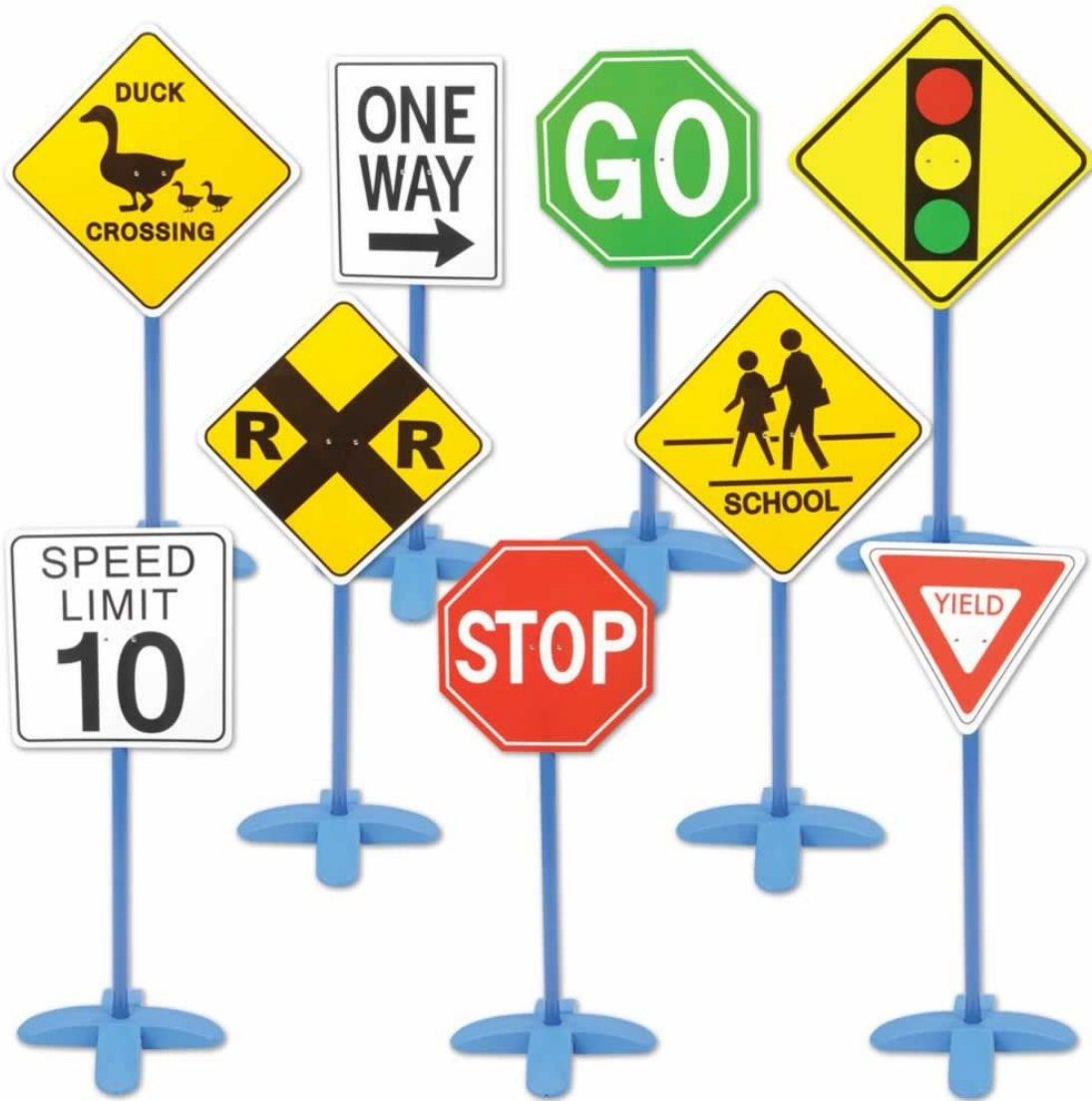


Christ Church Kid's Lesson

Jesus' Baptism

Mark 1:9-11



What are these? These are signs. Signs usually tell us something important.



This one is easy! A STOP sign means you must stop. This is a very important sign. It is telling us we need to stop so we will not get hit by another car.



What does this sign mean? A railroad sign warns us that a train track is near. We have to be careful when we see this sign in case a train is coming.



Do you know this one? Pedestrian crossing... slow down and pay extra attention, people cross the road here.



Can you guess this one? Slippery road ahead.

So signs have very important messages. Today we will be learning about some important signs in the life of Jesus. They will help us to know Him more and see what happened while He was here on Earth.

We will come to know Jesus more today by reading in the book of Mark. A man named Mark wrote this book so we would know who Jesus is and what He has done for us. The book of Mark is in the Bible. It is God's Word.

So two thousand years ago, a long, long time ago, before anyone you know was even born, God came down to earth. We know God came into the world as a baby, right? But Mark begins writing about Jesus when He was a grown-up. God sent a man named John to preach to people about being forgiven of sins, the things we do against God. When people would come to confess their sins and be forgiven, John would baptize them.



In our church Baptism looks more like this.



Baptism is like a sign. It tells people something very important. Baptism is an outward sign of what Jesus has done for us by dying on the cross. Because of God's love and mercy, He came to Earth as a human and died for our sins, but did not remain dead! He rose from the dead so that we may rise out of our sins and live for Him. When we believe, repent of our sins, and trust in Jesus for forgiveness, we may be together forever with God and have a relationship with Him here on earth.

The first story Mark tells us about is the baptism of Jesus. We will read Mark chapter 1 verses 9-11. In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan River. Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; and a voice came out of the heavens. 'You are My Beloved Son; in You I am well-pleased.'



Jesus was perfect. He never sinned. Did He need to be baptized? No! Jesus wanted to be obedient to God the Father in every single way. Though He did not have to be baptized, He chose to be baptized in order to show everyone that He was following God and being obedient to God the Father.

What happened right after Jesus was baptized? The sky opened up and a voice spoke. Whose voice do you think that was? It was God the Father's voice. Through speaking, He was giving everyone a *sign* that Jesus was His Son. So, Jesus' baptism had three very important signs.

Number one It was a sign of obedience.

Number two It was a sign that Jesus was a follower of God.

Number three It was a sign that Jesus was God's Son through God speaking.

After Jesus was baptized, he began His ministry on earth. He taught people about God and performed miracles to reveal to everyone who He was.

Remember, when you see someone today baptized, it is a sign too. It is a sign that tells people we believe in Jesus and trust in Him to forgive us of our sins. It shows people our hearts have been washed clean and we are ready to live a new life in obedience to God. Being baptized is also a way we obey God, just like Jesus did. Baptism is very important and a very special event.