

CHILDREN'S GUIDE FOR
WATER BAPTISM



We are so excited that you are considering baptism for your child! Every child can have a personal relationship with Jesus, and in Family Life Kids, we encourage them to make a decision to follow Jesus. Our children are encouraged to not just learn about Jesus, but learn from Him by walking with Him every day.

When it comes to your child being water baptized, our advice is to wait until your child is asking to be water baptized. This is usually a good indicator 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.

As you start discerning if your child is ready to be water baptized, here are some questions to ask your child. The following answers show that your child understands.

01 | When did you decide to follow Jesus and become His friend forever?

Your child should have a specific memory of when he or she understood what Jesus did when he died on the cross and rose again, and that he or she needs Jesus in their life.

It may have been at church, home, or even sometime when they were alone.

02 | What does it mean to be water baptized?

It means that I am choosing to follow Jesus.

I am a follower of Jesus (a Christian) and I want to show the world.

Water baptism is a picture of what Jesus has done on the inside of me. When I go down into the water, that is my old life dying just like Jesus did, and when I come up out of the water, I am being raised to new life with Jesus just like Jesus did when He rose again.

03 | Why do you want to be water baptized?

Because Jesus was baptized and He tells us to be baptized also.

Because I'm a follower of Jesus and this is my next step in following Him.

Your Child is Not Ready

If you do not feel like your child understanding what it means to be water baptized, it is totally appropriate to wait. During this time, let your child observe water baptism and talk to them about what it means. We would love for you to read through the water baptism devotional with your child and spur them on in their relationship with Jesus.

Your Child is Ready

If you feel your child understands what it means to be water baptized, then we would love for you to read through the water baptism devotional with them.

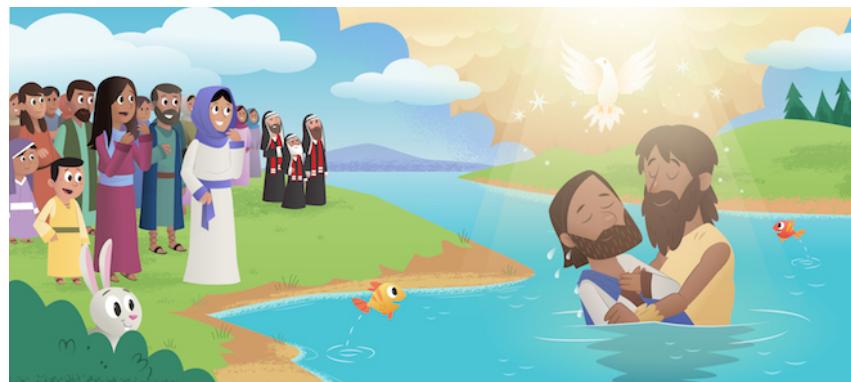
After completing the devotional with your child, if you believe your child is ready to take their next step with Jesus, please register them to be water baptized at www.flachurch.org/baptism and someone will contact you soon.

Water Baptism Devotional

Obeying Jesus' Commandment

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ 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 (New Living Translation)

Being baptized in water is one of the first steps you take in following Jesus. A follower of Jesus does not just learn about Jesus, but follows Jesus and does the things He does. The number one reason you should be water baptized is because Jesus did and He told us to be baptized as well.



When you become a follower of Jesus, you are brought into God's family and His kingdom and Jesus is Lord over everything. This means you have decided to do what Jesus says and follow His example in life. Jesus was water baptized, so we should be too. Take a moment to read about Jesus' baptism in your Bible in Matthew 3:13-17.

What is the number one reason you should be baptized in water?

An Outward Picture

For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. - Colossians 2:12 (New Living Translation)

Water baptism is an outward expression of what Jesus has done for you in your heart and soul. Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and then was raised from the dead! When you chose to follow Jesus, there was a death, burial, and resurrection (that means raising back to life) that happened in your spirit as you prayed, confessed your sins, and put your faith in Jesus.

This is why when you are baptized, you go all the way under the water. You are showing people that your old spirit and all your past sins 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 of your heart.



What is water baptism a picture of?

A Decision of Faith

For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. - Romans 6:4 (New Living Translation)

Water baptism does not save you from your sins. It has no purpose or meaning until after a person has decided to follow Jesus. But water baptism is a very important step in your new life as a follower of Jesus.



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 making a decision of faith to follow Him for the rest of your life. You are choosing to let Jesus and your new, born-again spirit be in charge of your life. Your water baptism will always be a reminder of your decision to follow Jesus.

When you are baptized in water, it means you have made a decision of faith to do what?