

# BAPTISM

We are so excited that your child is considering being baptized. We believe that baptism is a significant milestone in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ. It is our conviction that baptism should occur only as a symbol, after someone has surrendered their life to the lordship of Jesus Christ. Please take time to discuss the Family Devotional questions in this booklet and pray about whether you feel your child is ready for baptism.

## WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Water baptism is only intended for the individual who has received the saving benefits of Christ's atoning work and become His disciple. Therefore, in obedience to Christ's command and as a testimony to God, the church, oneself and the world, a believer should be immersed in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Water baptism is a visual and symbolic demonstration of a person's union with Christ in the likeness of His death and resurrection. It signifies that his/her former way of life has been put to death and vividly depicts a person's release from the mastery of sin.

### **BAPTISM IS A SYMBOL**

Baptism is a symbol that represents:

### Washing away of sin

"And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name." Acts 22:16

#### Being buried with Jesus and raised

"Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead." *Colossians 2:12* 

#### New life in Christ

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." *Romans 6:3-4* 

Family Discussion Question: What does baptism represent?

### WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Those who:

Have received the word/gift of salvation. Someone who believes that what Jesus did on the cross counted for them and are putting their full trust in Him alone.

"So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls." Acts 2:41

Have believed the good news of Jesus Christ, that is taught in God's Word.

"But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:12

Have "put on" Christ. Someone who has surrendered their life to the lordship of Jesus Christ.

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." *Galatians 3:27* 

Family Discussion Questions:

Who does the Bible say should be baptized? What is a reason someone should be baptized?

## IS YOUR CHILD READY TO BE BAPTIZED?

Sanctification is an ongoing process, you are not looking for perfection in these areas, rather you are looking for growth in the life of your child in the following areas.

- Genuine gratitude for salvation
- An eagerness to learn more about God and worship Him
- Conviction and confession of sin
- A growing love for others
- A desire to share the gospel
- Engaging in prayer
- Growth in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control, humility and service

Baptism is not something to be rushed into. It is something that should be a significant milestone in your child's relationship with Jesus

If you feel your child is ready for baptism then please go to **coe22.com/kids** to fill out the baptism form. You will then receive an email with additional information.

If you feel your child is not yet ready, it is absolutely okay to wait. Take this time to continue to read *The Gospel, Gods Plan For Me* booklet, pray together and spend time in God's Word.



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