

THE WIN

Caregivers and children engaging in a conversation about baptism.

PREPARE FOR THE CONVERSATION(S)

At Mountain we practice the baptism that was taught and practiced in the Scriptures — immersion of a repentant believer which joins us with Christ in dying to our old lives and also raises us with Christ to walk in a new life through the power of the Spirit. If your child is asking questions or interested in baptism, you are about to embark on a very special series of conversations with your child. Conversations about baptism are the perfect opportunity for families and the church to partner together.

Don't worry if you feel like you don't know all the answers or have the right words to say about baptism. The Mountain Kids team is here to help guide and resource you through this conversation. In addition to this conversation guide, the Mountain Kids team offers opportunities throughout the year for families to walk through this conversation.

As you prepare to have this conversation, spend time completing the following:

- Praying for the conversation you will have with your child about baptism, faith, and Jesus. Ask God for wisdom, the right words, and the correct next step for your child.
- It might be helpful to write out some notes or thoughts you might have about baptism.
- Spend time writing or thinking about your testimony

DISCUSSION

Families, when children are questioning and wondering about baptism, one of the best things we can do is to continue the conversation. **YOU** are the best resource for your kids! Below are some discussion questions to use as you continue or start the conversation. Remember, you are the best person to invest spiritually into your child. Keep the conversation going, and know we are here for you!

- Share your story or a family member's story about baptism. When, where, why did you get baptized? How was your life different or the same after baptism?
- What are you learning in Mountain Kids? Ask about stories he or she is learning or conversations he or she is having with small group leaders.
- What do you know about baptism?

Baptism is an illustration of what Jesus did for us on the cross. It is a way to show others the change Jesus has made in your life. In this way, going under the water illustrates our death to the old way of living life and coming out of the water symbolizes our resurrection with Christ (Romans 5:8).

Why do you want to be baptized?

Families, consider what is motivating your child to be baptized. Press into the conversation in order to determine the reasoning (is it because baptism "looks fun" or is it because the child truly wants to make that declaration).

What does Jesus mean to you?

Jesus is God's son and is Savior and Lord of our lives. This means that Jesus loves me so much that He forgives me of my sin through his death and resurrection on the cross, and does the same for anyone who believes in him! (John 3:16). But he's also the Lord of our lives, which means he gives us an example of living a gospelcentered life focused on loving God, loving people, and serving the world.

How does watching a baptism make you feel?

Allow time for kids to talk about their feelings or thoughts about baptism. If your child hasn't seen a baptism, search for a video that will show them what it looks like.

INVESTIGATE TOGETHER

Spend time reading the Bible passages below. Talk about what you notice, what you learn, what is confusing, or any questions that arise during the readings.

- Matthew 3
- Matthew 28:16–20
- John 3:16
- Acts 8:26-40
- Romans 5:8

ENGAGE TOGETHER

Whether your child is ready to be baptized or still has questions, one way to continue to engage in the conversation is for your child to write a letter to Jesus. This is a great opportunity for your child to share thoughts, questions, or feelings about baptism.

- Begin with "Dear Jesus, you are...." and ask them to write who Jesus is to them.
- Continue with "I love you because..." and encourage them to tell them what they love about Jesus.
- Then write "I'm sorry for the times I've..." tell them to write out what they want Jesus to change in their lives.
- Finish with "I want to follow you because..." and have them tell Jesus why they are making that decision.

PRAY

Deciding to be baptized can be a multi-step conversation with your child. Spend intentional time with your child praying about taking the next step of baptism and asking God for clarity around any questions you or your child has about baptism or Jesus.

NEXT STEPS

- Determine another time to talk with your child about baptism.
- Set up a time to talk with a Kids Pastor
- Register for the Mountain Kids Baptism Class. Visit Mountain's website, **MountainCC.org/Kids**, to view the next Baptism Class available.

