

Is my child ready for Baptism?

As a follower of Christ, your child's next step of obedience is to make their faith public by getting baptized. Baptism is a picture of what Jesus did on the cross, and He tells us to be baptized to show others that we follow Him. Here are some things to talk about with your child.

PLEASE NOTE: If at any point you feel your child has not made a firm decision to invite Jesus into their life, switch to the "Is my child ready to say yes to Jesus?" tool then return to this at a later time.

THE FIRST PART OF THIS DISCUSSION TITLED "SHARE" IS MOST IMPORTANT. THE OTHER PARTS ARE SECONDARY.

Share: Baptism is when we go under the water, symbolizing:

1. Washing away all the dirty stuff – our sins.
2. Jesus' death and resurrection – Jesus died and came back to life again on the third day.

Look Up Matthew 3:1-16, Matthew 28:16-20, John 3:1-21

Share your story of how you were baptized and what it meant to you to share publicly of the decision you made to follow Jesus. If you haven't taken that next step yet, maybe now is the time for you as well.

Discuss: Have your child tell you why they want to tell others about the decision to follow Jesus through baptism. *It's important to only listen during this time. Refrain from the urge to finish their sentences or help them complete a thought. The goal prior to baptism is that your child is able to articulate (tell others) their personal reasons for wanting to be baptized.*

Ask: When you sin again, what do you do?

Most kids are more worried about getting in trouble by Mom or Dad when they do something wrong than asking God for forgiveness, so it's hard for them to not connect "getting in trouble" when we talk about God and sin. Make sure they understand that it's by the grace and love of Jesus that our sins are forgiven.

The answer is to confess or "say" your sins to God in prayer and sometimes to the person we may have done wrong to.

Ask: Does this mean you'll never sin again? Look Up 1 John 1:8-10 and Romans 6:1-5

No. You do not need to live a life that chooses sin, but you will continue to make mistakes(sin). Only Jesus lived a sinless life.

Pray: Take this opportunity to pray a blessing over your child.

This is as simple as asking for God's favor in their life. As a parent, you have so much influence over your child, and they need to hear what you think of them. Take this time to verbalize your thoughts about your child's decision in prayer.