



ONE&ALL **KIDS** ▶

# Baptism

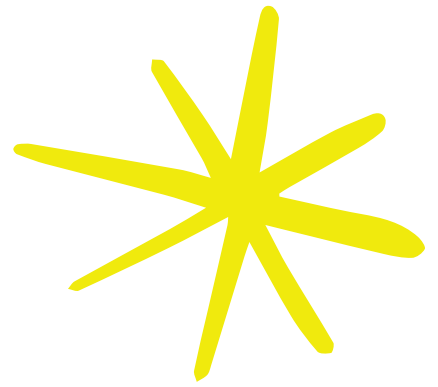


Baptism is a public declaration that Jesus is your Savior and Lord and you have decided to follow Him.



GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES  
OF ALL NATIONS,  
BAPTIZING THEM... AND  
TEACHING THEM TO  
OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE  
COMMANDED YOU.  
AND SURELY I AM  
WITH YOU ALWAYS.

MATTHEW 28:19-20



# HEY PARENTS!

We are so excited that your child is considering baptism!

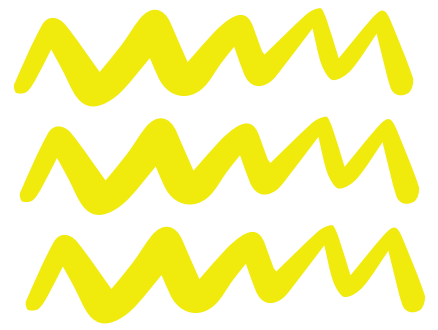
At ONE&ALL Kids, we believe that every child can have a personal relationship with Jesus, and we encourage them to make a decision to follow Him. Through our ministry, kids do not just learn about Jesus, but they learn from Him as we teach them to walk with Him every day on their journey to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus.

We advise parents to wait until their child is asking to be baptized before beginning the baptism process at ONE&ALL. Your child's curiosity and interest is usually a good indication that they are ready to be baptized and that they are prepared for this spiritual milestone in their life. While kids under the age of 6 can have a relationship with Jesus, they likely will not remember or understand the significance of this decision, so we encourage parents to wait until they are a little older for baptism.

If you have any questions during this process, please feel free to reach out! We are here for you!

In Christ,

*The ONE&ALL Kids Team*



# CONVERSATION GUIDE

As you discern 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.

**When did you decide to follow Jesus and have Him become your Lord, Savior, and friend forever?** Your child should have a specific memory of when he or she understood what Jesus did, 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. (John 3:16) If your child does not have a clear memory of being saved or does not understand what salvation is, then we recommend talking through the salvation guide first (found on page 6).

**What do we need to be saved from? Why? What did God do to save you?** Sin. We need to be saved because we are spiritually dead. Before salvation, we are “dead in [our] sins” (Colossians 2:13). Dead people can do nothing for themselves. We need resurrection. We need the life-giving power of Christ, who alone can conquer death. God sent his only son, Jesus, to die for our sins and save us. God is offering you salvation as a gift. All you have to do is accept it.

**Do you believe that baptism saves you? Why or why not?** No, your faith saves you. Baptism is just an act of obedience and proclaiming your faith publicly. (Romans 10:9-13)

**What do you think baptism is?** Baptism is an outside symbol that shows everyone we made a decision on the inside to follow Jesus. In baptism, we go under the water to symbolize the death that Jesus died for us, and then we are brought up out of the water to symbolize His resurrection and the new life that He has given us. (Acts 2:38, Acts 8:12)

**Why do people who follow Jesus get baptized? Why do you want to get baptized?** Jesus chose to be baptized, so we are following His example. Jesus also tells us to be baptized to show that we follow Him, so we are obeying His directions. (Matthew 3:16-17, Matthew 28:18-20)

**Who are the people in your life that are going to hold you accountable to continue to live the way Jesus asks us to?** Baptism is not just about the person being baptized. The person is making a public declaration of their faith to a community of believers and that community now holds responsibility to come alongside the person to help them, pray for them, mentor them, and hold them accountable to live in accordance to the decision that they made. You should have a plan for how you are growing closer to God and specific people who are helping you achieve that goal. This could be parents, family, friends, church leaders, etc. Be sure to invite them to the baptism! (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, James 5:16)

**Pray with your child.** Let your child lead part of your prayer time. Encourage them to talk to God about baptism and to share with Him any questions or ideas they have. Pray that God will reveal Himself to your child so they can truly understand what salvation and baptism are all about. Trust God to reveal to you whether or not your child is ready to be baptized.

**Celebrate!** Whether your child is ready for baptism or not, celebrate the opportunities you have taken to disciple them. God will tend and water the seeds you have planted so that your child's salvation and baptism will come at just the right time.

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**Your Child Is Ready:** If you feel your child understands what it means to be baptized, then we'd love for you to read through the following baptism devotional with them.

**Your Child Is Not Ready:** If you don't feel your child understands what it means to be baptized, that's okay! It's best to wait until they are ready. During this time, let your child observe baptisms and talk to them about what it means. Continue to have conversations about the Bible verses and ideas you talked through together and the questions that your child had. We'd love for you to read through the baptism devotional with your child and encourage them in their personal relationship with Jesus.

# SALVATION

## PARENT CONVERSATION GUIDE ... for kids

This is an exciting time in a kid's life. They're starting to ask questions about their faith. They're wondering about God and His love for them. They may be asking a lot of questions about Jesus—questions that you may struggle with yourself, or questions that may not have a simple answer. But that's okay. This is a starting point for your kid to begin a life-long conversation about faith. That's why we want you to "Start Here" with John 3:16. It lays the foundation for God's love for us that sent Jesus to be our Savior.

"For God so LOVED the world that he GAVE his one and only Son. Anyone who BELIEVES in him will not die but will have eternal life" (John 3:16 NIRV).

### WHAT TO SAY

#### 1. GOD LOVED

- God loved you before you were even born. He created you in His image. And He loves you right now.
- But there is something that separates us from Him, something that keeps us from being with Him forever. It's called sin. It's the stuff we do wrong. Sin keeps us from living out the story that God wants for us.
- And on our own, we can't do anything about this. We need God to step in and help. But because God loved us, He made a way for all of us to live with Him forever.

#### ASK . . .

What is sin?  
Have you ever sinned? When?  
What is the problem with sin?

#### 2. GOD GAVE

- God gave the most important, valuable, and perfect thing He had for you. He knew that our sin would keep us from living with Him forever.
- We're apart from God and would stay that way, but because God loved us, He gave His son to fix that relationship. Jesus came to make a way for you to be in God's story.
- And Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sin. Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead! His resurrection defeated death and makes a relationship with God possible again.

#### ASK . . .

What did God give us?  
Why did God give this gift?  
What did Jesus do for us?

#### 3. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS

- When you receive a gift what do you do? You open it. God said you could open His gift by believing.
- Believing simply means to trust. It's a lot like sitting in a chair. When you sit in a chair, you put all your weight in it. You trust that it will hold you up. That's what it's like to believe in or to trust in this gift.
- To open the gift that God gave you, you trust Jesus with your whole life and rest in the fact that He died and rose again for you.

#### ASK . . .

How can you take part in God's Big Story?  
What does it mean to trust in something?  
How do you know God loves you?

### WHAT NOT TO SAY

#### 1. "INVITE JESUS IN YOUR HEART ..."

For kids, the phrase "inviting Jesus into my heart" can be confusing. They're such concrete thinkers that it can worry them to think that someone is living inside their actual heart.

#### 2. "YOU HAVE TO PRAY LIKE THIS ..."

Kids are going to express their faith with how they understand it at their age. Don't get hung up on the "right words" but rather the heart with which they pray.

#### 3. MADE UP ANSWERS

Don't make up answers to questions you don't know yourself. "I don't know" is a legitimate answer to questions your kid has about faith. There's so much that we don't understand about how God works and how the Holy Spirit enters our life. And that's okay.



# KIDS DEVOTIONAL

## Obeying Jesus' Commandment

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

*-Matthew 28:19-20 NIV*

Being baptized in water is one of the first steps you take when following Jesus. A friend of Jesus does not just learn about Jesus, but follows Jesus and does the things He did. The number one reason you should get baptized in water is because Jesus did and He told us to also. When you became a friend of Jesus, you were brought into God's kingdom under Jesus' control. That means you have decided to do what Jesus says and follow His example. Jesus was baptized in water, so we should be too. Take time right now 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?

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## **An Outward Expression**

*“Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”*

*- Colossians 2:12 NIV*

Being baptized in water 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 friend forever, there was a death, a burial and a resurrection (that means raising back to life) that happened in your spirit as you prayed. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

## **Why do we go under water when we’re 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. (Romans 6:3-5) Everyone sees the symbol of the change that has taken place inside your heart.

- What is baptism a symbol of?

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## **If baptism shows our old sinful life is dead, why do people still sin after they get baptized?**

We should not choose sin. But, since we still live in a world affected by sin, we struggle with sin even when our hearts and minds want to live God’s way. (Romans 6:1-2, Romans 7:21-23)

## When you sin, do you need to get baptized again?

No. Remember, your baptism isn't taking your sins away. It's showing the world you've decided to follow Jesus. When you sin again, tell Jesus what you did, ask Him to forgive you, and He will. (John 10:27-29, 1 John 1:9)

## A Decision of Faith

*"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*

*-Romans 6:4 NIV*

Baptism does not save you. It has no purpose or meaning until after a person has decided to follow Jesus and has invited Jesus into their heart and life. But water baptism is still a very important step in your new Christian life. When you decided to follow Jesus, you made a decision of faith to receive Him into your heart and let Him be in charge of your life. When you are baptized in water, you are telling everybody about that decision of faith to follow Him all the days of your life. Your water baptism will always be a reminder of your decision to follow the Lord.

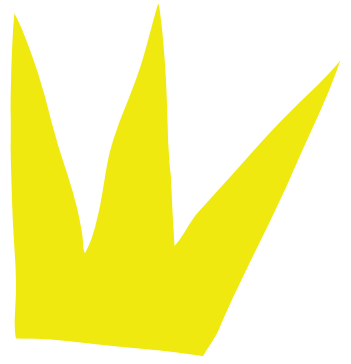
- When you are baptized in water, it means you are making sure everybody knows that you have made a decision of faith to do what?

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# BONUS RESOURCES

## **ONE&ALL Kids Youtube Channel:**

Look for our videos about baptism!  
[www.youtube.com/ONEANDALLKids/](http://www.youtube.com/ONEANDALLKids/)

## **ONE&ALL Kids Instagram:**

Stay connected to all things ONE&ALL Kids!  
[@ONEANDALLKids](https://www.instagram.com/ONEANDALLKids)

## **Parent Cue App:**

Age-specific content for parents to share with their kids throughout the week that connects with the curriculum we teach at our weekend services.  
[www.theparentcue.org/app/](http://www.theparentcue.org/app/)

## **Basics of Faith for Kids:**

Bible reading plan with videos  
[www.bible.com/reading-plans/416-the-abcs](http://www.bible.com/reading-plans/416-the-abcs)