## Saying Y **es t**o

Jesus

Asking Jesus to be your Savior is a life-changing decision! Is your child asking questions about what it means to live for God? Are they ready to ask Jesus into their heart?

Start by having a conversation with your child. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your words. Here are a few questions you can ask:

Why do you want to ask Jesus to be your Savior?

What is sin? Can you give me an example of sin? Who sins? Did Jesus sin? Sin is the angry, unkind, selfish, or wrong things we do that keep us from having a relationship with God. Examples include: telling a lie, hitting a sibling, disobeying your parents, etc. Everyone has sinned EXCEPT for Jesus.

Who is Jesus? What did Jesus do for you? Why did He do it? Jesus is God's Son. He lived a perfect life and then died on a cross to pay for our sins. God defeated death by raising Jesus from the dead 3 days later. Jesus died so we could have a relationship with God. He died because He loves us.

What does God say you need to do if you want to follow Him? If you believe Jesus paid the price for your sins on the cross, all you have to do is ask His forgiveness for your sins and He will forgive you!

What changes when you ask forgiveness for your sin and follow God? When Jesus saves you, you get to follow God on earth, and someday you will see Him in heaven, where you will live forever.

What does it mean to follow God? How can follow God? Following God means loving and obeying Him. You won't always do it right, but that's okay. You can follow God by praying, reading your Bible, being kind, and going to church.

If your child is ready to ask Jesus to be thei<mark>r Savior, they are ready to...</mark>

ADMIT they are a sinner and ask forgiveness for their sins. BELIEVE that Jesus is God's Son and that His death and resurrection paid for their sins. CHOOSE to live their life for God.

ASK Jesus to be their Savior through prayer.

Use the prayer below or use your own words to pray with your child to receive Jesus.

Dear God, I believe Jesus died on the cross to forgive me of all my sins. I admit I am a sinner and do wrong things. Today, I have decided to change and live my life for You. Thank You, Jesus. Amen.

## Celebrate & Share!

The day someone believes in Jesus is a BIG deal! You should celebrate the decision, and we want to as well with a GIFT for them! Click <u>here</u> to receive your child's gift and next steps.

### What is Water Baptism?

Water baptism does not save you. It has no purpose or meaning until after you have decided to follow Jesus and invited Jesus into your heart and life. But water baptism is a very important step in your Christian life. When you decided to follow Jesus, you made a decision of faith to receive Him into your heart. When you are baptized in water, you are living out that decision and showing others that you're on God's team and choosing to let Jesus be in charge of your life. Your water baptism will always be a reminder of your decision to follow the Lord!

Below you will find some great verses and dialogue to use with your child, whether they are ready or not:

"When you were baptized, you were buried together with him. You were raised to life together with him by believing in God's power. God raised Jesus from the dead." Colossians 2:12 NIRV

Water baptism is just an outward picture of what Jesus has done for you on the inside. Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and then was raised from the dead! When you asked Jesus to be your forever friend, there was a death, a burial and a resurrection (that means raising back to life) that happened in your spirit as you prayed the prayer (I Corinthians 12:13).

That's why you go all the way under the water when you are baptized. You are showing people that your old spirit and all your past sins (the bad things you did) are buried with Jesus. When you come up out of the water, you are saying that Jesus has given you new life. Everyone sees the picture of the change that has taken place inside your heart.

By being baptized, we were buried with Christ [Jesus] into his death. Christ has been raised from the dead by the Father's glory. And like Christ we can also live a new life." Romans 6:4 NIRV



# Water Baptism

### Is Water Baptism Your Child's Next Step?

Every child can have a personal relationship with Jesus. We advise parents to wait until their child is asking to be water baptized. This is usually a good indication that they are ready to be baptized and that it will be a spiritual milestone in their life. While younger children under the age of seven can have a relationship with Jesus, they will not necessarily remember or understand the significance of the event, so we encourage parents to wait for baptism until they are a little older.

If your child is asking to be water baptized start by having a conversation with your child. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your words. Here are a few questions you can ask as you discern if your child is ready to be water baptized:

When did you decide to follow Jesus and become His forever friend? Your child should have a specific memory of when he or she understood what Jesus did on the cross for them, and that he or she needs Jesus in their life. It may have been at church, at home, or even sometime when they were alone.

What does it mean to be water baptized? It means I'm following Jesus and I'm on His team. It means I'm a Christian and I want to show the world. It's a picture of what Jesus has done on the inside of me.

Why do you want to be water baptized? Because Jesus was baptized and He tells us to be baptized also. Because I am a friend of Jesus and I want to follow Him.

> If you feel your child understands what it means to be water baptized, then visit our website for registration.

> If you don't feel your child understands what it means to be water baptized, it's totally appropriate to wait. During this time, let your child observe water baptism and talk to them about what it means using the Parent Talk: What Is Water Baptism.

