



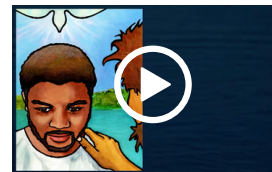
THE INVITATION

"Play is the work of children, and it is through play that they come to know themselves and the world around them. It is in play that they encounter God in profound ways." - Jerome W. Berryman

In Godly Play, the spirituality of all ages is nurtured through wonder, narrative, rhythm, and play. We invite you individually or in community to experience a story, reflect, and respond, engaging in some of the rhythms in this guide.

FACES OF EASTER III

Jesus went down into the darkness and chaos of the water. When John lifted him back up into the light, there were people there who said they saw a dove come down from heaven and come close to him. There were also people there that day who heard a voice. The voice said, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased."



[WATCH STORY HERE](#)

WE WONDER

Wondering is an open-ended practice where each person makes meaning for themselves. Engaging in active listening and being present with one another, there are no right answers but rather opportunities to say, "I wonder that too."

At the end of this story, we wonder together:

I wonder if you have ever felt like you were preparing the way for something or someone?

I wonder if you have ever been in a place of chaos?

I wonder what you might add to the story about Jesus being baptized in the Jordan river by John?

I wonder which part of this story is especially for you?



WE RESPOND

When we respond to the story or to anything that may be present in our lives, the focus for this time is on process and not product. Whether it's coloring, drawing, sculpting with clay, reading, meditating, the gift of this time and space should support each person to express themselves in the way they see fit.

MEDITATIVE MOMENT

Throughout your day, when do you come into contact with water? Maybe early in the morning, brushing your teeth or washing dishes. Perhaps when washing your hands or grabbing a glass to quench your thirst. The next time you interact with water, take a moment and pause. Notice, how does it feel to connect with water? As you reflect on what the water feels or tastes like, close your eyes and remember your baptism. If you have not been baptized or don't remember your baptism, think about a time when you crossed through a threshold or had a big change in your life. May water remind you of experiences that have helped you form your identity and purpose.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Tune in to our podcast, [*Mess Makes Meaning*](#) or visit our Everyday Godly Play page [HERE](#).





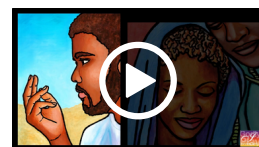
THE INVITATION

"The one who has love has all the virtues." –Abba Sarah of the Desert

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FACES OF EASTER IV

Then, it was if Jesus could see all the kingdoms of the world. The voice came back again: "If you will follow me, I will make you king over all these kingdoms." Jesus said, "No, I am to be a king, but not that kind of a king." Then the voice went away. Jesus went back across the River Jordan and began to do his work.



[WATCH STORY HERE](#)

WE WONDER

Wondering is an open-ended practice where each person makes meaning for themselves. Engaging in active listening and being present with one another, there are no right answers but rather opportunities to say, "I wonder that too."

At the end of this story, we wonder together:

*I wonder if you've ever had to take some time to discover who you are and what your work will be?
I wonder what Jesus meant by, "No, I am to be a king, but not that kind of a king."?
I wonder what you might add to the story about Jesus' experience and discovery in the desert?
I wonder which part of this story is especially for you?*



WE RESPOND

When we respond to the story or to anything that may be present in our lives, the focus for this time is on process and not product. Whether it's coloring, drawing, sculpting with clay, reading, meditating, the gift of this time and space should support each person to express themselves in the way they see fit.

BLESSING

As you wander discovering more about who you are and what your work will be in this world...

May you be given wisdom to discern truth and love.

May you learn to use power as modeled in the life of Jesus.

May you know your value, worth, and belovedness, even when contrasting voices say otherwise.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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