**Baptism of Jesus: Matthew 3: 13-17**

Points to Stress:

1. Jesus was baptized to sanctify the waters, so we can be baptized too

2. We are God’s beloved son or daughter with whom He is well pleased.

**13**Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. **14**[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+3%3A13-17&version=NABRE#fen-NABRE-27526a)]John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?” **15**Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. **16**[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+3%3A13-17&version=NABRE#fen-NABRE-27528b)]After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. **17**And a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son,[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+3%3A13-17&version=NABRE#fen-NABRE-27529c)] with whom I am well pleased.”

Example:

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?” See this Jesus come down to John, his cousin dressed in camel hair, standing in the Jordan river. Jesus is God, why does he need to be baptized? Why is he asking John, who is just a man, to baptize him? Shouldn’t Jesus be baptizing John? But Jesus is humble, and needs to be baptized to sanctify the waters for us. Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. Many times things do not make sense to us, but God allows it because he has a bigger plan. Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Imagine now yourself being baptized and the heavens opening and God saying, “this is my beloved son, this is my beloved daughter, with whom I am well pleased.” Do you believe God is well pleased with you? Why?