

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is

# John the Baptist

from Matthew 11:2-11.



Advent 3

## Prophecy is fulfilled in John the Baptist and in Jesus.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Fulfill
- Righteousness
- Consent
- Prepare
- Reign
- Repentance
- Salvation

Herod Antipas, who beheaded John, was the son of "King" Herod, Herod the Great, who slaughtered the babies after Jesus was born.

## Read the whole story together in the Bible!

*Spark Story Bible* pages 234-239

*Spark Bible* pages 1070-1071

## Family Prayer

God, we are called to repentance. We are called to turn our lives around and begin living righteous lives. We should behave the way Jesus taught and lived. With you loving us, it should not be so hard, but it is! God, please continue to be with us. Please continue to help us act according to your wishes. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## TALK ABOUT IT



## Family Conversations

- 1 What do you remember about John the Baptist?
- 2 From where did John the Baptist and Jesus claim their authority? How did others—religious and political leaders of that time, for instance—claim authority?
- 3 Who do we let be in charge today and why?
- 4 Take turns sharing one thing you would like to do or change if you had the authority.



## Eye Spark

Watch for valleys, mountains, and crooked roads. Imagine what the landscape would look like if everything were leveled and straightened out. Imagine Jesus walking toward you over that newly straightened path.



## Ear Spark

What predictions do you hear on the radio or on TV or among your friends? Remember the Old Testament prophets.

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## LIVE IT

## For families to do together

Write (or dictate) a prophecy for each family member about something he or she is going to do in the upcoming week. Can you fulfill the prophecies?

## For younger kids

Pick someone you can tell about prophecy, John the Baptist, and Jesus. Clear it with your parents and if they say, "Okay," go share the good news.

## For older kids

The Mayan people divided time and made prophecies about major things that would happen in each age. Do some research and find out what they predicted and whether or not their predictions came true.

