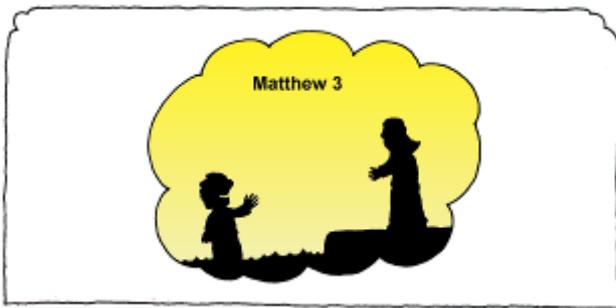


# JOHN the baptist

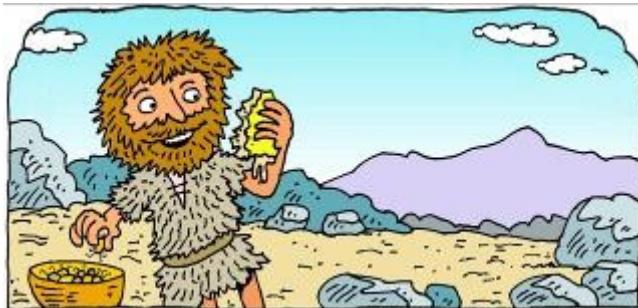
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By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



John the Baptist told everyone  
to do what was good and right  
and to get baptised to show  
they were going to live for God.



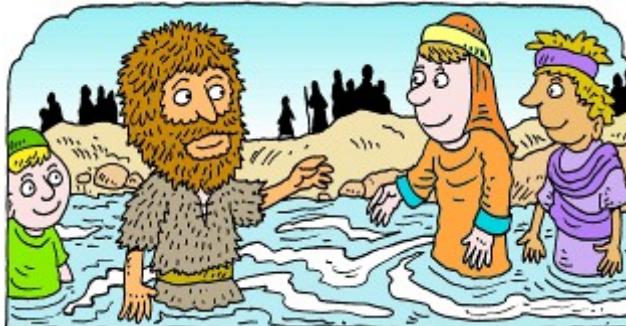
John the Baptist lived by himself, in a  
lonely place, near the river Jordan.  
His clothes were made from camel's hair  
and he ate locusts and honey!



God had given John the Baptist a special job  
telling everyone to get ready, because  
God's Son was coming soon,  
just as God had promised!



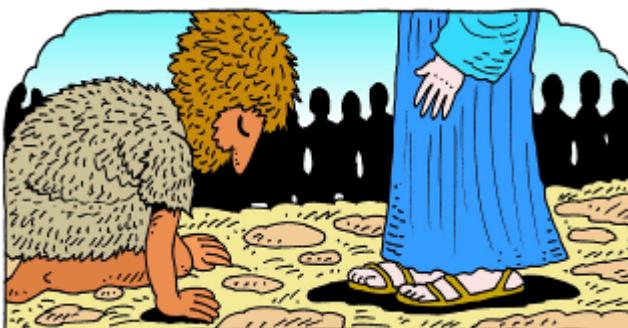
"Stop doing wrong things  
and tell God you are sorry.  
Start being good today," John said.  
Some people were sorry and wanted to change.



Those people went down to the river Jordan.  
John baptized them in the water,  
to show they were going to do what  
was good and right from now on.



Jesus went to find John by the river.  
He asked John to baptize him too.  
Not because Jesus had ever done anything wrong.  
He was God's Son and he was always good.



John said, "Don't ask me to do this.  
I am not good enough  
even to do up your shoes."  
"It is the right thing for me to do." Jesus said.



So John baptized Jesus in the river Jordan.  
As Jesus came up out of the water,  
God's voice could be heard saying,  
"This is my much loved Son. I am so happy with him."