



Jeffrey listened carefully as Mrs. Harkness talked to the class about the Sacrament of Baptism.

His baby cousin, Emma, was going to be baptized in a few weeks and Jeffrey had a lot of questions.

“When the priest pours water over our heads,” Mrs. Harkness explained, and says, ‘I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,’ something wonderful happens. The water together with the words are a sign that Jesus is present and is giving us the gift of God’s own Spirit. We become true members of the faith community and disciples of Jesus.”

Confused, Jeffrey raised his hand. “Excuse me, Mrs. Harkness, but that doesn’t make any sense. How can a little baby be a disciple of Jesus? How does being baptized make us disciples?”

“Excellent questions, Jeffrey,” Mrs. Harkness said. “Baptized people of all ages, including our parents and our godparents, help us with our ‘disciple lessons.’ Because they are members of Jesus’ Body, we really feel Jesus’ love when they care for us. We see Jesus’ actions when they reach out to help us and others. We hear Jesus’ words when they speak to us about him. If we allow the Spirit to work in our lives, the love of Jesus changes us. We become more and more like him.”

Read Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 and then close your Bible and see if you can answer each of the following questions correctly. If you need help, open your Bible again and check the verse that appears at the end of the question.

THE BAP



1. What question do the people ask themselves about John? (v. 15)

- WILL HE BAPTIZE US TODAY?
- IS HE THE MESSIAH?
- WILL HE ASK QUESTIONS WE CAN'T ANSWER?

2. John tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone will come who will baptize with something else. What? (v. 16)

- SALT AND LIGHT
- HOLY WATER
- HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE

3. What does Jesus do after he is baptized? (v. 21)

- DRIES HIMSELF OFF
- GOES OFF BY HIMSELF
- PRAYS

BAPTISM OF JESUS



4. Heaven opens up and the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus. What form does the Spirit take? (v. 21)

- A STRONG WIND
- A FLAME
- A DOVE

5. Whose voice is heard from heaven? (v. 22)

- ABRAHAM'S
- THE HOLY SPIRIT'S
- GOD THE FATHER'S

6. What does the voice say? (v. 22)

- YOUR ARE MY BELOVED SON
- ...WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED
- BOTH OF THESE

“I think I understand,” said Jeffrey. “When I go with my parents to help at the food pantry, I am Jesus helping to feed the hungry.”

“Exactly,” said Mrs. Harkness. “And those you help feel the love of Jesus through you.”

“So Baptism really gives us an important job to do for the rest of our lives,” said Jeffrey.

“Yes,” said Mrs. Harkness, “As baptized Catholic Christians, we show everyone the love of Jesus.”

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