

C|KIDS

Baptism Guide



*Helping Kids Discover
and Follow Jesus*

Hey Parents!

We're so excited to partner with you as your child explores what it means to take the next step of baptism!

At Cityline, our heart is to help kids discover and follow Jesus—and we believe parents and guardians play an important role in helping kids grow in their faith.

Baptism is a meaningful step in your child's journey with Jesus. This guide is designed to help you talk together about what baptism means, why we choose to be baptized, and how baptism shows others that we have chosen to follow Jesus.

There's no need to rush the process. Take your time, ask questions, and give your child space to share what they believe and why they are interested in being baptized. Our CL Kids team is here to support your family along the way!



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Why Baptism?

What is Baptism?

Baptism is an outward expression of a decision to follow Jesus.

When someone is baptized, being lowered into the water and brought back up represents the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Baptism is a way of publicly saying, “**I believe in Jesus, I have chosen to follow Him, and I want others to know.**”

Baptism does not make us followers of Jesus. Instead, it is a next step we take because we have chosen to follow Jesus.

When You Are Baptized, You Are:



1. Following Jesus' Example

Jesus Himself chose to be baptized.

Read Mark 1:9–10 together.

Talk about it:

Why do you think it matters that Jesus was baptized?



2. Obeying Jesus

Jesus told His followers to make disciples and baptize them.

Read Matthew 28:19 together.

Baptism is one way we respond to Jesus in obedience.

What do you think it means to follow Jesus?



3. Showing Others That You Follow Jesus

Baptism is a public expression of something that has already happened in your heart: you have put your faith in Jesus and chosen to follow Him.

It's an opportunity to celebrate what Jesus has done in your life with your family, friends, and church community.

If someone asked why you want to be baptized, what would you tell them?

Talking About Baptism

Family Devotional

Understanding baptism is more important than simply knowing the “right answers.”

Set aside some time with your child(ren) to read Scripture, talk together, and give them room to explain what they believe in their own words.

Read Together

Matthew 3:13–17

After you read, talk through these questions together:

- Who was baptized in this story?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to be baptized?
- What do you think baptism means?
- What does it mean to follow Jesus?
- Why do you want to be baptized?
- What has Jesus done in your life?

FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Try not to answer the questions for your child. Instead, listen for their own understanding of Jesus, salvation, and baptism.

They don't need perfect theological language. We simply want baptism to be a meaningful response to their own decision to believe in and follow Jesus.



Is Your Child Ready to be Baptized?



It's exciting when a child begins asking about baptism! It's also okay to take time to make sure they understand the step they're taking.

Rather than asking, "Is my child old enough?" a better question is:

"Does my child understand what they are choosing?"

Before baptism, we want kids to be able to express—in their own words—that they:

Believe in Jesus.

They understand who Jesus is and have placed their faith in Him.

Have chosen to follow Jesus.

They understand that following Jesus means learning to trust Him and live His way.

Understand what baptism represents.

They know baptism does not save them. It is an outward expression of their decision to follow Jesus and identifies them with His death, burial, and resurrection.

Want to be baptized for themselves.

They personally want to take this step—not simply because a friend, sibling, or parent is doing it.

If They're Not Ready Yet, That's Okay!

There's no pressure to rush baptism.

If your child is still figuring out what they believe or what baptism means, keep the conversation going. Watch baptisms together, read Scripture, pray, and continue helping them discover who Jesus is.

Waiting doesn't mean saying no. It simply gives your child the time they need to make a meaningful decision of their own.

And you don't have to figure it out alone. Our CL Kids team would love to help your family discern the next step.

Next Steps

TALK WITH OUR CL KIDS TEAM

If your child is interested in baptism, we'd love to connect with your family!

A member of our CL Kids team can talk with you and your child about their decision, answer questions, and help determine the best next step.

REGISTER FOR BAPTISM

When your child is ready, you can register them for an upcoming baptism at Cityline.

Baptism is a celebration, and we're excited to celebrate this step in your child's journey of following Jesus!

INVITE YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Baptism is meant to be celebrated in community.

Invite the people who love and support your child to be there as they publicly share their decision to follow Jesus.

KEEP FOLLOWING JESUS

Baptism is an important moment—but it isn't the finish line.

Continue helping your child grow as they learn to:

- Passionately Pursue Jesus
- Build Authentic Community
- Live Generously
- Lead Well

Our prayer is that baptism becomes one meaningful step in a lifetime of discovering, trusting, and following Jesus.

We're With You

You are one of the most important influences in your child's faith journey, and CL Kids is honored to partner with you.

We're here to help your family take the next step together.