



an explanation  
of **baptism**  
for kids

“...Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was **baptized** by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

## Just for Parents

Taking the next step to let everyone know they are a follower of Jesus is an exciting time in your child's faith journey. This guide is designed to help you and your child talk about baptism. We've also included a place for your child to write down their faith story.

We pray God uses each conversation to draw your child closer to Him!

# Baptism

The Bible says baptism is a way of showing others that we are a follower/disciple of Jesus.

Followers of Jesus are people who:

- repent (say they are truly sorry) of their sin
- ask God to forgive their sin
- believe that Jesus' death paid the penalty for their sin

Baptism is one of two ordinances, or special ceremonies, that Jesus gave His followers (disciples) to do after He went back to heaven.

Baptism is a picture of what Jesus did when He died on the cross for our sin; He was buried and then He rose again (came back to life) three days later.

# Why be baptized?

## **Read Matthew 3:13-17**

What did Jesus do in this passage?

Jesus wants us to follow His example.

## **Read Matthew 28:18-20**

What did Jesus say we should do?

# Who should be baptized?

People who have trusted Jesus as their Savior (Rescuer) from sin and want to live for Him should be baptized.

**Read John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10**

People who believe that faith in Jesus is the only way we can be rescued from our sin and have a relationship with God.

**Read Ephesians 2:8-9**

People who understand what baptism means, and why they want to be baptized.

**Read Acts 8:26-34**

People who want to live like Jesus and follow what the Bible teaches.

**Read Acts 9:11-18**

People who are able to tell others about when they trusted Jesus.

**Note to Parents:**

Don't be in a rush for your child to be baptized. Let God work in their heart. Make sure they really understand what baptism means and are ready to accept the responsibility of living for Jesus.

# Review

**What is baptism?**

**Why should a person be baptized?**

**Who should be baptized?**



## My faith story...

**Who were some people who told you about Jesus?**

**How did these people tell you about Jesus?**

**Do you remember when you trusted Jesus? Write it down.**

- **How old were you?**
- **Where were you?**
- **Who was with you?**
- **Why did you decide to trust Jesus?**
- **What did you tell God in your prayer?**
- **Who are some people that are helping you know Jesus better?  
How are they doing that?**

**Why do you want to be baptized?**

**Do you have a Bible verse that is special to you? Would you like to share it at your baptism? What is it?**

**List the names of people you would like to invite to your baptism:**

**Write your faith story below to share with others.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

## What happens before baptism?

1. The child interested in being baptized and their parent/guardian are encouraged to attend the baptism class, designed to help parents talk with their child about salvation, baptism and The Lord's Supper.
2. Parent/guardian and child go through the Explanation of Baptism booklet together.
3. Child and a parent/guardian visit with someone on the pastoral staff to talk about the child's faith and baptism procedures.
4. The family decides when to have their child baptized and who to invite.
5. The family discusses whom they would like to baptize their child. This person should be someone who loves the Lord and follows Him wholeheartedly. This may include: a pastor, ministry director, church leader, a parent or a family friend.

## What happens at baptism?

1. People being baptized meet with one of the pastoral staff on the day of the baptism to walk through the procedure.
2. The individual being baptized or the person doing the baptizing is encouraged to share a Faith Story from this booklet or a favorite Bible verse.
3. People being baptized will be given a baptism t-shirt to wear when being baptized and to keep as a reminder of this step in their life.
4. Each person being baptized will do the following:
  - a. Step into the water (either a baptism tub, pool or lake).
  - b. The person baptizing will ask the individual the following questions: (NOTE: If you cannot answer these questions, you are not ready to be baptized at this time.)
    - i. Have you asked Jesus to be your Savior?
    - ii. Is it your desire to follow Him with all your heart for all of your life?
  - c. Then the person baptizing will ask the individual to kneel in the water.

- d. The person baptizing will put their hand on the individual's back to help them lean forward into the water.
- e. They will say something like "I baptize you in the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit."
- f. At that time the individual's head will go under the water, and then be lifted back up out of the water!

## What should I wear for baptism?

Please note the following guidelines for appropriate dress:

- Pants (not jeans) or longer shorts are appropriate
- A shirt to wear under the baptism t-shirt is appropriate (or a swim suit for kids)
- Water shoes are fine, barefoot is fine as well
- You may want to remove jewelry or watches

NOTE: Bring a plastic bag for wet clothing, a set of dry clothes, a towel and any other personal items you might need to assist you after you're baptized.

## So, are you ready for baptism?

If you feel you are ready to be baptized contact the Church office at:

(262) 367-1212

or Kid's Ministry Director, Ashley Schmidt

at [ashley@oakwoodnow.org](mailto:ashley@oakwoodnow.org).

kids  
OAKWOOD

