



GKIDS

BAPTISM
GUIDE



DEAR PARENTS,

BAPTISM IS A BIG DEAL! IT'S AN EVEN BIGGER DEAL WHEN YOUR KIDS START ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT BAPTISM. MAYBE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE ANSWERING THOSE QUESTIONS, BUT MAYBE YOU DON'T. EITHER WAY, THIS IS FOR YOU. THIS GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU ANSWER QUESTIONS WITH CONFIDENCE AND PROVIDE THE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE THAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO MAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

IN THIS GUIDE, WE WANT TO HELP YOU DO 2 BIG THINGS:

- HAVE MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT GOD, SALVATION, AND BAPTISM. THESE ARE SOME OF THE THEOLOGICAL HEAVY HITTERS WHEN IT COMES TO BEING A CHRISTIAN. IT MAY SOUND LIKE A LOT TO TAKE ON, BUT DON'T FORGET THAT YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT DISCIPLE-MAKER IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE. THESE CONVERSATIONS WILL HELP YOUR CHILD GROW INTO A FAITHFUL FOLLOWER OF JESUS.
- DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOUR CHILD FULLY UNDERSTANDS BAPTISM AND IS READY TO BE BAPTIZED. BAPTISMS ARE EXCITING AND FUN AND, IN MY EXPERIENCE, KIDS LOVE TO BE EXCITED AND HAVE FUN! THEY MAY SEE THEIR FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS BEING BAPTIZED AND WANT TO PARTICIPATE AS WELL. BUT BEFORE YOU SIGN THEM UP, THIS GUIDE WILL HELP YOU TO MAKE SURE THEY UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS DECISION AND WHAT IT TRULY MEANS.

DON'T WORRY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE AN ONLINE COURSE OR GO TO THEOLOGY SCHOOL TO HAVE THESE TALKS; YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO LEAD YOUR FAMILY THROUGH THIS! WE'LL PROVIDE YOU WITH SCRIPTURES THAT EXPLAIN BAPTISM AND CONVERSATION-STARTING QUESTIONS THAT YOU CAN USE AS A FAMILY TO GET READY FOR THIS BIG STEP. WHAT A BLESSING IT IS TO WALK WITH OUR KIDS THROUGH THIS MOMENT. AND IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT, THE GKIDS TEAM IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP!

YOU'VE GOT THIS!
PASTOR LOGAN





UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

THE FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT THING WHEN IT COMES TO TALKING ABOUT BAPTISM WITH YOUR CHILDREN IS MAKING SURE THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED AND HOW SALVATION TAKES PLACE. WALKING WITH THEM THROUGH THE ABCS OF SALVATION IS A QUICK AND EASY WAY TO DO JUST THAT. REMEMBER, BAPTISM IS A PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF A PERSONAL DECISION TO FOLLOW JESUS. TAKE YOUR TIME WITH THIS PART. THE ABCS ARE THREE KNOWLEDGE BASED ACTIONS THAT HELP KIDS UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

A: ACCEPT THAT YOU NEED JESUS.

*"FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD."
ROMANS 3:23*

SIN IS ANY ACTION OR THOUGHT THAT GOES AGAINST GOD'S WORD. GOD HAS A PLAN FOR US AND WANTS TO BE OUR BEST FRIEND, BUT SIN GETS IN THE WAY OF THAT. WE MAY THINK THAT WE CAN DO IT ALL BY OURSELVES OR JUST BE A GOOD PERSON, BUT WE REALLY NEED JESUS! JESUS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FORGIVE US AND HELP US TO OVERCOME OUR SIN.

B: BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN.

"JESUS ANSWERED, 'I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.'" JOHN 14:5-6

JESUS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP US WITH SIN! JESUS LIVED A PERFECT LIFE, DIED ON THE CROSS, AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD - AND HE DID IT ALL SO WE CAN BE SAVED! BECAUSE OF JESUS, WE CAN SPEND FOREVER IN HEAVEN WITH HIM.

UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

C: CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS.

*"FOR IT IS BY BELIEVING IN YOUR HEART THAT YOU ARE MADE RIGHT WITH GOD, AND IT IS BY OPENLY DECLARING YOUR FAITH THAT YOU ARE SAVED."
ROMANS 10:10*

SCRIPTURES TEACH US THAT JESUS HAS ALREADY DONE THE WORK ON THE CROSS, BUT WE HAVE TO CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT! WHEN WE CONFESS OUR SINS AND CHOOSE TO MAKE JESUS THE LORD OF OUR LIVES, EVERYTHING CHANGES. JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS SO WE CAN BE SAVED. WE GET TO CHOOSE TO FOLLOW HIM.

DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS AS A FAMILY!

1. HAS EVERYONE SINNED? EVEN YOU? EVEN REALLY NICE PEOPLE?
2. WHAT DID JESUS DO TO FORGIVE OUR SINS?
3. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS GOD'S SON?
4. WILL GOD FORGIVE US IF WE TRUST JESUS TO SAVE US? WHY?
5. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SAVED?
6. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO LIVE HOW JESUS LIVED?



WHAT IS BAPTISM?

BAPTISM MEANS THAT YOU'RE GOING PUBLIC WITH YOUR FAITH! IT'S AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD DECISION, WHICH IS A FANCY WAY OF SAYING THAT BAPTISM IS A WAY TO SHOW EVERYBODY THAT WE HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS.

WE BELIEVE THAT BAPTISM IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE JESUS SAID IT IS! IN FACT, JESUS EVEN TOLD HIS DISCIPLES THAT THEY TOO SHOULD BAPTIZE OTHERS AS THEY SHARE THE GOSPEL:

"THEREFORE, GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. TEACH THESE NEW DISCIPLES TO OBEY ALL THE COMMANDS I HAVE GIVEN YOU. AND BE SURE OF THIS: I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE." MATTHEW 28:19-20

BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES JESUS' JOURNEY HERE ON EARTH. WHEN WE'RE STANDING IN THE WATER, IT'S A PICTURE OF JESUS DYING ON THE CROSS FOR US. WHEN WE GO UNDER THE WATER, IT'S A PICTURE OF JESUS BEING SEALED IN THE TOMB AFTER HE DIED. AND WHEN WE COME UP OUT OF THE WATER, IT'S A PICTURE OF JESUS BEING RAISED FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY.

ROMANS 6:4 SAYS, "FOR WE DIED AND WERE BURIED WITH CHRIST THROUGH BAPTISM. AND JUST AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD BY THE GLORIOUS POWER OF THE FATHER, NOW WE ALSO MAY LIVE NEW LIVES."

BAPTISM SHOWS EVERYONE THAT WE ARE ON TEAM JESUS!






IS MY CHILD READY TO BE BAPTIZED?



MOM AND DAD,

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS SHOULD HELP YOU DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOUR CHILD IS READY TO BE BAPTIZED. IF THEY ANSWER YES TO ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS, THEY'RE READY! IF THEY ANSWER NO TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS, LOOK UP THE SCRIPTURES AND HELP TALK YOUR CHILD THROUGH WHY THEY ANSWERED THE WAY THEY DID. REMEMBER, THERE'S NO RUSH! IT'S WAY MORE IMPORTANT FOR THEM TO UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS THAN IT IS FOR THEM TO GET BAPTIZED BEFORE THEY'RE READY.



DO YOU BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS GOD'S SON?

- MATTHEW 3:13-17
- 1 JOHN 5:6-8
- MATTHEW 16:13-20

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE SINNED AND NEED GOD'S FORGIVENESS?

- ROMANS 3:23
- 1 JOHN 1:8
- EPHESIANS 2:1-3


DO YOU BELIEVE JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS FOR YOUR SINS?

- ROMANS 5:8
- 1 PETER 3:18
- 1 JOHN 2:2

HAVE YOU ASKED JESUS TO FORGIVE YOUR SINS?

- ROMANS 6:23
- 1 JOHN 1:9
- ACTS 2:38

HAVE YOU DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS AND LIVE LIKE HE DID IN THE BIBLE?

- 1 PETER 2:21
 - JOHN 12:26
 - MARK 8:34-36
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NEXT STEPS

PARENTS,

IF YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH THIS GUIDE WITH YOUR KIDS AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT THEY ARE READY TO BE BAPTIZED, CONGRATULATIONS! WHAT AN INCREDIBLE MOMENT THIS WILL BE ON YOUR CHILD'S JOURNEY WITH JESUS. IF NOT, THAT'S OKAY TOO! ONE DAY, YOUR CHILD WILL BE READY AND IT WILL BE WORTH THE WAIT.

HERE'S WHAT YOU SHOULD DO NEXT:

1. CONNECT WITH PASTOR LOGAN AND LET HER KNOW THAT YOUR CHILD IS READY TO GET BAPTIZED. SHE CAN HELP YOU FIND THE DATE OF THE NEXT BAPTISM SERVICE, ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE, AND STAY CONNECTED WITH YOU DURING THIS PROCESS. YOU CAN REACH PASTOR LOGAN AT LOGAN@GREENVILLEFIRST.CHURCH.
2. REGISTER ONLINE FOR BAPTISMS. ONCE YOU REGISTER, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL WITH DETAILS ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU'LL NEED FOR THE BIG DAY.
3. KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING WITH YOUR KIDS ABOUT BAPTISM AND WHAT IT MEANS. PRAY TOGETHER AS YOU APPROACH THEIR BAPTISM.
4. WHEN THEIR BAPTISM DAY FINALLY ARRIVES, ENJOY IT! TAKE LOTS OF PICTURES, CELEBRATE THEIR DECISION OVER LUNCH, MAKE IT A BIG DEAL! THIS IS A MOMENT THAT YOUR CHILD WILL REMEMBER FOREVER.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALLOWING OUR TEAM TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S WALK WITH THE LORD. THE GKIDS TEAM IS SO GRATEFUL TO SIT ON THE SIDELINES AND WATCH AS GOD CONTINUES TO SHAPE AND MOLD THE KIDS INTO WHO HE HAS CREATED THEM TO BE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, ARE LOOKING FOR MORE RESOURCES, OR IF WE CAN PRAY WITH YOU IN ANY WAY, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

WE BELIEVE IN YOU AND YOUR FAMILY! CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN ON YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM!