

# Jesus' Ministry Begins

## Week 23



**Big Idea:** God's solution for our sin problem is not a "What" but a "Who".

**Key Verse:** Matthew 3:16-17

<sup>16</sup>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

### Table Talk

Jesus called a wide variety of people to be his disciples—fishermen, tax collectors, revolutionaries—why didn't Jesus call more powerful people like religious and government leaders?

Think of the Christians you know. Are they all the same? Why does Jesus call people with different interests and personalities to follow him?

When Jesus asked someone to be his disciple, he simply said, "Follow me."

What can you do to follow Jesus more closely?

How does following Jesus change the way you act at school or with your family?

When Satan tempted Jesus, he used Old Testament Scriptures to defend himself. Recite some Bible verses you've memorized. If you haven't already, memorize John 3:16–17 as a family.

Talk about how God's Word can protect you today.

### Extra Mile

Jesus seemed a bit reluctant to perform his first miracle at the wedding feast. But he turned the water into wine because his mom asked. Do you think Jesus did this because the fact that he could do it didn't seem to surprise his mother? Talk about what it must've been like to grow up in the same house with Jesus as you prepare for a fun experiment. You won't be turning water into wine, but you can add a jolt of color to this clear liquid.

You'll need to gather a clear glass or clear plastic cup, water, cooking oil, food coloring, and a pencil. Fill the glass about two-thirds full with water. Now pour a little cooking oil into the glass so it creates a thin layer of oil on top of the water. Add a few drops of food coloring. What happens? The food coloring should sit on top of the oil in a little glob. Have fun by dropping in other colors of food coloring. Now gently poke the pencil into one of the blobs of food coloring. Watch color streak into the glass. Poke all of the different colors. At the end, gently swirl the glass and see what happens. As you carefully clean up, ask these questions about miracles:

Jesus did many miracles. Name a few. Do you think those same types of miracles still happen today? If you could've witnessed any of Jesus' miracles, which one would it have been?

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