



The Beginning of a Special Mission

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Jesus grew taller and stronger each day, spending his time helping others and spreading kindness in his small town. He lived a quiet life of service, but in his heart, he knew a great change was coming.



Far away in the wild, rugged wilderness, a man named John the Baptist lived a simple life wearing clothes made of camel hair. He stood by the wide, flowing Jordan River, calling out to everyone who passed by.



People traveled from many miles away to hear John speak with passion about turning their hearts back to God. A large crowd gathered along the dusty banks, listening intently to his message of hope and preparation.



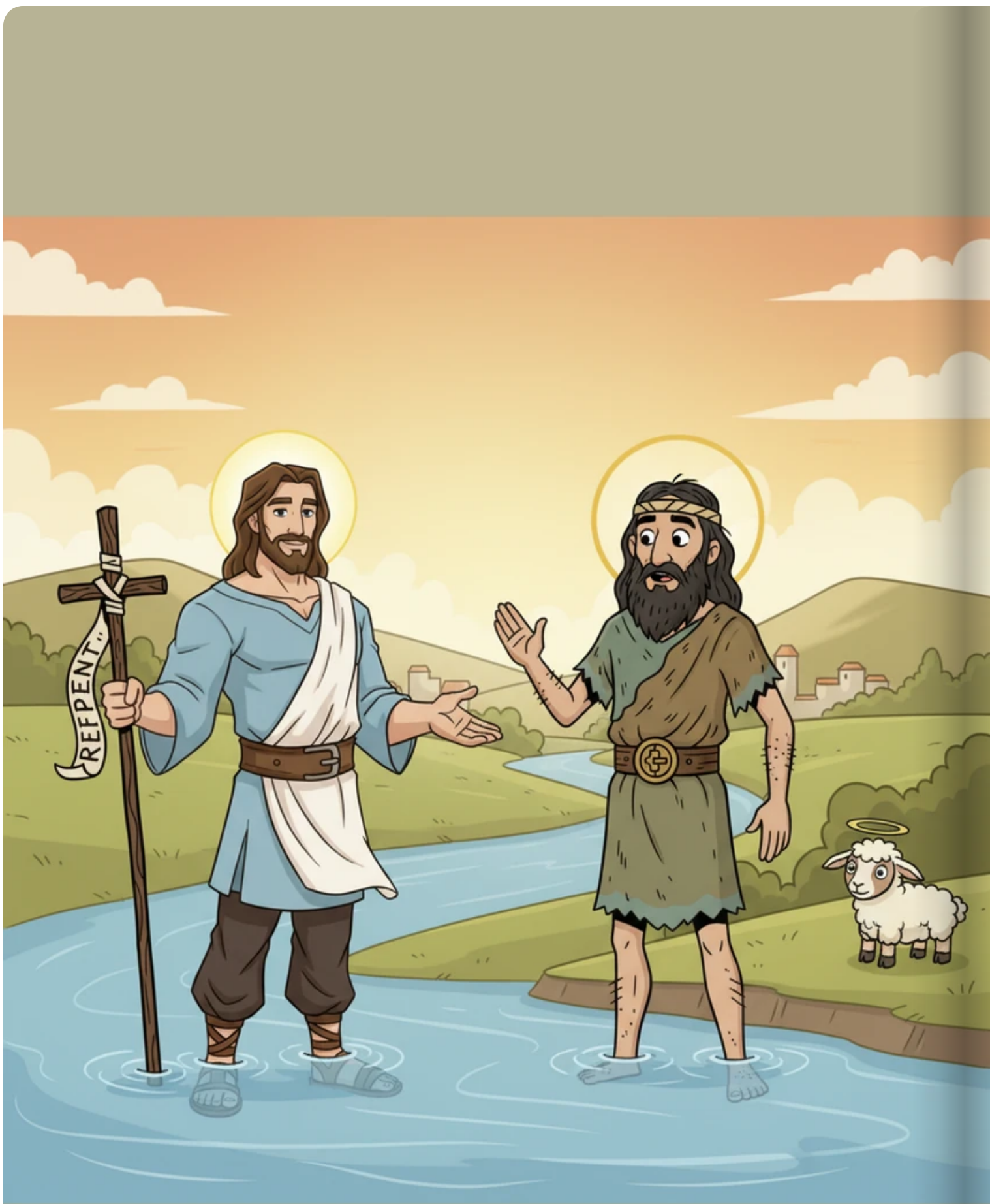
John led the people into the cool river water, baptizing them one by one as they promised to live better lives. The air was filled with the sound of splashing water and the prayers of those seeking a fresh start.



On a bright and sunny afternoon, Jesus walked calmly toward the riverbank where John was working. His presence was quiet yet powerful, and the sunlight danced on the surface of the water as he approached.



When John looked up and saw Jesus, he stopped what he was doing and stood perfectly still in the water. He realized in an instant that this was the special person he had been telling everyone about.



Jesus stepped into the river and asked John to baptize him, but John shook his head in humble surprise. Jesus gave him a gentle, reassuring smile and explained that this was the right way to begin his work.



John and Jesus waded deeper into the flowing current while the surrounding crowd watched in total silence. John carefully lowered Jesus into the refreshing water, marking a moment that would change the world forever.



As Jesus rose from the river, the clouds above parted and a brilliant, peaceful light began to shine down from the heavens. A gentle white dove descended through the air and rested softly upon Jesus.



A powerful and loving voice echoed from the sky, declaring Jesus as the beloved Son who brought great joy to God. From that day on, Jesus was ready to step out from his quiet life and begin his great mission on earth.