

Lesson 1a	:	<b>The Vision of John the Baptizer</b>
Bible Story	:	<b>Jesus, Son of the Living God</b>
Lesson Scripture	:	John 1:19-29, 34; Matthew 3:16-17 Please Read: <i>John 5:17-24 (for teacher's meditation)</i>
Teaching Aids	:	Video clip/big pictures for the Bible story, CoD (Clearing of Difficulties) names and words written on separate sheet or cardboard, chalkboard/whiteboard or laptop computer, notebooks and pens for students, activity pages for enrichment

- 
1. **Our faith comes from knowing and believing that Jesus is the Son of the Living God.**
  2. **Our faith comes from Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**
- 

By the end of this lesson, the students should be able to:

1. tell what a "statement of faith" means;
  2. tell the source of our statement of faith (*SoF*);
  3. recite the first *SoF* of our church/fellowship;
  4. identify the Bible character who declared his statement of faith about the Lord Jesus Christ;
  5. lastly, identify the place where our lesson or Bible story took place.
- 

For children aged 8-12 years old

***"We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God and the only Savior from sin."***

For children aged 4-7 years old

***"I believe Jesus is the Son of the living God."***

1. Singing of Praises and worship (short songs only)
2. Opening Prayer
3. Greetings and Roll Call
4. Welcoming newcomers and introducing them to your class
5. Clearing of Difficulties

- 
1. **Beth-abara/Bethany** – located beyond Jordan River where John was baptizing
  2. **John the Baptist** – Baptizer and the one who prepared the way for Jesus Christ
  3. **Statement of Faith** – in Tagalog “*kapahayagan ng pananampalataya*”;  
“*pangungusap patungkol sa pinapaniwalaan ng iglesia o samahan*”
  4. **Savior** – “Tagapagligtas”; One who takes away our sins
- 

Our church has *beliefs* that we should know and understand. The source of our *beliefs* came from the Word of God, the Bible. We call these beliefs **statement of faith**. These are what we believe here at the Potter’s House Christian Center. Let us study our first statement of faith. ***(Teacher, show the students your written statement on the board or whatever teaching aid you prepared)***

**SoF #1:**

For children aged 8-12 years old

***"We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God and the only Savior from sin."***

For children aged 4-7 years old

***"I believe Jesus is the Son of the living God."***

**(Allow the students to read it 3 to 5 times for retention)**

**Bible Story:**

**"Jesus, Son of the Living God"**

Now children, let us study a story from the Bible which tells about the truth of our first statement of faith. In our Bibles, we can see this story in **John 1:26-29** then on verse **34** of the same chapter.

**(Read or tell the story with pictures or a video clip.)**



## Discussion:

In our Bible lesson, the members of the Pharisees were questioning John about his authority to baptize. The questioning happened in Beth-abara or Bethany which was near Jordan River. The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him. **He proclaimed Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. One who takes away our sins is our Savior.** This is true children because when Jesus died on the cross, He gave His life as ransom (payment) for our sins and that makes Jesus Christ our Savior.

Then **John the Baptist testified that Jesus is the Son of the Living God.** Where can we see this truth? After Jesus rose from the water in His baptism, John said he saw heaven open and the Holy Spirit descended and alighted upon Jesus. A voice was heard saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased." Who do you think spoke those words to John? Yes, it is our Father in heaven.

The same account was written in **Matthew 3:16-17**. Let's read our Bibles.

Truly, John the Baptist witnessed that Jesus is the Son of the living God. **(Teachers' notes:** [Matthew Poole's Commentary] *But when I saw that, I could not but believe, and also bear an open testimony to the world, that this man was not mere man, but the eternal Son of that God, who sent me to baptize with water; reserving still to himself the Divine power of blessing that holy sacrament, and conferring the Holy Ghost in regenerating habits, working like fire, in purging away the dross of souls, and like water, washing away the filth of sin, Mat 3:11; Joh 3:5.*)

## Life Application:

Children, we can always trust what the Bible says about our Savior Jesus Christ. God's Word is true and reliable. Remember that our faith comes from knowing and believing that Jesus is the Son of the living God and our faith comes from our Lord and Savior Jesus.

## **Let's memorize our Statement of Faith # 1 again.** (Show SoF#1)

*(Teachers, for this entire unit we will skip the teaching of Memory Verses we usually conduct in our regular Sunday school classes. Instead, we teach and allow our students to remember or even memorize the general statement of our faith, here at the Potter's House Christian Center.)*

## ***Ask the following questions:***

1. What does "Statement of Faith" mean?

2. Where do we get our beliefs?
3. In our lesson today, who declared his statement of faith about the Lord Jesus Christ?
4. In what place did our Bible story take place?
5. Do you believe that Jesus Christ came to us to be our Savior?
6. Do you believe that every word written in our Bible is true?
7. Can you recite SoF#1?

### Craft Time:



#### Materials Checklist:

- ☐ 2 pcs. paper plates
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Stapler
- ☐ Printout pictures of John the Baptist, Jesus and dove

#### What to do:

- Give each child 2 paper plates (one for the sky and sea and as background) and printout pictures to cut and color.
- After coloring and cutting the paper plates and pictures, glue the pictures on the paper plate (background) as shown above.
- Staple the other paper plate (sky and sea) in the front.

