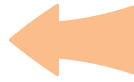


BAPTISM



We are so excited that your child is ready to start talking about baptism! Here at Active we believe that baptism is a huge step in telling a better story in our lives and believe that kids have the ability to understand this step and choose to follow Jesus with their lives. In this guide you will find tools to help you as a parent/guardian to find out if your child is ready or needs some more time to really grasp what baptism means.

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is the act of choosing to dedicate our lives to following Jesus and his teachings through the symbol of being gently put under water to symbolize your old life being put behind you and now coming out of the water a new person ready to live a new life led by Jesus.

Jesus himself committed to the act of baptism as to be an example of how we should live our lives.

Matthew 3:15

But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him.

BAPTISM DEVOTIONAL

Take time to go through this short devotional with your child to help give them a greater picture of what baptism means.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIRV)

"So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."

Being baptized in water is one of the first steps you take in following Jesus. A friend of Jesus does not just learn about Jesus, but follows Jesus and does the things He did. The number one reason you should get baptized in water is because Jesus did and He told us to also.

When you became a friend of Jesus, you were brought into God's kingdom under Jesus' control. That means you have decided to do what Jesus says and follow His example. Jesus was water baptized, so we should be too. Take time right now to read about Jesus' baptism in your Bible in Matthew 3:13- 17.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Walk through some of these questions with your child to help give you a better understanding of their ability to fully understand what it means to be baptized and help you feel if they are ready or not.

When did you decide to follow Jesus and become His forever friend?

Your child should have a specific memory of when he or she understood what Jesus did, and that he or she needs Jesus in their life. It may have been at church, at home, or even sometime when they were alone.

What does it mean to be water baptized?

It means I'm following Jesus. It means I'm a Christian and I want to show the world. It's a picture of what Jesus has done on the inside of me.

Why do you want to be water baptized?

Because Jesus was baptized and he tells us to be baptized also. Because I'm a friend of Jesus and I want to follow Him.