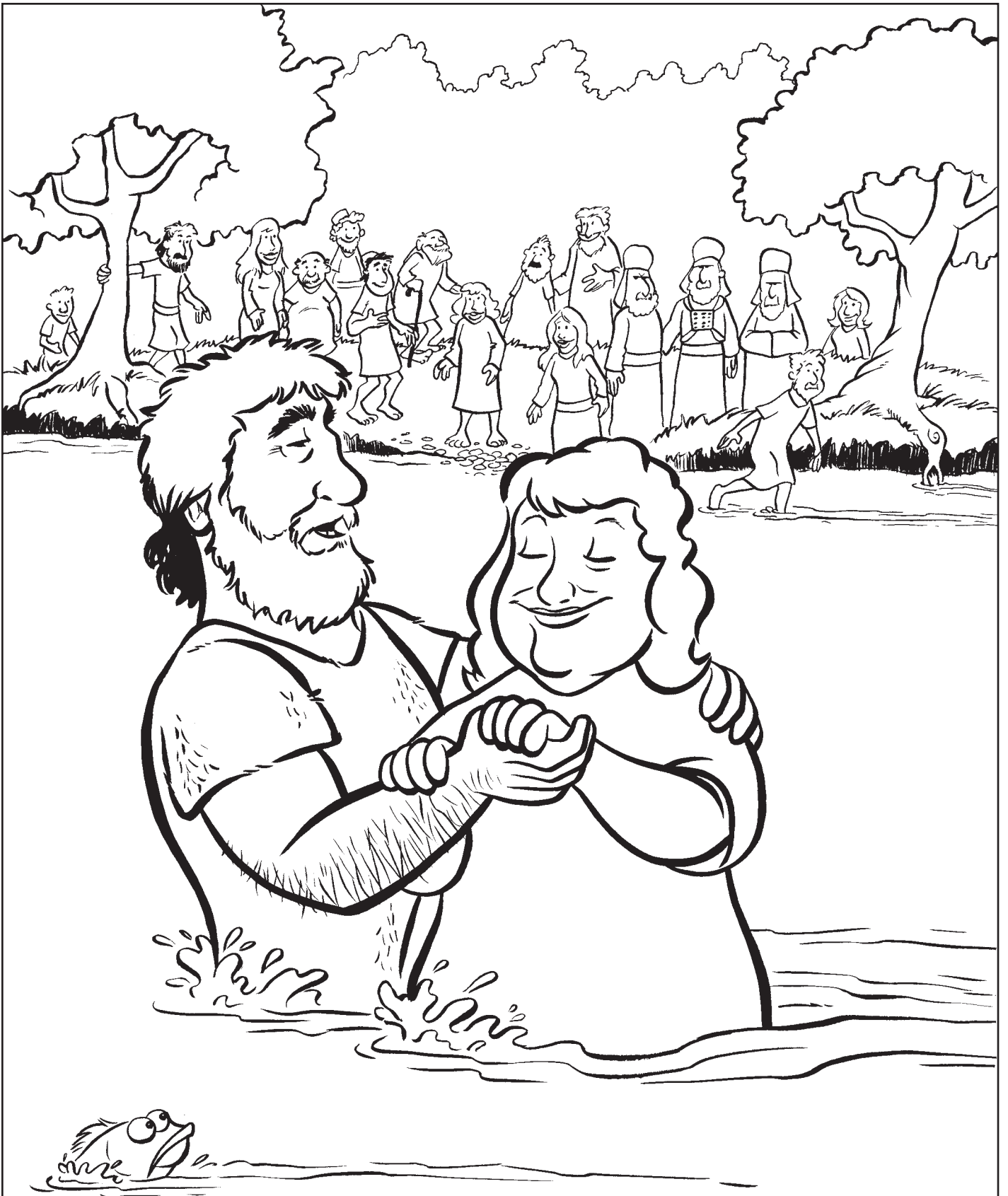




“In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!’”

—Matthew 3:1-2



“Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.”

—Matthew 3:5–6



"Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" —Matthew 3:13-14



After Jesus was baptized the heavens were opened, the Spirit of God descended upon Him like a dove, and God spoke from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:16-17).