

Family Faith Packet

Bethany Green Lake | Sunday, November 29

Big Idea: Everyone needs a Savior

Scripture: Mark 1:1-8, Isaiah 40:1-8

Intro

We're starting a new series on Advent and Christmas this week called Wait For It. Week 1 of Wait For It is coming up! We're talking about how John the Baptist prepared the people who couldn't wait to meet the long-awaited Savior. This week's Big Idea: Everyone needs a Savior

Story & Discussion Questions

- For those of you who remember what's been going on with God's people, you'll remember that they endured some difficult times. But God promised a Savior would come. So they waited. And waited.
- Many prophets talked about this Savior that was to come – this was way before they knew that the Savior would be Jesus. Prophets also talked about someone who would come before Jesus, and be a messenger who would prepare the way for the Savior. That person was John the Baptist.
- **Let's read Mark 1:2.** In this story, John was preparing the way for the Savior, but it wasn't by cleaning or cooking a multi-course meal. John was preparing people's hearts by baptizing people and letting them realize they indeed need a Savior.
- **Let's read Mark 1:4-5.** John is Jesus' messenger and reminded people that everyone needs saving. But it's not the kind of saving the people were thinking of. The Savior was coming to save the people from being separated from God by their sins. John told the people that they needed to repent – to say sorry for disobeying God and have a new relationship with God.
- **Let's read Mark 1:7-8.** We need to be connected to God. When the first humans disobeyed, they felt disconnected from God. They needed help! The same is true for all of us because we all sin and need saving.
- John the Baptist traveled and taught many people about God and about the Savior who was coming. . .Jesus! John the Baptist baptized people and helped them get ready for Jesus' arrival.

- John the Baptist helped Jesus by preparing the people around him to know that they needed Jesus to rescue them. And just like they needed Jesus as their Savior, we do, too!

Discussion Questions

- What message did John the Baptist have for the people?
- Why did people come to see John? How do you think you would have responded to John's message?
- How did this prepare the way for Jesus?
- Read Isaiah 40:1-8. Who is the one "crying out in the wilderness" and who is the one who will bring glory to God?
- What are some ways we can remember we need a Savior?
- How can you make room for Jesus this week?
- Who in your family or circle of friends needs a Savior?

Prayer

Dear God, thank You for sending people into our lives who remind us that we need a Savior. Help us to also prepare the way for Jesus by turning away from our sins, and making our hearts a place where you'd want to stay. Amen.

Activities

Game: Locusts and Honey

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Place a strip of tape at one end of the room and another strip of tape at the opposite end to create a course. Pick one kid to be John the Baptist and split the rest into two teams. One team will be honey and the other will be locusts. The honey team will try to prepare the way for John the Baptist to get to the other side by tagging the locusts. When a locust player is tagged, they must sit down. John the Baptist tries to cross the room from the first tape line to the other and the locusts are trying to veer him off of his course.*
- When I say, "Go," the honey team will try and tag the locust team and the locusts will try to stop John the Baptist from crossing the room. John the Baptist must stop if there is locust in their way. Ready? Set? Go!

Activity: Everyone needs a Savior.

- Have you ever rolled a double in a game before? It's when you get the same number on two dice. Rolling a double is usually considered lucky, and it will be for us today because we get to hear the Big Idea only when someone rolls a double!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *[Purchase](#) or [create](#) two giant dice and encourage the kids to take turns passing and rolling the dice. When they roll two of the same number, have them yell "Yahtzee!" or "Let's see!" or another fun phrase.*
- You did it! Now for one more roll . . . a drumroll!
- Today's Big Idea is: **Everyone needs a Savior.**