Is My Student Ready for Baptism?



Thank you so much for taking the time to look through this resource "Is my Student ready for baptism?" We are so excited at the possibility that your child is ready to go public with their faith in Jesus Christ, We hope that this resource provides you with helpful insight and tools to talk with your Student about baptism in the future and when they are ready to take the next step you can celebrate with them in confidence! If you have additional questions please email students@propel.church and someone on our team will be happy to help you.

IF YOUR STUDENT WANTS TO GET BAPTIZED, ASK QUESTIONS

Baptism comes after salvation, so start with the basics: Can you tell me who Jesus is? What did He do for you? Here's one way to explain salvation in a way Students can understand:

- God loves you! He made you and knows everything about you. (Psalm 139)
- When we mess up and do wrong things, it's called sin. We deserve to be punished for those things, but when we follow Jesus, He takes the punishment for us. (<u>Ecclesiastes 7:20</u>)
- To follow Jesus, you have to admit that you're a sinner and that you've messed up. You need to repent of the sin and turn from it.. (<u>Acts 3:19</u>)
- God loves you so much He sent His son Jesus to earth. Jesus took the punishment for the sin of everyone who would believe in him by dying on a cross. But Jesus didn't stay dead! God brought Jesus back to life. To follow Jesus, you have to believe Jesus died for you and that God brought Jesus back to life. (Romans 10:9-10)

 Finally, we commit to following Jesus by praying a prayer:

God, I know You love me. I admit I have done wrong things. and I am truly sorry. I believe in my heart that Jesus, Your Son, died for me and You brought Him back to life. I commit to following You. Jesus, You are my leader, the Lord of my life! Amen.

IF YOUR STUDENT HAS ALREADY ASKED JESUS INTO THEIR LIFE, EXPLAIN WHAT BAPTISM IS AND WHAT IT MEANS

Here are some suggestions and places to point to in their Bible:

- Now that you've committed to following Jesus, you need to let others know by getting baptized. (Mark 16:16)
- Baptism takes place in the water. It's a picture of what Jesus did when He took the punishment for your sins. When you go under the water, it shows people that you believe Jesus died for you.

- When you come out of the water, you show others that you believe God brought Jesus back to life. (Romans 6:4)
- Getting saved and then baptized doesn't mean your life will be perfect. There will be times when you will sin and make wrong choices. When this happens, pray and ask Jesus to forgive you. Jesus took the punishment for all our sins. That means even though you will sin again, you don't need to be saved or baptized again. (1 Peter 3:18)

You can continue following Jesus day by day by reading the Bible, doing what Jesus says, and praying daily. (Psalm 1:2)

Facilitate the conversation, but don't dominate it.

Commit to answering every question, no matter how silly, and let your Student ask lots of questions.

Remember, walking with Jesus is not a race.

Baptism is the first step after salvation for everyone, Students included. But it's possible your Student might not be ready. And that's OK! It's always better to wait than to pressure Students to take a step they don't understand.

As a parent, you often want to make things happen for your Students. Your heart is in the right place because you want what is best for your Students. But baptism is about their faith, not yours. What you choose and they do might last for a while, but what they choose and they do will last forever.

WATER BAPTISM FAQS

What is Water Baptism?

Water baptism is a public declaration that we have turned away from our sins and put our faith in Jesus Christ as our personal Savior and Lord (Acts 2:38). It is important to recognize that baptism does not save us; instead, we are saved by God's grace as we trust in His Son who died for us on the cross and was raised from the dead (Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-10). However, baptism identifies us publicly with Jesus Christ as His disciples, His followers. This is vital because Jesus Himself said, "If anyone acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will openly acknowledge that person before my Father in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

Obeying God in this way is an important step toward spiritual fruitfulness and the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; Colossians 2:11-12). As we go down into the waters and come back up we demonstrate that our old life of sin has been buried with Christ and we have been raised with Him (Romans 6:1-4). Baptism is a celebration of God's grace and an expression of our desire and intention to follow Him!

Who should be baptized?

You should be baptized if you have turned away from your sins and put your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (Acts 2:38). Water baptism is a public declaration that you have been saved by God's grace through your trust in His Son (Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-10). Baptism is an important point of identification with Jesus as your Lord and an expression of your desire and intention to follow Him. Please note that you do not need to be an owner of Propel Church to be baptized here.

What should I wear?

Clothes that will not retain much water work best (jeans are not good). We will give you a baptism t-shirt to wear. You may want to wear dark-colored pants or modest-length shorts (no short shorts please). Also, make sure to bring a change of clothes, two towels, and a plastic bag for wet clothing.

Can I be baptized with a member of my family? What about inviting family?

If you would like multiple members of your family to be baptized together, please let us know when you register and we will do our best to plan for this. Of course, it is important that each family member has come to a point of personal faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior of their life before they are ready for baptism.

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