

# Children's Baptism Guide

PURSUIT



## **Baptism is...**

The act of baptism is being obedient to Jesus and shows others that you are His friend and follower. As you go under the water, your old life is dead and buried. Then, like Jesus rose from the grave, you rise from the water to a new life with Jesus.

Water baptism is not salvation. It is only for those who have asked Jesus into their heart and have decided to follow Him. Jesus was baptized as an example that each of His followers should be too.

Young children who have been taught from the Bible may find it easy to believe in Jesus, His miracles, and in the supernatural. Becoming a follower of Jesus (salvation) means the child has an understanding of sin and their need to be saved from it.

Once a child understands their need for a Saviour, and they have asked Jesus to forgive them and make them new, they are more likely to be ready for Baptism.

## **Age requirements for Baptism....**

Age does not limit the Holy Spirit's work in a child's life.

Jesus said in Matthew 18:3 "...unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven". He also said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children" Matthew 11:25. And Jesus called the children to Himself and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Luke 18:1.

## **How to know if your child is ready to be baptized...**

Ask your child to tell you their salvation story. They should have a specific memory of when they understood what Jesus did for them on the Cross. It might have happened at church, at home, school, or even when they were alone by themselves.

Ask your child if they understand what Baptism means. Their answer should be that baptism is a picture of what Jesus did for them on the Cross. Baptism is showing the world that they are a friend and follower of Jesus so they want to live the way He says.

Ask your child WHY they want to be baptized. They should know that Jesus was baptized so, as a friend and follower of His, they want to be baptized too.

## **If your child is ready to be baptized...**

Read about Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:13-17 and talk about what baptism means to them. Attend the baptism orientation with your child. Email [info@pursuitchurchsa.com](mailto:info@pursuitchurchsa.com) for more information or if you have any questions.