



**Welcome to First Steps!** First Steps is a step-by-step guide to help you guide your child through the first steps in his/her faith journey. Through this guide you will be given questions, discussion points, and videos to help your child understand exactly what Jesus did for us, why He did it, what it means to be His forever friend, and what baptism is all about.

First Steps is required for a child in 5<sup>th</sup> grade or younger to be baptized, but it is also a great tool for older kidz who have questions. At the end of this process, your child may be ready to ask Jesus to be his/her forever friend and get baptized; however he/she may not be ready and that's OK! Just be sure to continue to have open conversations with your child about what it means to put your faith & trust in Jesus & then trust God's timing!

## **GOD'S BIG STORY**

ASK:

- What is your favorite book or movie?
- What do you like most about it?
- Which character would you want to be in your favorite book or movie?
- Why would you want to be that character?

SAY: The Bible is the most amazing story that has ever been told! It tells of how God created the world, how people tried to learn more about Him, and how He helped people to see who He was.

ASK: Did you know that you are a part of God's Big Story too?

SAY: In the Bible, there is a verse that tells us exactly how God made a way for us to be in his Big Story.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

## **GOD LOVED**

ASK:

- What is something you have made that you were very proud of making?
- What do you think God's favorite creation is?

Watch this video: **God Loved**

## THE PROBLEM

SAY: God loves us so much, but we have a problem. Our problem is sin.

ASK:

- What do you think sin is?
- Do you think you have ever sinned?
- Do you think God has ever sinned?

SAY: The Bible tells us in Romans 3:23, "**Everyone has sinned**. No one measures up to God's glory." We sin when we do something we know we shouldn't do. When we do something our parents told us not to do. That's a sin. If we tell a lie, that's a sin. Whenever you take something that doesn't belong to you, that's a sin. Whenever we're mean to someone, that's a sin. Whenever we do something that GOD tells us not to do, THAT'S a sin.

ASK:

- Do you like to give gifts to other people?
- What is the best gift you have ever given to someone?

Watch this video: **God Gave**

## WE BELIEVE

ASK:

- What are some things you can't see that you believe in?
- Who is a person you trust to help you?
- Who is a person you trust to tell your secrets to?
- Who is a person you trust to take care of you?

Watch this video: **We Believe**

ASK: What 2 things did the video tell us we needed to believe?

## WE RECEIVE

ASK:

- What is the best gift you have ever received?
- Who gave it to you?
- Why do you like it so much?
- What is the best party that you have ever been to?
- What made that party so fun?
- Do you remember what John 3:16 says?

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

SAY: If you believe that Jesus died for us and came back to life, then you receive the gift of eternal life.

ASK: What do you think eternal life is?

SAY: Eternal life is heaven! It's the place that God has prepared for you to live with him one day forever and ever! Heaven is the best party ever. Heaven is the party that will never end, and the Bible says we can't even imagine how incredible it is. So that's the last thing that we need to do—**receive** this amazing gift of eternal life.

## PRAY

Take to pray with your child about their first steps in their personal faith journey. Thank God for loving your child so much that He gave His Son, Jesus, to die for us on the cross. If your child is ready to ask Jesus to be his/her forever friend help guide your child to pray a prayer similar to this.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I know I have sinned. I know my sin should keep me away from You forever. I believe that you love me so much that you sent your son, Jesus, to die for my sin. Thank-you for forgiving me for my sin and for giving the gift of Jesus so I do not have to ever be away from You. Thank-you for preparing me a special place in heaven. Come into my life and be my forever friend.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

***If your child decided to take that first step in asking Jesus to be his/her forever friend then his/her next step is Baptism. Remember, if your child was not ready to ask Jesus to be his/her forever friend, that's OK. You can always come back to the First Steps process and continue talking to your child. Every child's faith journey is unique to them and in God's timing!***

## **BAPTISM**

ASK:

- What is something you are good at?
- Do you like to show others your talent?

SAY: Since you asked Jesus to be your forever friend, God wants us to **SHOW** everyone that we believe in Jesus and our lives are completely changed! Know how you do that? You get baptized!

Watch this video: **All You Need to Know About Baptism**

## **MORE INFORMATION OR SIGN UP FOR NEXT BAPTISM**

If you have any question or would like more information about the next baptism at Cedar Creek Church, email or call your Kidz Creek Director.

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