

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, **we want YOU to be the one to introduce** this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



2.7

God Gets Us Ready for the Good News

Part of The Big God Story
Luke 3:1–20; Mark 1:1–8; Matthew 3:1–11
John the Baptist Prepares the Way

JUST FOR FUN

During breakfast one morning, add honey to your meal (maybe on toast, on a muffin, in yogurt, or over cereal). Talk with your children about how breakfast is a meal that prepares you for your day. Share with them that you're going to read about someone in The Big God Story who prepared the way for Jesus. Read the account of John the Baptist preparing the way in **Mark 1:1–8**.

Did You Know?

- God promised to send the Savior, and John's role was to prepare the people for His arrival.
- John's striking appearance reinforced the striking message he proclaimed: he lived in the wilderness; his clothes were woven from camel hair; and he ate locusts and wild honey.
- While repentance—turning from sins—happens internally, the beauty of baptism is that it's an external sign of an internal reality.

Remember Verse

YOUNGER:
Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.

Psalm 25:4

OLDER:
Show me your ways, Lord; teach
me your paths. Guide me in your
truth and teach me, for you are
God my Savior, and my hope is in
you all day long.

Psalm 25:1–5

Teachable Moments

After reading Mark 1:1–8,
discuss the following
together:

- What did people do when they heard John's message?
- How can I get ready for Jesus?
- Who can we share the good news of Jesus with?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), may your heart be ready to hear God's good news when He speaks it to you.