



January 13, 2019

Matthew 3:1-17

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Dear God, your only son came to impart the Spirit's power and mercy to all. May our hearts receive him and turn from the ways of selfish pride. We ask this in the name of Jesus the anointed one, our savior and lord. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. (Matthew 3:7-8)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

John preaches a message of repentance and baptizes all with passion. But when his cousin Jesus requests to be baptized, John wonders if God could possibly approve of such a thing. Perhaps an affirmation from heaven will reassure him.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How does your community of faith honor its baptismal promises for those who are baptized?

How do you claim God's baptismal promises in your daily life? What difference does your baptism make in your life?

For the littles: Ask someone to tell you the story of your baptism. What did you like about the story?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God remind you daily of your baptismal promises. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Visit a body of water near your home (a lake, ocean, or river). Reflect on how God's baptismal promises show up in your life.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, Psalm 2:7-8, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Judges 13:1-7, *The Birth of Samson*

Wednesday, Isaiah 11:1-9, *God's Peaceful Kingdom*

Thursday, Zechariah 3:1-10, *Joshua and Satan*

Friday, Numbers 31:21-24, *Cleansing by Fire*

Saturday, Isaiah 40:1-11, *A Voice in the Wilderness*

Next Week: Matthew 4:1-17, *Temptation in the Wilderness*