

# God's Story Our Story

Jan. 8, 2017



5 simple steps to help bring your household closer to God and each other



**SHARE**  
your highs and lows

Light a candle to help you focus this time as “God time.” **Share your highs and lows of the week**



**READ**  
a Bible verse or story

**A verse for the week:** 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.” Luke 3:21-22

*If your household includes younger children you may want to use a children's Bible story book. If the assigned reading is not in your storybook, just choose another.*

**Sun:** *Jesus' Baptism (Baptism of Our Lord)*, Luke 3:1-22

**Mon:** *Genealogy of Jesus*, Luke 3:23-38

**Tues:** *Jesus is Tempted in the Wilderness*, Luke 4:1-13

**Wed:** *Comfort, O Comfort My People*, Isaiah 40:1-11

**Thur:** *God Will Restore Jerusalem*, Isaiah 52:1-12

**Fri:** *Elijah's Flight*, 1 Kings 19:1-9a

**Sat:** *Hear, O Israel*, Deuteronomy 6:4-15

Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows. More discussion questions are on the back side.



**TALK**

about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows

**A prayer for the week:** God of Grace, through our baptisms, you have promised to love, forgive and always be with us. Marking us with the cross of Christ forever, you give us the gift of faith, so that we may believe in your son, Jesus Christ . Amen.



**PRAY**

for one another's highs and lows



**BLESS**  
one another

Make the sign of the cross,  
**“Remember your baptism, you are loved!”**

**More resources for being the church at home this week**

John the Baptizer has undeniable charisma. But be careful – if you ask him a question, you might not like the answer. John's proclamation is the radical inbreaking of God's kingdom on earth, and one that calls for a radical response.

**A meal time prayer:**

With your water, we thirst no more. With your word, we are no longer hungry. Because of the water and the word, we are filled to the brim with goodness, wholeness and love. Amen

**More questions for conversation:**

1. While being baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit. When you were baptized, you will filled with the Holy Spirit, too. What does it mean to be full of the Holy Spirit? How does it make you different?
2. How has your lifestyle contributed to the institutionalization of oppression?
3. Does your baptism inform your actions and behaviors? If so, then how? If not, why not?

**Ideas for putting faith in action:**

By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive.

Pay attention to the ways you can conserve water this week: turn off the facet when brushing your teeth or shaving, take shorter showers, and only run your dishwasher or washing machine on full loads.

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