TALKING WITH YOUR KIDS ABOUT Baptism

"I WANT CHILDREN TO COME TO ME, SO NEVER INTERFERE WITH THEM WHEN THEY WANT TO COME, FOR HEAVEN'S KINGDOM REALM IS COMPOSED OF BELOVED ONES LIKE THESE!" MATTHEW 19:14

At New Life, we practice believer's baptism. This means that baptism is a willful choice on the part of the individual to go public with their faith in Jesus. If your child has trusted in Jesus, it may be the right time for them to be baptized.

HERE ARE A COUPLE QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

What does it mean to trust in Jesus?

Read Romans 10:9-10 (MSG) with your child:

"SAY THE WELCOMING WORD TO GOD–"JESUS IS MY MASTER"–EMBRACING, BODY AND SOUL, GOD'S WORK OF DOING IN US WHAT HE DID IN RAISING JESUS FROM THE DEAD. THAT'S IT. YOU'RE NOT "DOING" ANYTHING; YOU'RE SIMPLY CALLING OUT TO GOD, TRUSTING HIM TO DO IT FOR YOU. THAT'S SALVATION. WITH YOUR WHOLE BEING YOU EMBRACE GOD SETTING THINGS RIGHT, AND THEN YOU SAY IT, RIGHT OUT LOUD: "GOD HAS SET EVERYTHING RIGHT BETWEEN HIM AND ME!"

People often pray a prayer something like this when they make this decision: "God, I know you love me. I admit I have sinned and 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. I invite your Holy Spirit to teach me how to live my life free from sin.

What does it mean to you to be baptized?

Baptism is for those of us who have admitted we're sinners (messed up) and told God we're sorry and want to live for Him. We must believe that Jesus took the punishment for our sin when He died on the cross and that God brought Him back to life. Then we commit to follow Him in our life, obeying him, as he teaches us how not to sin.

Once we've done these things, baptism is our next step to publicly let others know we've committed to following Jesus. Christ tells us that once we become believers we should be baptized. When we do this we are professing our faith in Jesus Christ to everyone. We are setting aside a time to mark this decision and let everyone know it.