

BAPTISM

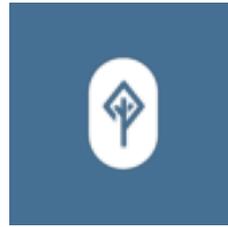
Family Conversations

- SCRIPTURE GUIDE
- BAPTISM CONVERSATION
- ROLE PLAY GAME
- CERTIFICATE



OUR PURPOSEFUL LIFE





FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

When Jesus was asked to name the greatest commandment of them all, He pointed us to Deuteronomy 6:5. Did you know that you can also find the Bible's greatest parenting advice in the next 3 verses?

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

At Our Purposeful Life we want to come alongside you to help you have these conversations with your children. We want to equip you to talk with your kids about faith, true identity and God's purpose. We want to encourage you to begin (and continue) these conversations, and we want to prepare you to navigate the questions that your kids will naturally ask.

When our children fully understand what they believe and why, then their faith can become their own. When they go out into the world, their character can be unshakable because of their personal relationship with the Lord. As parents we foster the growth of that personal relationship with God when we create a safe environment where doubt can be explored and questions can be answered. Where thoughts can be processed and opinions and beliefs can be formed. This loving environment that is centered around the Lord will set our kids up to find the Truth, and it will set them free. We need to be prepared to have these conversations about life and faith whenever our children are ready to talk. It's not easy, and it's not convenient, but it **is** worth it!

We invite you to join us on this journey of creating family conversations in your home!

In This Together,
Nathan and Dana

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FAMILY CONVERSATION

START THE CONVERSATION:

We are so excited to hear that you want to talk with your child about getting water baptized! This is an exciting step for them to take in their walk with the Lord. It is important for your child to understand what water baptism is, so we have put together this conversation packet to aid your discussion.

Children at a very young age can ask Jesus to come into their hearts. What a blessing it is for them to be able to walk with Jesus for most of their lives. Rather than encouraging your child to be baptized immediately, we recommend that you wait until your child starts asking to be baptized. We feel it is important for the child to be able to remember this milestone and be able to understand its significance. When your child starts asking to be baptized that is a good indication that they might be ready to take this next step.

As a parent it is important that you understand the follow three things.

1. Baptism is not salvation. Salvation takes place in your heart before you are water baptized. The only way to become saved or be born again is to repent of your sins and ask Jesus to come into your heart and be your Lord and Savior.
2. God commands all of us to be baptized, and Jesus was baptized as an example to us. After we are saved, baptism is an act of obedience to God.
3. Water baptism is a public testimony- a way to publicly show others what has been done privately in their own heart.

We have put together a discussion guide for you to work through with your children. Please pray before you discuss these truths with your child and pray together with them afterwards. Invite Holy Spirit to come lead the conversation and touch your child's heart. If after you have discussed it, you decide your child is not quite ready, that is okay!!! You have planted spiritual seeds in their hearts that will take root and when the timing is right they will be ready.

If you have never been baptized or were baptized as a baby and would like to do it again as an adult, know it is never too late!! What an amazing thing to do together as a family!

If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to us, a friend or a Pastor. We are all in a stage of learning. Don't be afraid to ask!

GOD'S PLAN FOR US

Matthew
3:13-16



Matthew
28:18-20



Acts
2:37-39



WHY BAPTISM?

Romans
6:4



Colossians
2:12



Matthew
10:32

FIND THESE VERSES IN YOUR BIBLE. TALK ABOUT HOW EACH VERSE APPLIES TO YOU. TALK ABOUT WHAT BAPTISM IS AND WHY WE SHOULD DO IT.

Additional Scriptures for more in-depth study: Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:4-13, 35-39; Acts 9:15-18; Acts 16:25-34; Romans 6; Colossians 2:6-15 and 3:1-17

FAMILY CONVERSATION

Use the following questions to start a conversation with your children about baptism.

Do you become saved when you get water baptized?

Let's read Romans 10:9-10 to see the answer to this question. What does this Bible verse say about how to become saved?

In this verse we learn that the only way to become saved, or born again, is to believe that Jesus is Lord and was raised from the dead. Then we need to declare our faith in Him. (See our family conversation for more information on salvation.) So the answer to the question is: "No, water baptism does not save you."

Why should I get baptized?

Let's read Matthew 3:13-16. What did Jesus do in this passage?

Jesus went to John and was baptized while he was here on earth. So the first reason we should get baptized is Jesus was baptized and we should follow His example.

Turn to Matthew 28:18-20. What does Jesus tell the disciples to do? Now let's read Acts 2:37-39 to see how the disciples answered this question. What did Peter tell the crowd to do?

Jesus commands the disciples to go and make other disciples and to baptize them. In Acts, Peter told the crowd to repent of their sins and turn towards God. Then he told them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. The second reason we should be baptized is that Jesus commands believers to do it.

For other examples see: Acts 8:4-13, 35-39; Acts 9:15-18; Acts 16:25-34

FAMILY CONVERSATION

What does water baptism symbolize?

Read Romans 6:1-14 Let's fill in the blanks using verse 4. (use NLT version) Then read Colossians 2:12 and fill in the blanks. (use NLT version)

For we _____ and were _____ with Christ by _____. And just as Christ was _____ from the dead by the glorious _____ of the Father, now we also may live _____ lives. Romans 6:4

For you were buried _____ Christ when you were _____. And with Him you were _____ to _____ life because you _____ the mighty _____ of God, who raised Christ from the dead. Colossians 2:12

Water baptism symbolizes us joining with Christ in His burial. When we go under the water it is like Jesus going into the grave. Jesus took our sins with Him to the grave and we take our old sinful selves into the water. Then Jesus rose from the dead and broke the power of sin and death over our lives. When we rise out of the water, we rise with a new life that no longer a slave to sin.

(If you have older children read and discuss all of Romans 6 and Colossians 2:6-15 and Colossians 3:1-17.)

Why do we get baptized in public?

Read Matthew 10:32 and Luke 12:8: What action is the believer doing? What will Jesus do for that person?

The believer is acknowledging Jesus publicly here on earth, in front of other people. Jesus then promises to acknowledge the believer before God the Father and the angels. Jesus is saying he will vouch for us and say we are on his team! When we get water baptized we are publicly declaring to our friends, family, church and the world that we are saved and a member of God's team. Water baptism is a public display, a way of showing others what has already been done in your heart. We are showing others that from this day forward we choose to follow Jesus.

ROLE PLAY

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Print out of questions and words for the baptism
- 1 Action Figure or Barbie doll (one that is allowed to get wet)
- Bathtub or tub
- Water

EXPLANATION:

Baptism is an amazing day in the life of your son or daughter. It is the day they choose to publicly display a decision that occurred on the inside of their heart. Getting baptized is exciting but can be a little scary. One way to ease their nerves is to have a pretend baptism at home. They can then see what is going to happen to them and ask any questions they may have before the day.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Take the list of questions on the printout and ask the action figure or Barbie doll. Have your child pretend to answer the questions with their own words. This is beneficial for two reasons. One, you will be able to verify that your child understands what baptism is and why you should do it. Second, it will give them a practice run if your church requires they fill out an application or talk with one of the pastors beforehand. (If you already know what questions your church will ask, substitute those questions for the ones on the printable.)
- After the questions are answered get the baptism ready. Fill the bathtub or tub up with lukewarm water so that the action figure or Barbie can sit in the water with their head and shoulders above water. It will also need enough water and space that the action figure or Barbie doll can lay down and be fully submerged in the water.

ROLE PLAY

Discussion Questions:

- How is someone saved?
 - By repenting of your sins, believing that Jesus died and rose again and confessing that He is Lord of your life
- When were you saved? Tell me about it.
- What are two reasons we should be baptized?
 - Jesus did it and He commands us to do it too.
- When you get water baptized what does it show others?
 - It is a public display of what has happened on the inside of their heart. It also shows that their old sinful nature is now dead and they have been raised again to new life in Christ.

Perform the Baptism:

The words in **green** are ones you will say. The words in black are what you will do. Each church says things slightly different-that is okay! Feel free to substitute the below words with your own church's.

- Do you **(name)** believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of the living God?
 - Have your child respond for the action figure or Barbie.
- **(Name)** upon your public confession of faith, I baptize you in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and even the name that is above every other name, the name of Jesus.
 - Have the action figure or Barbie sit in the water.
- Buried with Him into baptism unto death
 - Have one hand hold the action figures legs (so they don't pop out of the water) and use your other hand to put the figure below the water, back first.
- And raised again to walk in wisdom and new life
 - Bring the action figure or Barbie back out of the water
- Then CELEBRATE!!!!

=It might be helpful to explain to the child, how they will hold their nose during the baptism. The action figure or Barbie will not be able to demonstrate that.

CERTIFICATE FOR THE

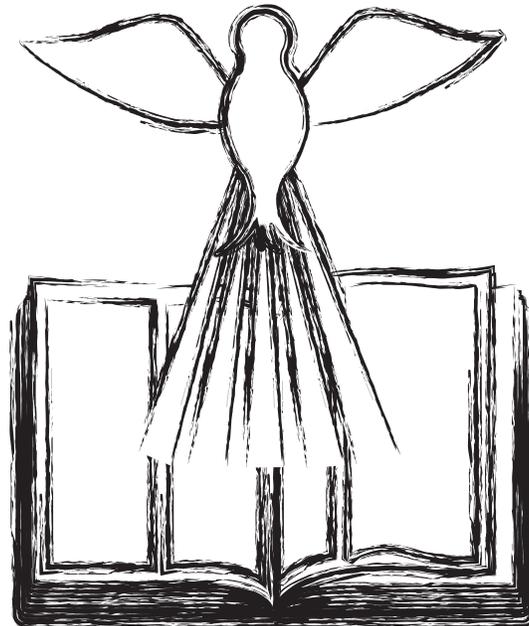
Day of Baptism

On this day, _____, 20____

_____ was baptized.

**THIS IS HIS PUBLIC DECLARATION OF
HIS FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST HIS LORD
AND SAVIOR**

*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*



CERTIFICATE FOR THE

Day of Baptism

On this day, _____, 20____

_____ was baptized.

THIS IS HER PUBLIC DECLARATION OF
HER FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST HER LORD
AND SAVIOR

*For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized.
And with Him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty
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