

# The Rock, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## Prepare The Way

### Warm up

Dance to, join in with the actions and sing our Rock song.

This video has the words:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcAG4PbNXaA>

This video has the actions: <https://youtu.be/8dbOgbRxC1M>



## Getting started

### Equipment

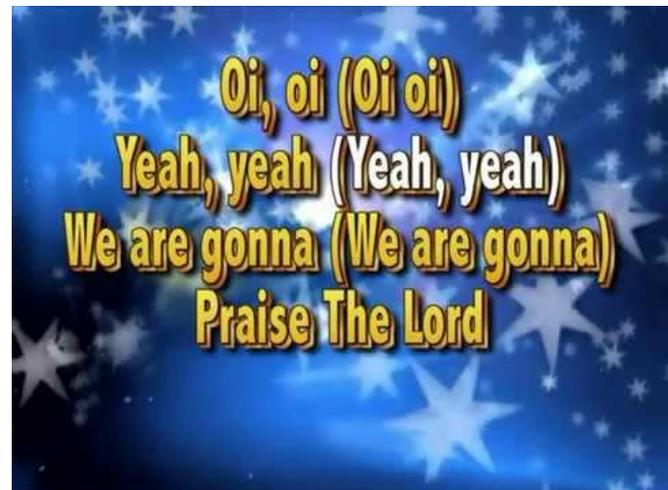
A copy of the song 'Oi, Oi, we are gonna praise the Lord' by Doug Horley on CD, the means of playing it and percussion instruments (optional).

Tell the children that they are going to be singing and dancing to 'Oi, Oi We are gonna praise the Lord'.

Music and words can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5XISKryUcE>

Revisit the song at the end of the session!



## Story/ teaching time

### Equipment

Water tray and water, plastic dolls to play each character in the story, a piece of hairy fabric.

Gather around the water tray/table and act out the story using the plastic dolls as you tell it.

There was once a couple called Elizabeth & Zechariah. They loved each other very much and followed God but they were sad because they didn't have a baby and they thought they never would. One day an angel visited Zechariah when he was at work in the temple and told him that God was going to give him and his wife a very special baby whose name would be John. John would have a very special job to do. Zechariah and Elizabeth were VERY surprised!



Say that John grew up to be very special but he was a bit odd too. Say that John lived in the desert and he wore very hairy clothes - wrap a doll in the hairy fabric. He also ate locusts (these are like grasshoppers) and honey from wild bees.

John had a special message from God. He was telling the people that God was going to send someone very special. Who could that be? Jesus! He told the people that they needed to say sorry to God for all the bad things they were doing. The people were sorry and they wanted to know how to show it. John took them into the river as a sign that God would wash away all the bad they had done. The special name for this is being baptised. He told them that God had forgiven them. Baptise the dolls in the water.

Then someone very special came along and asked to go in the water too to be baptised. It was Jesus! John told Jesus that he didn't need to be baptised but Jesus said he wanted to do what the people were doing too. As Jesus came out of the water, a dove landed on him and the people heard God saying from heaven: "This my Son. I love him and I am very pleased with him." Act out the last part of the story.

**The Point:** To tell the story of John the Baptist.

## Craft ideas

### 1 Equipment

Bread, honey, raisins or dried apricots, spreading knives.

Help the children to spread honey on their bread and scatter it with dried fruit in place of the locusts (although you can sometimes get hold of dried locusts on the internet...!).

Enjoy the snack together.

**The Point:** A food-y story reminder.

### 2. Equipment

The attachment or an outline of a dove, white paper doilies, glue sticks, scissors, blue crayons or blue paper.

[https://www.energize.uk.net/uploads/meetingplan\\_items/3-4BC31HolySpiritDove.pdf](https://www.energize.uk.net/uploads/meetingplan_items/3-4BC31HolySpiritDove.pdf)

Either cut the dove's body out from the attachment and stick it onto a blue piece of paper, or colour around the bird with blue crayon.



Cut the doilies into quarters and stick a quarter of a doily onto the dove as its wing. You probably want to have the scalloped edge up and slightly to the right but each child can be creative!



**The Point:** A reminder of the part of the story where Jesus gets baptised.

### 3. *Equipment*

Card, felt tips, hairy fabric, glue, scissors, hair coloured wool, googly eyes.

Provide a person outline. You can get free printables here: [http://www.makingfriends.com/friends/f\\_pick\\_freinds\\_outliness.htm](http://www.makingfriends.com/friends/f_pick_freinds_outliness.htm) or you can do your own if you wish. Ask the children to make their outline look like John the Baptist. They can add a hairy tunic, googly eyes, long hair, and use felt tips for other features. They can draw in a background too, if they like.

**The Point:** A story reminder.

### **Song**

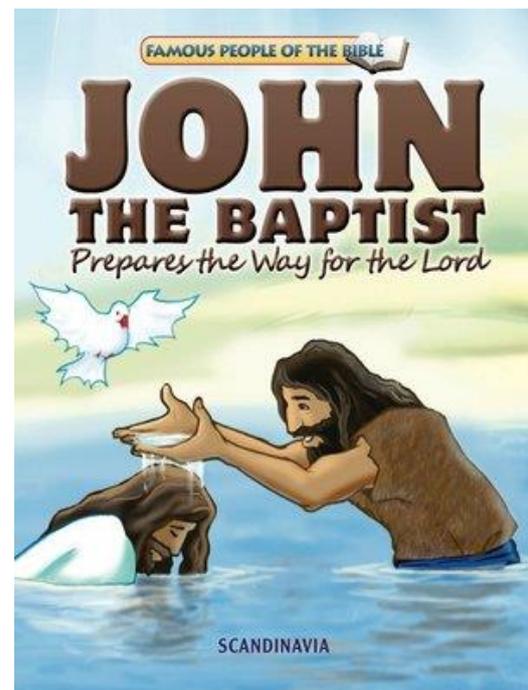
Revisit the song!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5XISKryUcE>

This is a really lively song and will be fun for the children to dance and jump around to – stop the track to point out the words about God pointing down from heaven and saying He loves us. He did this for Jesus when He was baptised and He loves us too.

Enjoy the song together.

**The Point:** To encourage the children to worship God through song and dance whilst letting them know that God loves each one of them.



(Material taken from Energize by Urban Saints - <https://www.energize.uk.net/>)