

# It's A Boy! Baptism of the Lord

## What you will need:

It's A Boy decorations

Baby shower type snacks

Sheets of paper for each student, plus 4

Pen or pencil for each student

Package of diapers – at least 28

1 Bottle of Mustard

1 Jar of Grape Jelly

1 Jar of Baby Food veggies (peas or green beans work well)

1 Jar of peanut butter (if you have kids with nut allergies do not do this one)

1 Container of Chocolate Icing or Chocolate Pudding

1 Bottle of Spray Cheese (like Cheez Whiz)

1 Jar of Applesauce (or pouch)

Prizes for the games

Small babies for each student (I ordered from Amazon -

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B001BYD8PI/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_search\\_asin\\_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B001BYD8PI/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1))

Ice cube trays

Paper towels or if you have enough, you could use washcloths or small towels

Pool Noodle (for optional filler game if needed)

## Prepare:

Draw a timeline of the highlights from the past 12 months of your own life. The highlights can be anything you find significant, but make sure it's things you are comfortable sharing with the youth. This will be a sample for them to get started.

Prepare the diapers. Open up 4 of the diapers. Squirt about a quarter sized amount of mustard in the inside center of each one. It is supposed to resemble a soiled diaper. Clothes them back up as if they were a dirty diaper. Using a permanent marker, mark the front of each one with a "1". Take 4 more and do the same with the grape jelly, but mark them with a "2". Continue this with the rest of the diapers and ingredients. Be sure to keep a master list of what is in each diaper! Divide the diapers in to 4 sets so that each set has a diaper with each number. This is so much fun to watch when the students open each one! Especially the Cheez Whiz – don't leave out that one!!!

Prepare the babies. Put one baby in each ice cube compartment. Fill the tray with water so that each compartment is equal and covers the baby. Freeze the ice cubes. Make sure you have enough for each student to have one.

Decorate the room as if you were throwing a baby shower. Serve baby shower type snacks.

# It's A Boy! Baptism of the Lord Agenda

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, Christmastime is such a blessed season of the year as we remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ in a stable in Bethlehem, and how we thank You for giving Your only begotten Son into this world so that by His death and resurrection, He could become our Savior, and we could become Your children. We thank You for the wonderful hope that the Christmas message instills into each of our hearts, and the glorious message of the gospel of peace – peace with God to all who believe. Amen.

**Announcements:** Let your youth group know of any upcoming events, youth nights, or other activities they should be aware of

## **Discussion the Baptism of the Lord:**

**Read:** Matthew 3:13-17 - 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?” Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” 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.”

**Say:** Around this time, you will see many “The Year in Review” type specials on TV. These reviews highlight important events from the past year. Why do you think people look back and review the past like this? (Looking for such answers like “To help us remember and reflect on the past year” or “To help us see things in a different way”)

**SAY:** Remembering the important things that have happened to us can help us to understand ourselves better. In looking back, we see the challenges and difficulties that we have faced. We also remember special occasions, events, and experiences that have affirmed us in positive ways.

Give each student a piece of paper and a pencil/pen. Have them draw out a timeline of the highlights from the past 12 months of their own life. The highlights can be anything they find significant – the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. Show them your timeline to get them thinking. Give them time to work. You could play quiet music in the background.

When it looks like students are wrapping it up, **SAY: Reflecting on your timeline, try to recognize how the Holy Spirit is working in your life to strengthen your faith.**

**Poopy Diaper:** Break Into 4 Groups. Each group will get a set of “poopy” diapers and a piece of paper. Each group should put a 1-7 on their paper. When the leader says to start, each group will need to open the diapers and try to figure out what the “poop” is in each one and write the answer next to the corresponding number. The group with the most correct answers will get a prize!

**Ice Cube Game:** Each student receives an ice cube with baby Jesus and a paper towel. The goal is to free Him from the ice and warm him up. The first person to free the Baby Jesus wins. Rules: The ice cube containing the Baby must stay in the hands or on the paper towel/cloth laying on the table. Anyone caught with Him elsewhere will be disqualified. (They should not be putting it in their mouths, on their clothing, throwing it around, etc.)

**FILLER** – If extra time, play the Pool Noodle Smack game. One person stands in the middle with a pool noodle while the rest of the group sit in chairs in a circle. The person with the noodle chooses one person from the group to start. That person will say someone's name and the person in the middle will try to bop that person on the head before they can say another person's name from the group. The game continues until the person in the middle successfully bops another player before they say a name. Then that player is the person in the middle and gets the pool noodle.