

# MOANA



Moana is a girl who lives on an island. Her father is the Chief of the village which means that one day she will be the chief. The island gives them all they need. The bay provides fish, the trees and plants on the island provide food and materials to build houses and boats and the people there are known for who they are and what they do. The people belong on the island and in the island community.

Moana is born into this community and is expected to stay. She is known for her family and for the job she will have as chief in the future. Everyone knows who Moana is but *Moana* is unsure of who she is. She knows what she is supposed to be but feels like she should be something else. A calling to be her true self or to find her identity and to find your identity you have to look at the family from which you came, the home from which you came, and the traditions you followed.



## Family through Baptism

Mark 1:9-11

<sup>9</sup> About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. <sup>10</sup> While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. <sup>11</sup> And there was a voice from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”

Who is your family? Is it just those who live in your house? Does it include your grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins? In the family of God, we are all related. One way we celebrate being a part of that family is through Baptism.

Why are we Baptized?

- It is a sign of faithfulness to the ways of Jesus. In the scripture, Mark 1:9-11, God is pleased when Jesus is Baptized. We baptize to follow Jesus' example and to show we are faithful to God.
- To become a member of the larger family of the church. The whole congregation makes promises to support the one being baptized. They all promise to help the family raise a child in the church and knowing Christ.

What is Baptism?

- Baptism is a visible symbol of God's love. It is something we can see and remember how much God loves us.
- It is a celebration of belonging to God and a community of faith. The way in which someone is welcomed into the Christian community and becomes a member of the church

How are you Baptized?

- If a baby, water is poured or sprinkled on head
- If older person may be immersed or dunked into water
- Water reminds us of being clean, giving nourishment and helping grow.



## Moana Baptized



Watch the following video clip: <https://youtu.be/b1Wtvvd1oU>

If God were the ocean, what signs of Baptism do you see?

- As Moana collects shells the ocean opens to guide her.
  - When we are baptized, the community( all people in the church) promise to do what they can to guide us on our journey.
- The ocean surrounds her protecting her but lets her see the beauty inside it.
  - When we are baptized, we are surrounded by loving people(church family)protecting us but also showing us the beauty of God's love.
- The ocean reaches out and swirls water around Moana's head in a loving way.
  - The pastor pours water on our heads with their hands, a cup or a shell to remind us God's love cleans us when we sin or do things that are wrong, gives us nourishment and helps us grow.
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Just like Moana we are all on a journey. We will have ups and downs, good days and bad days and many decisions we will have to make. All of these things are easier when we know who we are and who we have supporting us. What a wonderful blessing to be in the family of God!

**Seashell Craft** click [here](#)

