

Helping Children Understand Baptism

Here is a list of questions that kids might ask and some suggested responses to help you discuss baptism with your child. It might also be helpful for you to ask your child these questions, to ensure their understanding.

Why do people get baptized? People get baptized to show that they are a Christian. They are a part of God's family, and they want to show it to those around them.

I don't like being in front of people, why does it matter if people see me? The people that you are baptized in front of are your church family, and by being baptized in front of them, you will become part of their family. They will help you grow and learn as a follower of Jesus.

Why do people get excited when someone is baptized? It is a celebration when someone is baptized. People cheer for them, because they are welcoming them in to the family of God. It's a big commitment to become a Christian and to be baptized publicly shows your commitment.

If I am not baptized, will I go to heaven? Baptism and salvation are not the same thing. If you admit you are a sinner and that you need Jesus in your life and commit to following Him, then you will be saved. Let's read Ephesians 2:8-9 together.

Who started all of this baptism stuff? Many old religions like Jews (the religion Jesus was a part of), would do a form of cleansing as part of their religious ceremonies. When Jesus was on earth He was baptized and told others that they should baptize. Let's read Matthew 3, to find out why Jesus' baptism was so special. (More on examples of people being baptized in the Bible, can be found in Acts 2, 8, 9,10, and 16.)

Why do you go under water? Going under water, reminds us of Jesus dying, being buried and resurrecting. When you believe in Jesus, you have new life. Going under the water and coming out represents new life in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17, John 3, Rom. 6:1-7).

<http://salvationkids.com/helping-children-understand-baptism/>

Should My Child Be Baptized?/Should I be baptized?

Baptism is an outward sign of an inward work of grace. At RVCC, we practice baptism by immersion to symbolize Christ's death, burial, and resurrection and that we have new life through Him. (If for some reason this cannot happen, we will immerse another way.) We do not have a specific age that someone should be baptized. We ask that each individual makes their own decision to be baptized, and that they are mature enough in their faith to fully understand salvation and the purpose of baptism.

Here are some questions to prompt discussion with your child about salvation:

Who do you say Jesus is?

What does it mean to sin? Do you ever sin? How?

What happens when you say you are sorry to Jesus for your sin?

What happens to people who never accept what Jesus has done for them?

Do you understand why Jesus died on the cross?

Why is it important that Jesus rose from the dead?

What do you think would happen to you, if you were to die today?

If you were to die and God were to ask you why He should allow you to enter heaven, what would you say to Him?

How do you get to know God and have a relationship with Him? Are you doing those things?

What is the purpose of Baptism?

Would you like to be Baptized? (Why/Why not?)

*If you have any further questions, please contact the church at 630.844.9115.

A, B, C's of Salvation:

Admit we are sinners.
(Romans 3:23)

Believe in Jesus.
(Acts 16:31)

Confess our sins.
(1 John 1:9)

(<http://4kids.ag.org/library/kids-in-ministry/teaching-kids-to-evangelize.pdf>)

Romans Road to Salvation:

1. **Romans 3:23** - Who needs salvation?
2. **Romans 6:23** - Why do we need salvation?
3. **Romans 5:8** - How does God provide salvation?
4. **Romans 10:9-10, 13** - How can we receive salvation?
5. **Romans 5:1, 8:4, 8:38** - What are the results of salvation?

(<http://christianity.about.com>)

Some helpful resources:

http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/spiritual_growth_for_kids/sharing_the_gospel_with_your_children

<http://www.jubileegang.com/pdf/Teaching%20children%20about%20salvation.pdf>

<http://4kids.ag.org/library/kids-in-ministry/teaching-kids-to-evangelize.pdf>