



## SO...WHAT NEXT?

We believe that with children it is best to make sure there is a genuine faith relationship and a child-appropriate understanding of the gospel before we make it “official” through baptism.

It’s ok not to rush the process. As a parent and spiritual guardian, you want to make sure your child has a proper understanding of baptism and salvation before they are baptized. Waiting for a period of time for your child to develop and mature is ok and can even have a potentially greater spiritual impact than being baptized too soon.

Baptism void of a redeemed relationship with Jesus is unbiblical and of no value. Therefore, our goal is to make sure your child understands the meaning of sin, their need for Jesus and the significance of Christ’s work on the cross so that he or she can respond in faith.

It is now time for you to keep growing and going as we follow Jesus. Some first steps are to read the Bible daily, pray, tell others about Jesus and be committed to a church body.

If you’re interested in learning more, visit our website, [insidekidheights.org](http://insidekidheights.org), or join us for **Start Here** as we partner with you to answer your child’s biggest questions about salvation, baptism and Jesus

# BAPTISM



KNOW. GROW. GO.



“THEREFORE WE WERE BURIED WITH HIM BY BAPTISM INTO DEATH, IN ORDER THAT, JUST AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD BY THE GLORY OF THE FATHER, SO WE TOO MAY WALK IN A NEW WAY OF LIFE.”

## JUST FOR PARENTS

We believe an important next step following salvation is baptism. This is an exciting time for your child and we would love to share this special decision with everyone as your child goes public with his/her faith! We hope this guide helps you discover where your child is in their understanding of baptism.

## BAPTISM IS...

...a special way to let people know Jesus is your Savior and you have a relationship with Him.

...showing we turn away from a life of sin and turn toward Jesus, the only one who can save us (Acts 2:38-41).

## BAPTISM IS NOT...

...a way to heaven, it does not save you. It's an act of obedience, showing you are saved.

- The only way to be part of God's family and get to heaven is by trusting (faith) in Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-10).

## WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Anyone who has accepted God's free gift and becomes a Christian should be baptized. Acts 2:41 says, "those who believed were baptized."

## WHEN IS THE RIGHT TIME TO BE BAPTIZED?

When you have accepted God's free gift, believe Jesus died on the cross for you and know you are part of God's family.

## WHY SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED?

We are baptized to OBEY Jesus (Matthew 28:19).

We are baptized so we can follow Jesus' example (Mark 1:9-11)

- The word "baptism" means "to dip" or "to immerse," which means to go under water. That's how Jesus was baptized.
- We'll break down Romans 6:4 and see how being "dunked" illustrates what we're doing and the decision you've made. Check it out!

## "WE ARE BURIED..."

When Jesus was baptized, He was picturing His death, burial and resurrection for us. When we are baptized, it is an outward demonstration of what Jesus has done for us. It shows our death, or end, to the old life (going under water/being buried and that we are done with the life that kept us separate from God because we asked Him to save us.

### ASK YOUR CHILD:

What does it mean to be done with our "old" life?

## "...RAISED FROM THE DEAD..."

When we get baptized, we are saying we want to be like Jesus. When Jesus was raised from the dead, it showed us He has power over death and sin. He can give us new life! Our baptism shows, when we rise up out of the water, that we are deciding to live a new life of following Jesus as Savior and Lord.

### ASK YOUR CHILD:

Why do we need a new life?

## "...WALK IN A NEW WAY OF LIFE."

Baptism signifies a new spiritual life (goodbye to the old, sinful me and hello to the new person). This doesn't mean we will live a perfect life, but this should challenge us to live like Jesus and become more and more like Him.

### ASK YOUR CHILD:

1. What does it mean to follow Jesus?
2. Name some ways you can live differently.

## PRAYER:

Pray with your child for a clear understanding of their decision to follow Jesus in baptism and that their baptism and lives will be ones that change the world.