



December 31, 2023, Beginning of the Good News Mark 1:1-20

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Holy God, as the secular year draws to a close, and a new year dawns, help us to reflect on your call in our lives. Inspire us to follow in the way of your son, Jesus Christ, that we might live in love for you and our neighbor, now and always. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

"I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Mark 1:8



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus is foretold, arrives, is baptized, goes out into the wilderness, and returns to call his first disciples and start his ministry. And this is the just beginning of the good news!



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Has the world ever confused a prophet for the actual leader? How did it impact the group?
- Do you know the story of your baptism? Can you remember it? Who was there? Was it a mystical experience, or was it pointing the way for something more?
- For the littles: Have your family tell you about your baptism, or talk about when it will happen!



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

You are filled with the Holy Spirit and loved forever. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Remind yourself of the blessedness of your baptism. Every time you wash hands, dishes, or take a bath with clean water, make the sign of the cross on your forehead to remember you are baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Daily Readings	Narrative Lectionary Readings
Sunday	Mark 1:9-13
Monday	Mark 1:14-20
Tuesday	Luke 6:17-31
Wednesday	Luke 6:32-42
Thursday	Luke 6:43-49
Friday	Mark 1:21-28
Saturday	Mark 1:29-39
Sunday	Mark 1:40-45