

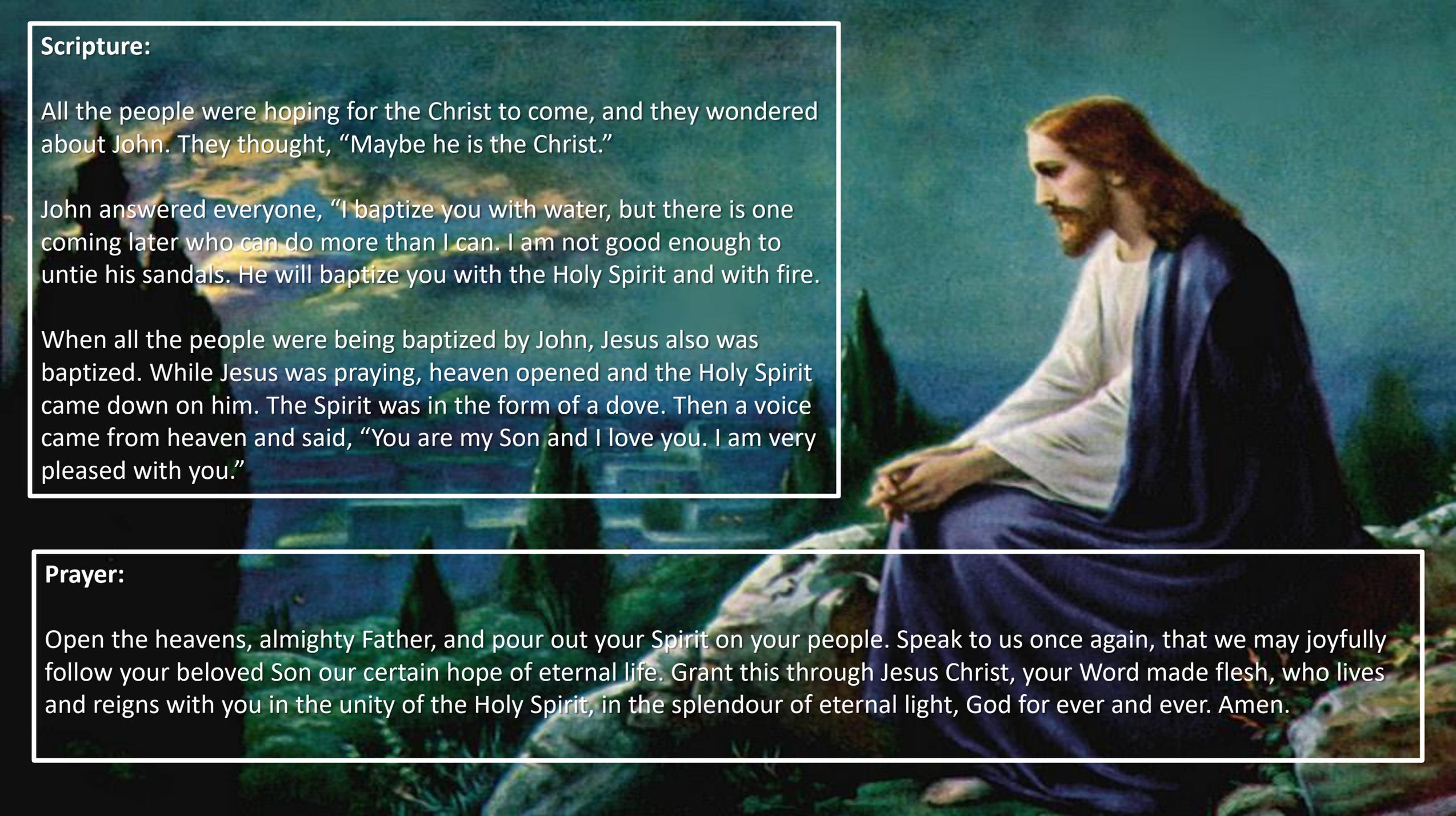
Jesus ... A New Mission

It's hard work trying to cater for 3 children at meal times. My own mother just served the one dish and that's what you ate. Now, whilst this is a policy that the Doust-household have adopted the meals remain fairly 'safe'. It would be great of once in a while the children could be a little more adventurous ... 'just try it and see what it's like' is the encouragement given. I think they'd rather eat a meal they know that tastes bad then try a new one. Many of us play it safe in areas of life. Sometimes something new can be quite daunting and a certain amount of courage is needed.

This week sees us focus on Christ's baptism. This is his transition from carpenter's son to Messiah / Saviour ... so just a small step! His mission and ministry require Him to leave his familiar surroundings and venture out into the 'unknown'. A fresh start in a new role. And we reflect, this week, on what our mission is. What has God called us to do? Are we listening carefully or does the bustle of life sometimes prevent us from hearing His plans for us?

[Mr Doust]





Scripture:

All the people were hoping for the Christ to come, and they wondered about John. They thought, “Maybe he is the Christ.”

John answered everyone, “I baptize you with water, but there is one coming later who can do more than I can. I am not good enough to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

When all the people were being baptized by John, Jesus also was baptized. While Jesus was praying, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him. The Spirit was in the form of a dove. Then a voice came from heaven and said, “You are my Son and I love you. I am very pleased with you.”

Prayer:

Open the heavens, almighty Father, and pour out your Spirit on your people. Speak to us once again, that we may joyfully follow your beloved Son our certain hope of eternal life. Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. Amen.