

# John the Baptist: Lesson 3

**SuperTruth:** Because of Jesus, I can be great in God's Kingdom.

**SuperVerse:** "I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he is!" Matthew 11:11 (NLT)

**Bible Story:** Matthew 3,11; Mark 1,6; Luke 1,3,7; John 1,3

## Game Materials

### Needed:

- Two medium-size boxes—square/cube-shaped, if possible—with lids. Use three boxes if more than 32 children in class
- Question & Answer Sheets
- Marker or chalk to write on the box
- Paper, scissors, and glue or tape, if you cannot write on the box
- Whiteboard and marker, or chalkboard and chalk
- Sixth grade helper or volunteer to keep score on the board

## Teaching Materials

### Needed:

- Optional: tape
- Fruit of the Spirit Pattern
- Scissors for children
- Four jumbo size craft sticks, or standard size
- Dark, fine-tip permanent marker or pen
- Clear, unbreakable drinking cup or dish
- Water, enough to fill drinking cup
- Towel for spills
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

## SuperVerse Materials

### Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk, eraser
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

## Prayer Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

## LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

This is the last lesson of our Superbook adventure, "John the Baptist." John prepared the way for Jesus to bring us God's salvation. Because Jesus died for our sins on the cross, we are part of God's Kingdom here on Earth and then in heaven forever!

- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet John the Baptist, who baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. John preaches a message of repentance to the crowds, and fearlessly confronts King Herod about his sin. The wicked queen plots revenge by having her daughter dance to entice the king then ask for John's head as her reward. John faithfully chooses to follow God, and the children learn they can point others to Christ.
- Watch our Signposts video to learn how the life of John the Baptist points to the life of Jesus Christ.

## SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

**Game:** Cubed Review (15 minutes)

*Objective: Explore the Superbook adventure by playing a review game.*

- This is the last lesson about the Bible story of John the Baptist. To remember some of the important events, we will play a fun game using answer cubes.

*Game Instructions:*

- Give directions about how to go to team's answer boxes, such as skipping or hopping. Listen carefully to the question and the possible answers. Go quickly from the starting line to your team's answer box, pick it up, find the correct answer on it, and hold it toward me so I can see it.

**Teaching:** Prepare the Way (15 minutes)

*Objective: Discuss how John's mission was to point to Jesus.*

- John's assignment from God was to prepare the way for Jesus, the coming Messiah,
- For each of the four Signposts, select a different child to come up and pull the correct craft stick in sequential order, 1–4, out of the water. He/she will then read aloud the text on the craft stick.

*Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)*

- The challenge is to focus on the last three fruit—faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Before we speak or act in hurtful ways, ask the Holy Spirit to work in us and to display His fruit.

**SuperVerse:** Superbook Fill in the Blank (5 minutes)

*Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.*

- Nothing that we have done makes us great in the kingdom—it is all because of what Jesus has done for us!
- Have the children say the SuperVerse together while looking at the board. Read the verse aloud and stop at certain parts. Children will shout the next word that follows. Play the first round facing the board and then for the rounds that follow, children will turn their backs to the board.

**Prayer:** Great Prayers (5 minutes)

*Objective: Communicate with God.*

- When we lean on Jesus and rely on His mighty power, we can be great in God's Kingdom! He replaces our weakness with His strength! It isn't about us—it is all about Him!
- Ask children to see themselves as great in God's Kingdom—no matter how they see themselves, or what others say. Remind them that because of Jesus, they are destined for greatness in His kingdom!

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

**SuperVerse Game:** Play a game to reinforce the SuperVerse. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

**Balloon Object Lesson:** Demonstrate how we become great because of Jesus. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

**Coloring Activity:** Color a scene from the Superbook adventure. | **Grades 1–3** | 15 min

**Bible Study:** Discuss and compare worldly greatness to Kingdom greatness. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min