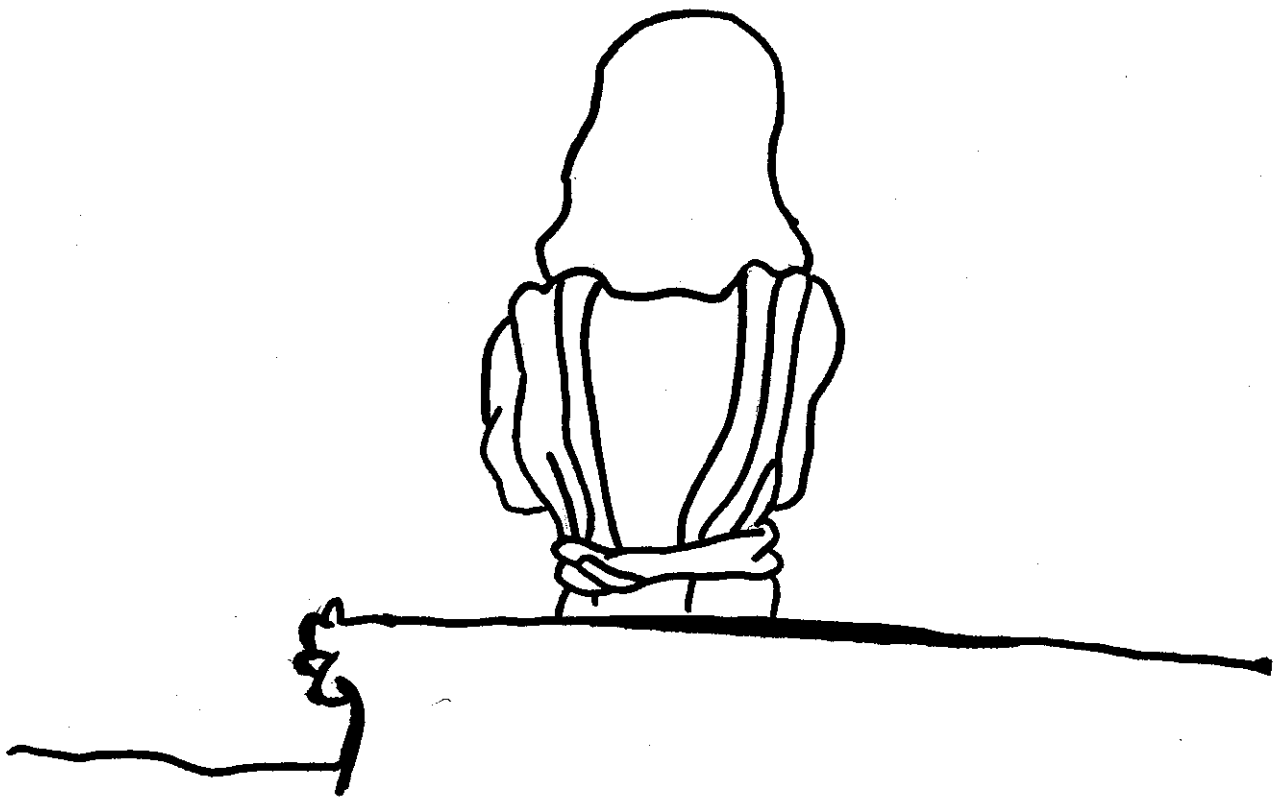


The baby Jesus grew to become a boy and then a man. He was your age once. That is why He understands boys and girls so well. Jesus never did anything that was sinful the entire time He was here on Earth, because He is the Son of God--He is perfect.

Jesus had a cousin whose name was John. Everyone called him John the Baptist. John was six months older than Jesus. He had been sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus to begin His ministry. John went from place to place, telling people that Jesus, the Lamb of God was coming--the Lamb of God to take away their sins. John began to preach, telling people that they must repent, in order to be forgiven of their sins and be baptized.



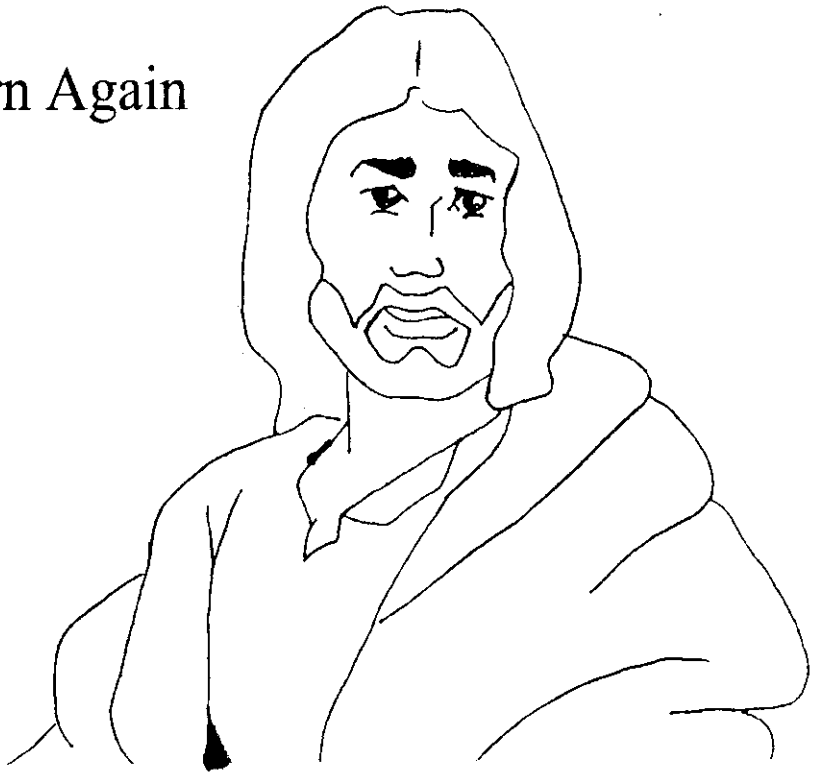
John was baptizing in the Jordan River. Jesus came to John to be baptized. Jesus told John to baptize Him. John looked at Jesus and said, "Lord you should be baptizing me. I'm not even worthy to stoop down and untie your shoes." Jesus said, "John, baptize me." John took Jesus and put Him under the water of the Jordan River and baptized Him.



After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water. The heaven was open, the Holy Spirit like a dove came down upon the Lord Jesus and just then a voice from heaven was heard saying, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."

## You Must Be Born Again

After Jesus was baptized, he began doing many miracles and telling people how to be born into the kingdom of God. The Bible tells us about one man who heard Jesus teach. He was a religious ruler whose name was Nicodemus.



Nicodemus thought he knew a lot about God. He began to talk to Jesus. Nicodemus said, "We know that you are a teacher who comes from God, for no man can do these miracles that you do, except God be with him."

Nicodemus did not understand that Jesus was not just a teacher, Jesus is God's Son. Jesus did not do the miracles because God was with Him. *He did them because He is God!*

When Jesus answered saying, "No one can see the kingdom of God, unless he is born again," Nicodemus began asking questions about being born again. He thought, "Did that mean I have to become a little baby again?"

What do you think? Can you become a little baby again?

Yes \_\_ No \_\_

*If you answered "No", you are correct. Jesus wanted Nicodemus to be born into the family of God and have new life. To be born again means to receive God's free gift of salvation. God wants you to become spiritually alive and to become a member of His family.*

When you are born as a baby, you are born into the human family.

Everyone in the human family is sinful.

Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

# *Sin*

*Sin is anything you think, say, or do that does not please God.*

The Bible teaches that sin must be punished.

The punishment for sin is spiritual death. Romans 6:23 teaches that "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ the Lord."



What does this verse teach that you earn because of sin? \_\_\_\_\_

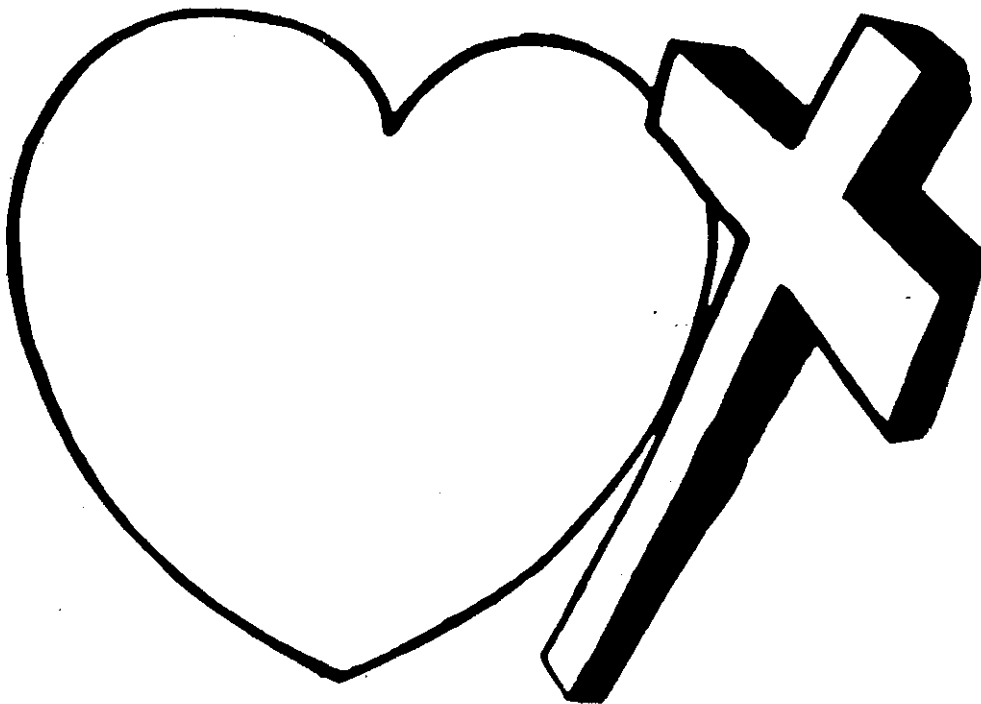
\_\_\_\_\_

God wants to give you a gift. What is the gift according to Romans 6:23?

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus told Nicodemus that God loves everyone--each person in the world. The words that Jesus used to tell Nicodemus about God's plan for the world are written in John 3:16.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."



*In lesson one and two you memorized this verse. Try to say it now without looking.*

## Jesus loved Nicodemus and He loves you too!

God the Father's love is so great that He sent the Lord Jesus to be a punishment for your sins.

God the Father wants you to believe in His Son, Jesus, so that you will not perish (die in your sins) but have eternal life.

Have you been born again? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If your answer is "Yes", you do not need to pray the following prayer again.

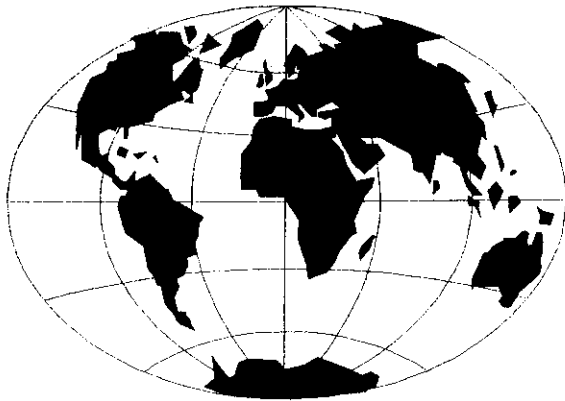
If your answer is "No", would you like to receive Jesus as your Savior from sin? You may pray a prayer like this one to be born again:

*Dear Jesus, I know that I do sinful things. I believe you died for me and took my place on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me for all my sins and come into my life. I know I am a member of God's family now. Thank you. Amen.*

Eternal life means that God puts His life in you, and you become His child forever.

## Baptized Into His Name

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with God the Father, He commanded His followers to teach all who are believers in Him to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."  
(Matthew 28:19).

After Jesus returned to His home in heaven, his followers did exactly as Jesus told them to do, as they went teaching "Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, in the name of Jesus Christ . . . ." (Acts 2:38)

**Welcome to the Family of God!**

**Your next step of obeying Jesus is to be baptized in water.**