

KS1 Unit 2, Lesson 3 – Why are some times special? Infant dedication

Context:

This lesson looks at an infant dedication service. Some parents choose to have their children dedicated to God as babies and then when the children grow up they can choose for themselves if they want to be baptised.

Overview: These lessons introduce Infant Baptism as generally practiced in the Church of England and then go on to look at Infant Dedication and Believer's Baptism as practiced by other Christian denominations.

Essential core: Recall what happens in both Infant Baptism and Believers' Baptism. Water is used. The person baptising usually says "I baptise you in the name of the Father, and the son, and the Holy spirit." The person is welcomed into the Christian Church.

Understand that baptism shows that a person is entering (joining) the Christian Church.

Know that "church" means the Christian community – not the building. The word "church" is often used to mean church building but it really means the Christian community.

Resources:

<https://request.org.uk/restart/2014/04/08/456/#>

INTRODUCTION:

Discuss our last lesson about Infant Baptism (Christening). Can anyone remember why babies are christened? To welcome them into the church. Explain that, for some Christian parents, instead they have a dedication (or thanksgiving) service for their babies where they thank God for their baby and pray for them.

They will then let the children decide for themselves if they want to be baptised when they are older

BUILD UP:

Talk about times when we say thank you. Why is it important to remember to say thank you?

Talk about times when we said thank you because we were given something really special. How did we feel?

Talk about how parents feel when they have a new baby. Some parents want to say thank you to God for giving them such a special gift.

Watch the dedication video on RE:quest

<https://request.org.uk/restart/2014/04/08/456/#>

Discuss what happened in this video. How did they say thank you? Why did people pray for the baby?

What is different about infant baptism (christening) and believer's baptism?

TASK:

Draw a picture of infant dedication.

Ext write labels or captions for pictures.

Talk about why they wanted to say thank you to God for the baby.

PLENARY:

Share some pictures of children's work.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:

Why are they saying thank you to God? Why did they pray for the baby?