

# LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

## WEEK 2: JESUS PRAYED DURING SPECIAL TIMES

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### SCRIPTURE: LUKE 3:21-22

*Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."*

### REFLECTION

When we read the story of Jesus' life through this season of Lent, we find that Jesus lived his life in ways that are very familiar to us. He ate, slept, and traveled. He was happy, sad, tired, excited, and sometimes cranky. He worshiped God with other people. He talked to God in everyday moments, and he prayed during specific and special times.

Our scripture passage this week comes from the Gospel of Luke. John (who we know as John the Baptist) is baptizing people in a river. Baptism is a practice that happened even before it became a sacrament (or an important event) in the Christian faith. In Luke, the people are going into the water to be cleaned and forgiven. So why was Jesus being baptized if he didn't need forgiveness? By being baptized, Jesus participates in this human event with us and shows us that baptism is a way to connect with God. Jesus prayed during his baptism, and we see that God spoke to let everyone know God was listening.

Why is it important for us to pray during special times? Think of some significant times in your life. Maybe it was the birth of a child or sibling. Maybe it was your very first day of school. Maybe it was learning a new skill that took a long time to practice. What are some of the emotions or big feelings that you felt? Did you want to share them with others? Through the story of Jesus' baptism, Jesus shows us that God hears us and wants to connect with us during special times as well.

## DISCUSSION

As you color the coloring page, ponder these questions together:

- Have you attended or participated in a baptism service? What did you like about it? What do you remember about it (images, sounds, words)?
- What are some special times or events in your life where people pray? Why do you think prayer happens during these times?
- Brainstorm with your family special times that you could pray together. You will select one of these in this week's activity to create a prayer to mark a special event in your family.

## ACTIVITY

*Supplies needed: This week's activity page and markers/crayons/pencils*

This week, you and your family are invited to create a prayer to mark a special time or event in your family's life. Perhaps it is a milestone birthday, or anticipating the start of a new school, or something as simple as a prayer that blesses the beginning of each week. Think of images, words, feelings, or phrases that are special to your family and incorporate them into the prayer you can write on the "A Prayer For..." activity page.

If you are comfortable, please share them with our wider ICM community by emailing them to [icm@illustratedchildrensministry.com](mailto:icm@illustratedchildrensministry.com) or sharing them on social media using the hashtag #anillustratedlent so we can share ideas from our amazing community during Lent.

## PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We thank you for each chapter of our lives.

We thank you for the everyday happenings  
and we thank you for the big moments.

Thank you for giving us language  
to speak words of connection, thanks, and love to you  
that we can remember our whole lives.

**Amen.**