

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR BAPTISM?

Things to Consider:

1. **Does your child know why they want to get baptized and can they explain their reasonings?** Children sometimes develop an interest in baptism because they see it as a rite of passage or as a way to gain entry into an exclusive group. These things are not necessarily bad; however, if a child is ready their primary motivations will be more substantial than this.
2. **Can your child personalize sin? When confronted, can they identify genuine issues relating to their character, or do they focus on superficial flaws?** It is important for anyone considering baptism to understand why they need forgiveness.
3. **Does your child have some sort of realistic conception of what a commitment to Jesus means for their life?**
4. **Is your child old enough to retain distinct memories of the experience?** Many adults speak of the benefits of being able to remember their baptism and anxiety wondering if they should be baptized again if they cannot remember.

Scriptures to Study Together / Talking Points:

Read the passages of Scripture with your child. We also provided some questions and talking points, but we encourage you to let your child to lead the conversation.

Who is Jesus?

Romans 5:6-11

- Who is Jesus to you?
- What do you think is something great about following Jesus?
- What do you think is something hard about following Jesus?

Why be baptized?

Matthew 28:19-20 (Jesus told us to do it)

Romans 6:3-4 (To join/unite with Jesus)

Galatians 3:26-27 (To join/unite with Jesus)

- How much thought do you put into what you wear? Do you think your clothes reflect your personality?
- Re-read the passage from Galatians. What do you think it means?
- Your identity is in Jesus—what could be easy or difficult about that?

Write a Letter:

Have your child write a letter to their older self, an imaginary friend, or to God/Jesus about why they want to be baptized. This letter would be to keep, so they have it when they are older.