

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

JESUS, OUR LIFE GUARD

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily Theme	Jesus is baptized for us	Jesus brings us into His Ark.	Jesus drowns our enemies in the water.	Jesus brings us life in the water.	Jesus gives us power through the water.
Bible Text	Matthew 3:13-17	Genesis 6:9-9:17	Exodus 14	Jonah 1-2	Matthew 14:22-33
Take-Home Point	Jesus gets the water ready for us.	Jesus carries us in His ark, the Church.	Jesus drowns our enemies, sin, death and the devil.	Jesus gives up His life for the whole world.	Jesus is with us – we don't have to be afraid / Jesus enables us.
Memory Verse	But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:11	So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. Ephesians 2:19	You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:19b	He has delivered us out of the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14	Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1b-2
Teaching Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God had promised from the time of Adam and Eve to send a Saviour from sin – Jesus is that Saviour. • Jesus came to be baptized by John, but John was reluctant – He knew Who Jesus was and that He did not need to be baptized. • Jesus' Baptism is just the beginning of His ministry • Jesus is already taking the sinner's place • Jesus is God's Son – we know that from the Angel who came to Mary, from the Angels who announced His Birth, from Jesus Himself at age 12, and now from the voice of His Father. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the time Adam and Eve first disobeyed God, sin grew in the earth. • God sent a flood to destroy the earth, but He saved 8 people – Noah and his family. • Noah built an ark where he, his family, and two of every kind of creature would be rescued from the flood. • They were together on the ark for one year and 11 days, safe from harm. • God brought them out of the Ark for a new beginning and made a covenant with them. <p><i>**Creation pamphlets available</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. God worked through Moses to get the king (Pharaoh) to release them. • Pharaoh chased the people to bring them back. • God was in the pillar of cloud, protecting them. • God parted the Red Sea waters and brought the people safely to the other side, ready for a new life. • All of Israel's enemies were drowned in the water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jonah was a prophet sent by God to warn the people of Nineveh about God's anger. • He didn't want to go, and got on a boat to head in the other direction. • God sent a storm. Jonah knew it was because of him, so tells the others to throw him into the sea, where he would die. • Jonah does not die – a great fish comes and swallows him. Jonah is in the fish's belly for three days and three nights. • Jonah prays to God, trusting in Him. • The fish spits him up on dry land, and he goes to do the work God asked him to do. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus comes to the disciples in a storm, walking on water. He is true God • The disciples are afraid and think Jesus is a ghost, but He comforts them and tells them not to be afraid. • Peter can walk on the water when Jesus calls, but falters when he focuses on the waves, not the Saviour. • Jesus reaches down to pull Peter up out of the waves, and they go back to the boat. The wind ceased. • The disciples worship Jesus as the Son of God.

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<p>Application Points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce concept of “lifeguard”. What is their job? They watch over people in the water. They rescue people who are in danger. They make sure that the water is safe. Sometimes they teach us how to swim. We are going to see God the Father and God the Son do these things for us.• Jesus was not baptized because He was sinful; He was baptized alongside sinners so that in the water He would take our sin and give us His righteousness. He was getting the water ready for us.• How is He being a lifeguard for us here?• Jesus’ work continues through His life, death and resurrection• The fulfillment of righteousness is carried out in us	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do we see God save Noah and His family. How is God the Lifeguard today?• What promise does God make to Noah and His family? Why are promises important?• What promises are included in baptism? Forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal life for all who believe in Jesus. How in today’s lesson do we see Noah and his family rescued from sin and death? How do you see them being given life?• When we are baptized, we are also brought into a Community – the Church. Sometimes that is called an “Ark”. How is this community like an ark?• In Jesus’ Ark we are rescued, forgiven, protected and loved.• Because He died and rose again for us, we know that He will bring us into His heavenly kingdom where everything is new.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Israelites were facing danger from their enemies. How is God the Lifeguard today?• God sets up the pillar of cloud between the Israelites and their enemies and parts the waters of the Red Sea so they can get across.• We also have enemies – sin, death and the devil. God puts Jesus, His Son, between us and our enemies – He fights for us by taking our sin on Himself, dying for us, and rising again.• Israel’s enemies are drowned in the sea. In Baptism, we are joined to Jesus, so that our enemies are drowned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is God the Lifeguard today? God shows His awesome power by saving Jonah in a very unusual way.• Jonah offers to give up his life so that everyone else on the boat would be saved. Jesus gives up His life for the whole world.• Everyone thinks Jonah is dead, but he isn’t – he’s alive in the fish’s belly and is vomited up after three days. Everyone who saw Jesus on the cross KNOWS that Jesus really dies. He rises on the third day and many people see Him alive!• Why did God save Jonah? God loved Jonah and sent a fish to save Him. His love is steadfast. He continued to work through Jonah. He does the same thing for us, even though we run away from Him and do things that make Him sad.• Jonah is us – he chooses to do lots of silly things, but God saves Jonah through the fish, and brings him out of the fish. He had a plan. Even before we were in trouble, God had a plan to save us through Jesus, His Son.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is God the Lifeguard today? He keeps Peter from drowning, stops the storm, and brings him back to the boat.• What does baptism give us the power to do?• Gives us the ability to follow Jesus (even when things are scary because of what is happening around us, but Jesus shows us that He is with us and enables us to follow Him).• He enables us to keep our eyes on Him• He enables us to put our trust in Him.• But when we, like Peter, take our eyes off of Him, He saes us.• We don’t have to fear that the waters of baptism have an expiry date – why not? Jesus died and rose again for us. His promises last forever.
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