

Bible Story: Jesus and John the Baptist

January 10th, 2021

1. Read the Bible story in the Spark Story Bible on pages 234-239 and 242-245.

John was a pretty unusual guy, wasn't he? Let's see what you have learned or already know about our story and the time period in which it's set. Circle True if you think the statement is right or False if you think the statement is wrong. If you're not sure, guess. When you're done, check your answers on the next page!

True or False? Circle the answer you think is correct for each statement.

Jesus was John the Baptist's cousin.	True	False
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In Bible times people ate locusts.	True	False
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John the Baptist's job was to tell about Jesus.	True	False
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Jesus and John the Baptist were best friends.	True	False
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Jesus baptized John the Baptist.	True	False
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A person can survive on honey and locusts for a long time.	True	False
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Cooked grasshoppers provide more protein than a hamburger.	True	False
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Activity: Do You Have?

Have you ever played a card game called Go Fish? We're going to play a game like that today, except with very special cards. These cards are pictures from today's story and have been labeled.

1. Cut out two sets of Do You Have? cards. You should have twenty green cards when you're done.
2. Mix them together, and put them face down on a table or the floor in a messy pile.
3. Each person that is playing needs to draw 4 cards from the pile.
4. The kid whose turn it is to play asks another player if they have a particular picture. For example, "Steve, do you have any locusts?" Players cannot ask for a card they don't have in their hand. Steve must give all his locust cards to the kid that asked. Then it's the next person's turn.

If you don't have any cards with the picture you were asked for, you say, "Go to the river," and the kid who asked takes a card from the pile in the middle. Then it is the next person's turn to ask for a card.

5. If you get two of the same picture cards, put them together and put them on the floor or table in front of you.
6. If you run out of cards, take one from the middle pile.
7. The game is over when all the cards have been used. Then, count how many pairs you have. The person with the most is the winner.

Activity: Hungry John

In Mark you'll find a great physical description of John. "Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey." (Mark 1:6) You may wonder why John did such unusual things. Jesus was what was important to John, not what he ate or how he dressed. John traveled through wilderness preaching about Jesus, and there was nothing else for him to eat or places for him to bathe. His clothes suited him fine; they kept him warm at night and cool during the day. We're going to play a game of trying to feed Hungry John.

This game is like Pin the Tail on the Donkey; the goal is to get the locust into John's mouth while you're blindfolded (or while your eyes are closed).

1. Tape a picture of John the Baptist to a wall where you can easily reach it with no obstacles around.
2. Make sure each person playing has one locust. Put a roll of tape on the back of your locust. If you are playing this game with other people, you may want to color your locust or write your name on it.
3. Cover your eyes with a blindfold (or towel, or shirt, or just close your eyes really tight).
4. Spin in a circle 3 times.
5. Have someone make sure you are pointed in the right direction.
6. Carefully walk to the John the Baptist picture, and try to put your locust into John's mouth.
7. The person who gets their locust closes to John's mouth wins!

Variation:

For younger kids especially, family members can shout directions, like up, down, right or left, to help them place the locust in John's mouth.

Sometimes in our lives there is a lot of noise, or things to distract us. Just like John the Baptist, we need to focus on Jesus. John was the messenger, but the important thing was the message of Jesus.

True False Answers

THEY ARE ALL TRUE!! 😊

Let us pray: Thank you, God, for our church. Thank you for everything we learn about you and about Jesus. Be with everyone who works at our church and everyone who worships you there. In Jesus' name we pray...AMEN.