

Water of the Bible

By Julie Filby



This summer, perhaps before a day of swimming or other water fun, study up on bodies of water in the Bible.

For Young Family

Season Summer

Needed

Bodies of Water in the Bible worksheet (see last page), a Bible that includes maps, pencils, bowl of water

Prepare in Advance

Make one copy of Bodies of Water in the Bible worksheet (see last page) for each person.

Activity Plan

1. On a summer day when you will be sharing in some water play—running in the sprinkler, going to a pool or lake, or having a water fight—begin by exploring some important waters in the Bible. Gather and begin with prayer:

Creator, thank you for the gift of water. Help us appreciate and enjoy water today and every day. Amen.

- 2. Tell how the theme of water is significant to Christians, particularly as it represents the new life found in Christ though baptism. From Genesis to Revelation, there are more than 700 references to water in the Bible.
- 3. To learn about some of the bodies of water mentioned in the Bible, give each person a copy of Bodies of Water in the Bible worksheet and a pencil. Form pairs if you like. Allow a few minutes for family members to figure out the answers. They may need to refer to the Bible verses noted and/or a map of the Middle East in the Bible.
- 4. After completing the worksheet, compare notes to see how many answers you got correct. (Answers: 1. Red Sea; 2. Mediterranean Sea; 3. Jordan River; 4. Sea of Galilee; 5. Tigris River and Euphrates River.)
- 5. If you have time, have individuals or pairs write clues about other bodies of water in the Bible for family members to solve.
- 6. To close your time together, take turns blessing one another by dipping a few fingers in the bowl of water and dripping it over a person's head while saying, "God bless you, (name)."

Bodies of Water in the Bible

		What body of water is this?
1	The Hebrews crossed this as they fled Egypt. (Exodus 14:15-22)	
2	On his missionary journeys, Saint Paul crossed this body of water considered the "highway" of the ancient world. (Acts 16:11-12)	
3	Jesus was baptized by John here. (Matthew 3:13-17)	
4	This body of water served as a focal point of Jesus' public ministry. (Matthew 4:18-22)	
5	In the story of creation, these two rivers helped shape the area known today as the Fertile Crescent. (Genesis 2:14)	
6	Our clue:	
7	Our clue:	