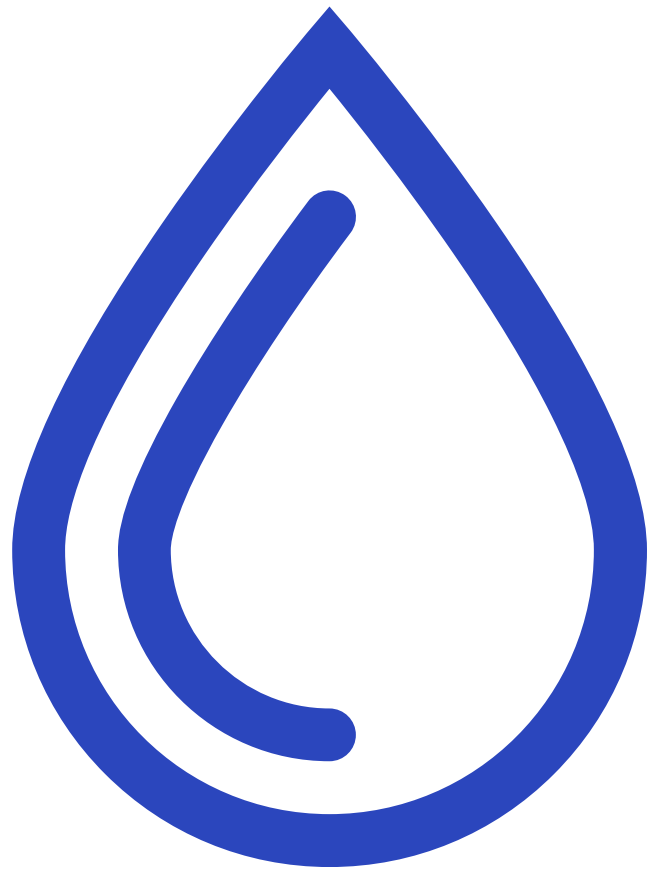
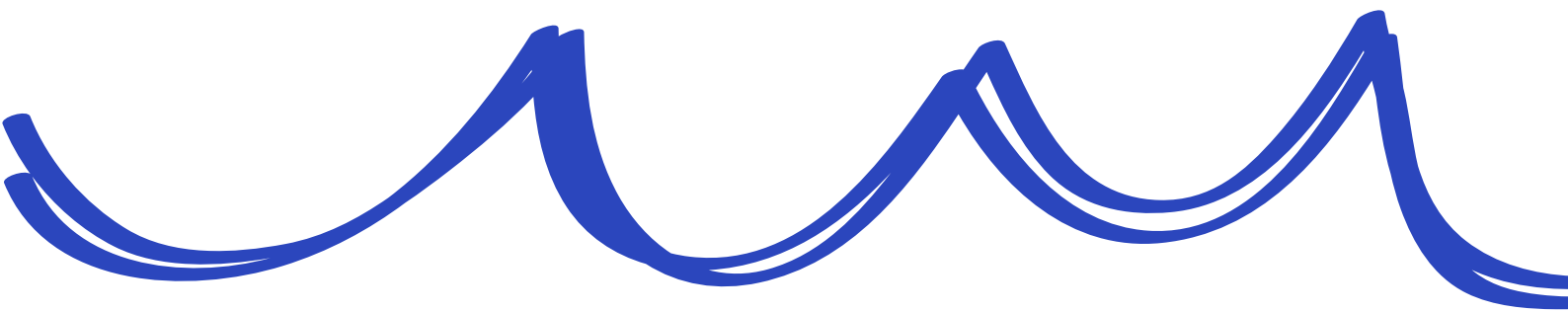




NEXT STEPS

A Conversation
for Kids



NAME:

GOALS

Our hope is that you will learn and understand...

- God's plan for salvation.
 - What it means to be a Christian.
 - Why baptism is important.
 - How to continue to build a relationship with Jesus Christ.
-

WE NEED TO START AT THE BEGINNING.

**"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH."
GENESIS 1:1**

God created everything. He created the oceans and the sky; the sun, moon, and stars. God created plants and animals. Then, God created two people who were named Adam and Eve.

God gave Adam and Eve two jobs: to take care of the Earth, and to have a relationship with God. Everything was good.

Until...

SIN

Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sin entered the world. But what is sin?

**TO SIN IS TO THINK, SPEAK, OR
ACT IN ANY WAY THAT GOES
AGAINST GOD AND HIS
COMMANDS.**

CAN YOU THINK OF AN EXAMPLE OF SIN IN YOUR LIFE?
WRITE AN EXAMPLE BELOW.

Because we are Human, sin is a part of who we are when we are born. It separates us from God.

God is perfect. and because of this, we can't be in a close relationship with God while sin is a part of us. But God really wanted to be in a close relationship with his people.

So, since the day sin entered the world, God created a plan to rescue us. That plan was **Jesus**.

**"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON.
ANYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT DIE BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE."**

JOHN 3:16

JESUS & THE HOLY SPIRIT

- While on Earth, Jesus was fully God and fully man.
- Jesus came to earth as a man and lived a perfect life.
- Jesus was tempted just as we are today.
- Jesus died on the cross to *forgive* us of our sins so we could have eternal life.
- Jesus is God, and helps us know more about God.
- Believing in Jesus is the only way to get to heaven.

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME."

JOHN 14:6

Let's talk about *forgiveness*:

Forgiveness means that God no longer see the bad things you've done.

He only remembers the great thing Jesus did for you.

When you say "yes" to Jesus, you accept that your sins are forgiven, from the past and forever in the future.

But...

This doesn't mean you won't ever make the wrong choice and sin again.

It does mean that God is faithful to forgive you every time you ask.

After Jesus died and rose again he stayed on earth for 40 days.

When it was time for Him to go back to heaven He said it was good for Him to go, so another could come. He was talking about *the Holy Spirit*.

The Holy Spirit is God, who came to live with and help those who believe in Jesus.

The Holy Spirit guides us and helps us live according to God's commands.

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

How do we help kids choose Christ as their forever friend? One tool we like to use is the ABC method. The Holy Spirit can move in kids of any age and we want to be prepared to help them start their relationship with God when that happens.

Say: By dying on the cross and rising again, Jesus made a way for us to be with God forever. Jesus lived a perfect life and died in our place. He provided a way for us to be forgiven and to cross the divide that separates us from God. Here's how we cross that gap:

A ADMIT YOU ARE A SINNER

EVERYONE HAS SINNED. NO ONE MEASURES UP TO GOD'S GLORY.
ROMANS 3:23

B BELIEVE JESUS IS GOD'S SON

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON. ANYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT DIE BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE."
JOHN 3:16

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME."
JOHN 14:6

C COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO LOVING AND LIVING FOR JESUS

"SAY WITH YOUR MOUTH, "JESUS IS LORD." BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD. THEN YOU WILL BE SAVED. "
ROMANS 10:9

Pray with a child: Dear God, I ADMIT I have sinned and done wrong things. I BELIEVE that Jesus is your son who came to earth and died on the cross for me so that I can be forgiven. Today I am asking you to become my forever friend - my savior. I don't want to be separated from you. I choose to follow you God, to COMMIT my life to you. Thank you for forgiving me and loving me. Amen.

SO NOW WHAT?

AFTER BECOMING A CHRISTIAN, WHAT DO I DO?

Look at the verses below Circle what the people do after they believe in Jesus.

"BUT WHEN THEY BELIEVED PHILIP AS HE PREACHED THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, THEY WERE BAPTIZED, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN." – ACTS 8:12

"SIMON HIMSELF BELIEVED AND WAS BAPTIZED, AND HE FOLLOWED PHILIP EVERYWHERE, ASTONISHED BY THE GREAT SIGNS AND MIRACLES HE SAW." – ACTS 8:13

"PAUL SAID, 'JOHN'S BAPTISM WAS A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE. HE TOLD THE PEOPLE TO BELIEVE IN THE ONE COMING AFTER HIM, THAT IS, IN JESUS.' ON HEARING THIS, THEY WERE BAPTIZED INTO THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS." – ACTS 19:4-5

WHY DO WE GET BAPTIZED?

Jesus was baptized (Matthew 3:13-17). Just as we follow His example on the way we should live, we follow His example by getting baptized.

Jesus wants us to get baptized (Matthew 28:19-20). When we choose to get baptized we are following a command that Jesus gave us.

BAPTISM

Let's start with what baptism is not...

- Baptism is not how we get to Heaven.
- Baptism does not wash away our sins.
- Being baptized does not mean that God loves us more than He does right now.

SO WHAT IS BAPTISM?

**BAPTISM IS A SYMBOL TO
SHOW OTHERS THE
COMMITMENT WE'VE MADE TO
TRUST JESUS AS OUR SAVIOR.**

When we are placed under the water, it is a symbol of Christ's death. When we are lifted up again, it is a symbol of his resurrection.

We are publicly declaring the new life we have received from Jesus.

And that is a reason to **Celebrate!**

"WHEN YOU WERE BAPTIZED, YOU WERE BURIED TOGETHER WITH CHRIST. AND YOU WERE RAISED TO LIFE TOGETHER WITH HIM WHEN YOU WERE BAPTIZED. YOU WERE RAISED TO LIFE BY BELIEVING IN GOD'S WORK. GOD HIMSELF RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD."

COLOSSIANS 2:12

HOW TO CONTINUE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

Prayer
Reading the Bible
Fellowship
Service

THE DAY OF...

Some things you need to know for the day
you get Baptized.

BRING THESE ITEMS WITH YOU FROM HOME:

- A towel.
- A grocery bag for wet clothes.
- Appropriate clothing (No white, Pants or shorts).
- Consider wearing a swimsuit under your clothes.
- A change of clothing.
- Friends and Family to Celebrate with you!

AFTER THE BAPTISM

- You will be able to dry off and change in the changing room.
- Then you will have a chance to go to service in the children's room or the sanctuary.

AFTER SERVICE

- There will be an opportunity to take a picture with your family
- Baptism certificates will be given out after the service.

YOUR TESTIMONY

As followers of Jesus, we want to share who He is and what He has done in our lives with everyone! We can do this by sharing our story or testimony!

You will share your testimony with the church before being baptized! You can write it down and read it out so that everyone knows why you want to be forever friends with Jesus!

As you write, answer these three questions telling the story of your relationship with Jesus:

- **Why did you decide to become a follower of Jesus?**
- **How has being a follower of Jesus changed the way you live?**
- **Why do you want to be baptized?**
- **Why should others become followers of Jesus?**

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