

# Water Baptism

## Children's Baptism Guide



We are so excited that you are considering baptism for your child! Children are able to have a personal relationship with Jesus, and in OSC Kids we encourage them to make a personal decision to follow Him. Our children are encouraged to not just learn about Jesus, but to learn *from* Him by walking with Him every day.

We advise parents to wait until their child is asking to be water baptized before starting the conversation. This is usually a good indication that they are ready to consider this amazing spiritual milestone in their life. While children 6 years old and younger are fully able to understand who Jesus is, they will not necessarily remember or understand the *significance* of this event; we would encourage you to wait until your child is older before making the decision with them to be baptized.

As you discern if your child is ready to be water baptized, here are some questions to ask. Through the conversation, you should be able to tell if they understand the significance of the decision they are making and help them make this amazing decision at the right time in their life.

### **1. 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 for them, 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.

### **2. 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.

### **3. Why do you want to be water baptized?**

Because Jesus was baptized and he tell us to do the same. Because I'm a friend of Jesus and I want to follow him.

#### **Your Child Is Ready:**

If you feel your child understands what it means to be water baptized, then we'd love for you to read through the water baptism devotional with them.

#### **Your Child Is NOT Ready:**

If you don't feel your child understands what it means to be water baptized, it's totally appropriate to wait. During this time, let your child observe water baptism and talk to them about what it means. We'd love for you to read through the water baptism devotional with your child and spur them on in their personal relationship with Jesus.

**If you have any questions, or would like to talk to someone about the process, please call the church at 337-839-8889 to schedule a phone call or appointment with one of our Kids Ministry Leaders.**