



Baptism Guide

(October, 2025)

Dear Hope City Parents & Guardians,

We are so excited that your child has accepted Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. It's the BEST decision they can make and we want to partner with you throughout their journey. After accepting Christ, your child may want to be immersed through water baptism.

To navigate if your child is ready to be baptized, we encourage you to allow space for your child to come to you with an interest in being baptized after seeing a baptism or learning about what baptism is. Your child's ask about baptism is a good indication they may be ready to be baptized and/or they're ready to learn what's next in their walk with Christ. While younger children can absolutely have a relationship with Jesus, they may not necessarily know, understand, or remember the significance of this decision to be baptized. We encourage you to guide your child to wait until they're a little older if your child is asking about water baptism and is under the age of 5 years old.

We encourage you to take the time to walk through these questions with your children before they get baptized. This is an exciting time as a parent! Give room for the Holy Spirit to work in your child's heart. You're doing a wonderful job equipping and training up your children. Congratulations on your child's next step to be baptized!

Love,

Hope City Kids Team



Who is Jesus and what did He do for us?

Our kids may understand who Jesus is, but who and what He did for us is key. Look for these kinds of responses as you discuss with your child.

Who is Jesus?

Jesus was born in a barn. His mom is Mary and His dad is Joseph. But Jesus is also God's Son. Jesus is the Messiah and the hope of the world. Jesus was a teacher and taught the disciples and people who listened to him about God.

What did Jesus do for us?

Jesus rescued the world by dying on the cross for us because He loves us.

When Jesus died, He took away our sin. Jesus is our Savior.

Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead 3 days later.

Jesus died for our sins so that we would be given grace and live forever with God.

John 3:16-17 - "For God so loved the world, he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast."

Accepting Jesus Christ As Our Savior

Your kid(s) may have already accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior with you as their parent, at church, VBS, or a camp experience. It's important to make sure they have declared out loud their decision to the Lord. Listen for an understanding of their sin, wanting to ask God for forgiveness, and a desire to ask the Lord to be their Savior. Look for these kinds of responses from your child.

"I have sinned, I want to repent, ask God for forgiveness, and accept Jesus as my Lord."

"I have made mistakes, I want to say sorry to the Lord, and ask Him to come into my heart."

"I made the decision to accept Christ when my leader at church asked if we wanted Jesus to be our Lord and Savior."

"I prayed when we were at home watching church online."

"I prayed that God would come into my heart and be a part of my life in my room."



If your child wants to accept Christ but hasn't yet, here is a prayer that you can ask them to repeat with you as you lead them in accepting Christ!

"Dear Jesus, I know I have sinned and made mistakes. I want to say I'm sorry and ask for Your forgiveness for the things I've done. I believe You are God's Son. I believe You died and came back to life because You love me. I want to turn away from sin and ask for You to please come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. Please be in my life and help me live for You. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

Romans 10:9-10 "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."

What does water baptism mean and why do you want to be baptized?

Ask your child why they want to be baptized. They may have responses like - "I'm ready to tell the world I love Jesus. I want everyone to know I accepted Christ. I want to follow what Jesus did."

We believe that accepting Christ as your personal Lord and Savior is what saves you. We believe that baptism is an outward and public profession of your faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus was baptized by John the baptist and we want to follow Jesus's example of also being baptized. When we are baptized, it's a public way to show others that we are leaving our old life and starting a new one with God.

Matthew 28:19-20 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

BAPTISM FAQ's

What to expect when getting baptized?

- Each location has a baptism set up and schedule for baptisms. Please ask a Hope City Staff member with a badge when baptisms are if you are unsure at your location.
- You can register your child for their baptism at hopecity.com/baptisms in person the day of their baptism at your campus, or online at home.



- Your child will be prayed over before their baptism by someone on our team.
- Your child will be fully immersed under water by someone on our HC Baptism Team.
- Hope City will provide a photographer to take a picture of your child's baptism. Please ask the baptism team for assistance on getting your picture.
- Your child will receive a Hope City Baptism Certificate at the Registration table after their public profession of baptism.

What should I bring?

- We will provide baptism clothing, towels, and toiletries. But you are welcome to bring your own items as well.
- We encourage you to take videos and/or photos of your child's experience.
- All friends and family are welcome to join you for your child's baptism!

Who is baptizing my child?

- The HC Baptism Team will be in the baptism tank to baptize your children.
- You may want to be in the water with your child while they are being baptized, please connect with the Baptism Team if this is something you'd like to do.
- If you have a request for our HC Kids Pastor or one of our Directors to baptize your child, please let our Kids Team and Baptism Team know your desire.

How and when can I be baptized?

- Hope City has specific dates and times for baptism
- Please be on the lookout for baptism dates in our Hope City Announcements or ask a Hope City Staff member with a Hope City badge.
- You can register your child for their baptism at hopecity.com/baptisms in person the day of their baptism at your campus, or online at home.