

SALVATION & BAPTISM

Celebrate Your Child's Faith Decision

There is nothing more exciting for a parent than guiding a child to faith. Once your child has accepted Christ as his or her personal Lord and Savior it is time to help them tell others about that decision through baptism. If you are not sure if your child has made this decision yet, please request the Prepare to Lead Your Child to Christ kit by emailing Emily@waterloroad.org or stopping by the Childhood Desk.

I'm A Christian Now Book

Receive an I'm A Christian Now book from Mrs. Emily. To help make this as smooth and stress free of a process as we can, we have each child work through the book at home. We believe the book gives your child a great foundation of what it means to be Christian as well as assisting your child in the spiritual discipline of personal Bible study. As a parent, you will work through the book with your child. For more information, check out WRBC's *A Child's Spiritual Journey* booklet.

Baptism

Baptism is a public announcement of belief and a visible picture of an inward transformation. All who experience God's saving grace and respond through faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins should be baptized in obedience to Jesus' commands as recorded in the New Testament and modeled in the early church. Explain to your child that being baptized does not make him or her a Christian. There is nothing magical about the water. What makes someone a Christian is the decision to ask Jesus Christ to forgive his or her sins and take control of his or her life. Your child might be nervous about getting baptized. Assure your child that he or she will just be dipped under the water for a couple of seconds and that this is an exciting time. If you have a *My Faith Box*, be sure to fill out the designated page in the Milestones section after your child is baptized. You can schedule your child's baptism by contacting Mrs. Emily.

Communion

The Lord's Supper is a special time when those who have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior remember that He died for their sins. We remember this by eating bread, which represents Jesus' body, and by drinking juice, which symbolizes Jesus' blood. Celebrate your child's first participation in communion. Discuss the meaning. If you have a *My Faith Box*, be sure to fill out the designated page in the Milestones section noting his or her first Lord's Supper.

Symbols and Celebrations

Consider giving your child something to signify the decision he or she has made. This can be a cross, a new Bible, a Bible study or a hand written note in the front of a blank journal. As children get older they sometimes question their earlier faith decision. Help your child feel secure by providing a firm foundation. If you have a *My Faith Box*, write down the date and other special memories from the day he or she accepted Christ on the designated page in the Milestones section. Use the *Spiritual Birthdays* card included with this kit for ideas on how to celebrate your child's spiritual birthday. Take time to talk about what he or she is learning. Allow your child to ask questions and talk through new areas of spiritual growth. Pray for the upcoming year in his or her journey. This will also give you great insight into where some extra help or attention is needed and how you can pray more specifically for your child.



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Help Your Child Begin to Walk with Jesus

Show your child what a Christian life looks like. Teach your child how to pray and coach him or her on how to read the Bible. Salvation and baptism are only the beginning of a wonderful journey with God. Now that you have helped your child take these exciting first steps, you have the opportunity and responsibility to disciple him or her into a fully developing follower of Christ.

Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's Name: _____

How will you be intentional this next year?

- Pray daily for and with my child.
- Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- Bless my child daily.
- Attend church regularly.
- Schedule and have regular family times.
- Schedule my child's baptism and celebration.
- _____

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles that Can Radically Change Your Family by Paul David Tripp

My Faith Box by Lydia Randall from myfaithbox.org

Baptism: Bible Study for Kids by Richard E. Todd

Communion: Bible Study for Kids by Richard E. Todd

Family Night Tool Chest: Basic Christian Beliefs from heritagebuildersglobal.com

WATERLOO ROAD MINISTRIES

Childhood Ministry · waterlooroad.org/ministry/childhood/

HomePointe · homepointe.org

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