

# Mentor/Student Discussion Guide

## Why did Jesus get Baptized?

### February/March 2021

\*Your goals in your time together today are continue to develop your relationship and to discuss the meaning and importance of baptism. Use your own judgment on how much time to devote to each part of the conversation.

\*Both mentor and mentee should share answers and thoughts one another.

\*Neither person should be made to feel that they should share more than they are comfortable sharing.

\*You do not need to make sure you have answered every question listed below. They are provided merely as a way to guide your discussion. Neither should you feel limited to these questions.

\*You will not be reporting answers to anyone. If it is helpful to write answers or take notes, feel free to do so knowing that it is not necessary.

\*Remember that each Middle Schooler is at a different stage in the transition from concrete to abstract thinking.

\*Please take a moment to pray together at the beginning or end of your time together. You may pray your own prayer or use the following (spoken by one person or both together).

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that all those who have been washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

##### Check in

\*Check in about any events or conversation from the last time you met.

\*Each person share a high and a low (something good and something no-so-good that happened) from the previous week.

##### Video

\*Share one thing that you learned from the video.

\*What questions did the video raise for you?

- \*According to the video, what are some possible reasons Jesus was baptized?
- \*What impact might Jesus' baptism have had on those who saw, heard, and experienced it?
- \*What about Jesus' baptism and our baptism is the same? What about them is different?

### Bible

- \*Read Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22, and John 1:29-34. (You may want to bookmark each passage so you can go back and forth between them easily.)
  - \*What are the similarities and differences between each of these accounts of Jesus' baptism?
  - \*Do you think it is important that each of the four gospel writers tells about Jesus' baptism? Why or why not?

### Small Catechism

- \*Read and discuss Martin Luther's questions and answers about Baptism from the Small Catechism.

### Questions for Discussion

- \*Do you remember your baptism? What was it like? If not, what has your family told you about your baptism day?
- \*Have you witnessed a baptism? What was that like? How did it make you feel?
- \*What does being baptized mean to you?
- \*Why do you think God chose to use *water* for baptism?
- \*How do you think baptism affects the way people live out their lives?



I baptize you in the name  
of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit