

Water of The Word

Water is good. We drink it, put it on plants, play with it and in it, use it to clean things. When I was a kid, there was nothing quite like a splashy bath. Or a water fight in the heat of summer!

Better, though, is what the Bible has to say about water. It showed up—lots of it—in Genesis when God used water to cover the whole earth. In Exodus, the whole Nile River full of water was turned into blood as one of ten plagues to hit Egypt. Later, God's people were trapped between Pharoah's army and the Red Sea full of water—but God made a way for them through it.

Then when they were thirsty, Moses struck a large rock in the wilderness and **water** gushed out. All through the Old Testament of the Bible, **water** is given to thirsty flocks of sheep and herds of cattle.





God even used water to pick who would be in Gideon's little armyto fight the big army of the Midianites (Judges 7). In Proverbs 21:1, "The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes." In the New Testament, Jesus met a Samaritan woman by a well of **water** and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this **water** shall thirst again; but whoever drinks of the **water** that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the **water** that I shall give him shall become in him a well of **water** springing up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14) Another time, the Lord Jesus said, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living **water**."" (John 7:38)

And in John 13:5, Jesus used water to wash His disciples' feet. How loving and serving He is!

To all these uses of **water** in the Bible, God added baptism. The Bible tells us that baptism doesn't save us, but shows others that we have *already been saved by God*. It is, as our pastor says, "an outward sign of an inward change." If we're going to love and serve and be forgiven by Jesus, people should be able to *see* this. Baptism is one of the first ways to show the world a new Christian is in God's forever family. And it's done with **water**.

So splash your way to the next page and learn about Philip and a man riding in a chariot who needed Jesus.

What happened? A hint: it had to do with water. I'll meet you on the radio or WeKids.org on line for the next We Kids, Kiddo. Until then, remember: God loves you, and I 'love you too—Itruly dooly do!

Mr. Nick

I like what David wrote in the 23rd Psalm about the Lord, our shepherd—"He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters."

And in Isaiah 12:3 the Bible says, "Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation." It's looking ahead to the gift of forgiveness and new life through Jesus.



An Ethiopian Officer

Based on Acts 8 in the Bible

Philip was a man of God. While he was in Samaria, an angel of the Lord spoke to him.

"Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah.

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit withhim.

Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this:

He was led as a sheep to slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He does not open His mouth. In humiliation His judgment was taken away; Who will relate His generation? For His life is removed from the earth. The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

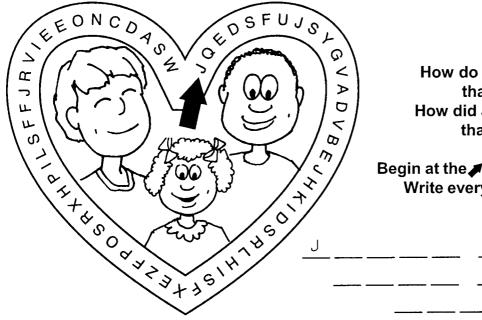
As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "Ibelieve that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 10:43 is a good verse to remember:

Of Jesus all the prophets bear witness that through His name every one who believes in Him has received forgiveness of sins.

Baptism does not save a person. Instead, it shows that a person has been saved by Jesus.



How do you show your friends that you love them? How did Jesus show His friends that He loved them?

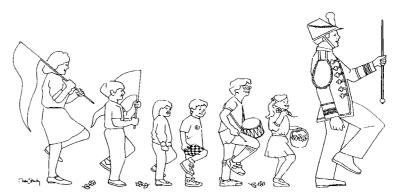
Begin at the . Go around the spiral heart. Write every other letter on the lines.

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