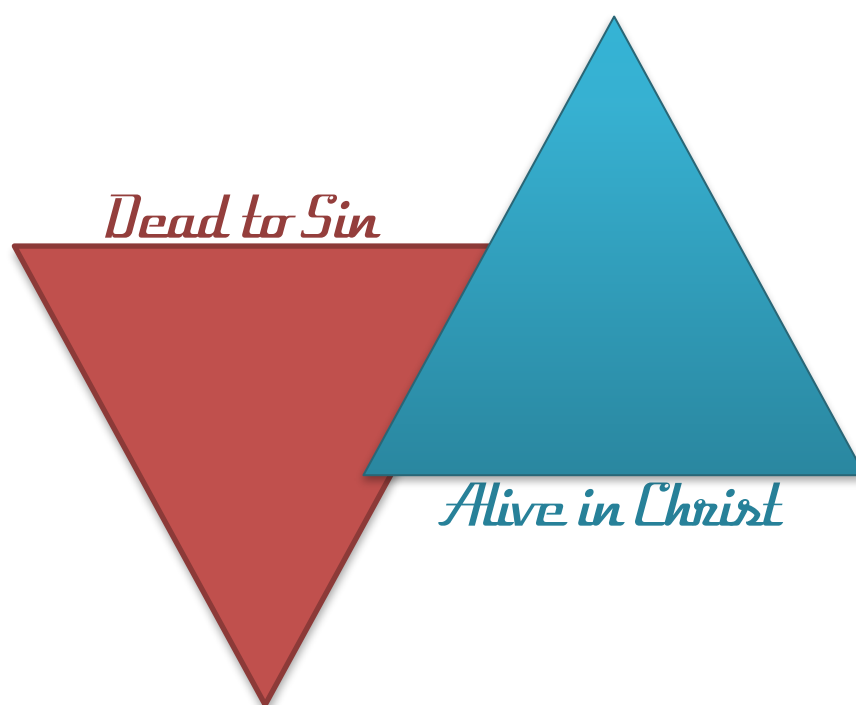

Baptism

A Workbook for Children & Parents



A Word from Our Summit Kids Team

We want to thank you for taking this opportunity to teach your child what it means to be a follower of Christ. We hope and pray this resource will be a great help to you as you lead your child to know and follow Christ. **After completing the curriculum, please e-mail the child's written testimony to your Summit Kid's Director and Campus Pastor no later than one week prior to their baptism.** While walking through the curriculum, if you have any reservations, concerns, or questions about the child's understanding of the Gospel, please know that we are here to walk with you.

Topics of Discussion

Session One – Becoming a Christian

Session Two – Developing the Relationship

Session Three – Baptism & Communion

Session Four – The Great Commission

Important Words to Understand

When you became a Christian, God enabled you to make the most important decision of your life. In the next few weeks, you will learn the meanings of words that Christians often use but, most importantly, you will learn about your new life in Christ.

Gospel

Gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ. God has made peace with fallen man through the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus' life on earth, death on the cross, burial, and His resurrection, we can see the beauty of the Gospel. (See page 4)

Believe

Believe means more than to know about Jesus. It means to trust. Many people say they believe in Jesus. Their minds know He is God's Son. They even say He died on the cross for the whole world. But even Judas, who betrayed Jesus, knew this was true. Read **James 2:19** to see who else believes this way. This kind of believing is not the same as trusting Jesus enough to turn your life over to Him.

Believe means to _____ Jesus.

Sin

God has given every person the right to choose. You can choose to obey God and His way, or you can please yourself and do things your way. Sin is disobeying God. It is choosing to follow your way instead of God's way. It is putting what you want above what God wants. Thus, the consequence of sin is separation from God.

Sin is _____ to follow your way instead of God's.

Saved

In love, God made a way to save people from the punishment they deserve. Jesus came to take the punishment for our sin. To be saved means to be forgiven. It means to be back together with God forever. It means being adopted into God's family. Jesus died so that we could be saved.

Repent

Repent means to be sorry for the things you have done wrong. To repent is to turn from sin and turn to Jesus. When you repent, you turn to Jesus for forgiveness and you begin to live a life that looks more and more like Jesus. It is the Spirit of God who helps us to live this life.

Christian

A Christian is a believer and follower of Jesus Christ (Acts 11:26, 26:28, 1 Peter 4:16). Christians love Jesus so much they want to become more like Him every day. Christians trust Jesus to guide them in making good choices. They ask Jesus to help them think and act as He wants them to. Who were called Christians? "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch" (Acts 11:26).

Church

A church is a group of people who have placed their trust in Christ and who join together in a certain location to fulfill God's purposes. A church is not a building. A church is the people of God fulfilling the purposes of God for His glory.

Baptism

Baptism means "immersion" (to put under the water). A person is baptized to demonstrate that they have placed their trust in Jesus.

SESSION 1: BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

Begin by praying with the child.

Today we are going to talk about your new life in Christ. We are going to review the meaning of becoming a Christian.

I. Let's start by sharing with each other how and when we became a Christian (*Share your testimony, including the day, month and year, if you know that specifically. Also talk about your baptism, if you have been baptized, and who baptized you, when and where*).

II. New Life in Christ and Assurance of Salvation: Complete handouts "I Know I Am Saved Because" (pages 6-7)

III. Define the Gospel:

A PLAN

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures." 1 Corinthians 15:3

AN EVENT

There was an event in history; Christ died.

AN ACHIEVEMENT

Our sins have been paid for and righteousness was completed.

AN OFFER

Christ extended a free offer to faith; without it there would be no Gospel.

THE APPLICATION

By faith alone in what Christ did for me, I am forgiven and justified.

GOD

"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God." 1 Peter 3:18

IV. Look up Luke 8:39. What does it say?

Jesus told a man to tell everyone what God had done in his life. Telling everyone your story about what God has done in your life is called your testimony. Because you are a Christian, you can tell other people about your experience. Your story of how you became a Christian is important to tell. As a Christian you have the best news ever! You can tell others that Jesus loves us and has saved us from sin. You can tell others how to know Jesus as their personal friend and Savior. No one has a story like yours. When you tell others how you became a Christian you are sharing your testimony.

Your testimony should include:

1. Why I became a Christian.
2. When I became a Christian.
3. How I became a Christian.
4. What has happened to me since I became a Christian?

Have the child write out their personal testimony. The child's testimony should include the above four components. We suggest that you allow the child full ownership as they pen their grace story.

Close in Prayer.

I KNOW I AM SAVED BECAUSE

I am now in God's family. John 1:12

God's spirit lives in me and tells me I am His. Romans 8:16

Jesus said so. Revelation 3:20

What does it mean to have new life in Christ?

"Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone the new has come."

2 Corinthians 5:17

God gives you this new life when you turn from sin (repent) and give yourself to Jesus.

When you give yourself to Jesus, He gives your life new meaning and you become a Christian.

Can you be sure you are a Christian and that God forgave you of your sins?

YES, God does not lie: Read Titus 1:2

You understand what sin is: **Read James 4:17; See Romans 5, Ephesians 2**

God said in His Word (The Bible) that you will be saved if you know you have sinned.

Read Romans 3:23

You are sorry (repent—turn away from your sins and turn toward God) for your sins.

Read Luke 13:3 and Acts 3:19

You believe in Jesus.

Read Acts 10:43, John 3:16 and John 1:12

You ask Jesus to forgive you and you ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior.

Read Romans 10:9, Romans 10:13 and Matthew 7:7

Can you ever lose your salvation? No

Find John 10:28 in your Bible. Fill in the blanks:

"I give them _____, and they will _____ perish; no one can snatch them out of _____." (ESV)

Will Jesus ever leave you? _____

Jesus has given us that promise. Jesus says in the Bible, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:20

Find and read Romans 8:35 -39. Who can take us away from God's love?

SESSION 2: DEVELOPING THE RELATIONSHIP

Begin by praying with the child.

Today, you are going to learn the importance of spending time in God's Word each day, hiding God's Word in our hearts (memorizing scripture), and knowing how to use the Bible.

I. Why We Need to Spend Time in God's Word Daily

Just like a friendship or anything that physically grows, a Christian doesn't grow automatically. Growing as a Christian is an incredible adventure with God that requires time, tending to, and nourishment.

Talk about the disadvantages of staying a baby, never growing up, and not being able to do the new and interesting things you can do at the age you are now. Every age brings new experiences and challenges. It is the same with being a Christian.

In the Bible, we learn who God is—His full character. We learn the amazing truths of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. God wants us to get to know Him and have a close relationship with Him. It is possible for us to be growing physically on the outside and not growing spiritually, as a Christian, on the inside. Just as other growing things need special care, so does your relationship with Jesus.

One of the ways you can help your relationship with God grow is through spending daily time in His Word. We strongly encourage you to take time to walk through Psalm 119 with your child, a few sections at a time. Highlight the beautiful ways God's Word is referred to in this passage, as well as the tremendous blessings that are ours through spending time in it and being shaped by it.

II. "We Need God's Word to Guide Us" Activity:

Blindfold the child, and then hide a piece of candy in the room. Tell him/her that he/she can have the piece of candy if they can find it. Little or no guidance should be given. After letting two or three minutes pass, remove the child's blindfold and give

them the piece of candy. Say: It's hard to find something when we are blindfolded or in the dark. Have you ever been somewhere it was so dark you couldn't see where you were going? Not knowing where to go is scary. Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between right and wrong. It can be like being blindfolded or being in the dark, not knowing which way to go. The Bible is like a light that helps us know what to do, just like I helped you know where to find the candy (Psalm 119:105).

III. We need God's Word because it is Truth.

Sadly, many people rely on their feelings, thoughts, or other men's ideas to learn about God. However, the only way we should learn about God is through the Bible. We need to know what God has to say about Himself! God's Word is the only absolute Truth.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 together.

Activity: Put the Bible in a chair on one side of the room. Put an empty chair on the other side of the room. Say: I am going to read a list of things that might be in the Bible. If you think I have read something that is in the Bible, clap your hands twice then point to the chair with the Bible. If you think I have read something that is NOT in the Bible, clap your hands twice, then point to the other chair.

Read the list below:

Love the Lord with all your heart.

The story of David and Goliath.

Put on your coat before going outside.

The story of Moses.

A story about a talking pig and a spider and a girl.

Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Eat all of your vegetables.

Don't lose your baseball cap.

Be kind to one another.

Obey your parent/guardian.

When we read and study the Bible, we learn what it says. We don't depend on our feelings or other people's ideas. God has given us the Bible so we can know truth for ourselves.

IV. Show your child the Table of Contents in his Bible, and instruct him in how to look up Scripture. Explain the parts of a scripture reference. Encourage your child to begin memorizing the books of the Bible.

Close in Prayer.

SESSION 3: BAPTISM

Today, we are going to talk about baptism.

(Have a large bowl of water and small action figure, etc., to demonstrate baptism as you explain it.)

I. Baptism

Baptism means “immersion” (to be put under the water). A person is baptized to show he is a follower of Jesus. A new Christian is baptized because Jesus said to be. Baptism shows that a person has turned away from the way he used to live, has trusted Jesus as Savior, and wants to follow Jesus every day. Becoming a Christian comes first—baptism does not make a person a Christian. The act of baptism is a reminder of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. It is one important way we show others that we have trusted in Jesus. When a person is baptized, he is immersed in water—put under the water completely.

Tell Matthew 3:1-11 in your own words. Have your child open his/her Bible to Matthew 3:13-17 and read about Jesus’ baptism. Go over the worksheet “What is Baptism?” (Page 11) and ask your child to draw a picture of what they think is taking place in the story.

Ask: “Who baptized Jesus?” Imagine you were John. How would you have felt if Jesus came to you and asked you to baptize Him? John felt that he needed to be baptized by Jesus instead of being the one to baptize Jesus. Jesus said that John needed to baptize Him to help Him fulfill what God had sent Him to do. Jesus set an example for Christians to follow.

Baptism is a picture. When a person is put under water, it is as if he is saying, “I have let Jesus bury my old way of living.” When he is brought up out of the water, he is saying, “I have begun a new life because of what Jesus has done for me.”

Baptism is also a picture of Jesus—His death burial and resurrection. It reminds us of what Jesus has done for us. Allow your child to add to his picture page a drawing of Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection.

Discuss "Baptism: Four Reasons To Be Baptized" worksheet. (Page 12)

Read Acts 2:41. What did the people do immediately?

Read Matthew 28:19-20. What did Jesus say to do to those people who trusted Him?

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is a picture. When a person is put under the water, it is as if he is saying, "I have let Jesus bury my old way of living." When he is brought up out of the water, he is saying, "I have begun a new life because of what Jesus has done for me."

Read Matthew 3:13-17.

Below, draw a picture of what you think is happening in this story.

FOUR REASONS TO BE BAPTIZED

Baptism shows that a person has turned away from the way he used to live, has asked Jesus to come into his life, and wants to follow Jesus every day. Becoming a Christian comes first. Baptism does not make a person a Christian. The act of baptism is a reminder of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. When a person is baptized, he is immersed in water. "Immersed" means to be put under water completely.

Read Acts 2:41. What did the people do immediately?

Read Matthew 28:19-20. What did Jesus say to do to those people who trusted Him?

Four Reasons to be Baptized

1. Jesus was baptized. Baptism identifies us with Jesus. It is the first way you tell people that you love Jesus. Read Mark 1:9-11.
2. Jesus said we should be baptized. Baptism is our demonstration of our obedience to Jesus. Jesus told us in the Bible to be baptized. Read Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:16.
3. To show others what we have done. Read Matthew 3:5-6.
4. Baptism identifies us with the church. You are a part of God's family in the church. Read Acts 2:41.

SESSION 4: THE GREAT COMMISSION

Begin in Prayer with the child.

What is the greatest news you have ever heard? Did you want to keep the news to yourself? Has someone ever told you something, and then asked you not to tell? It's hard to keep good news to yourself. Usually we can't wait to tell someone when something wonderful has happened.

In our first lesson, we talked about when you tell others how you became a Christian you are sharing your testimony. We talked about how no one has a story like yours. I told you to be working on your testimony and be ready to share it today. Jesus told a man to tell everyone what God had done in his life. Telling everyone your story about what God has done in your life is called your testimony. It should not be a secret! You should tell others about Jesus, and about His love for them. Telling someone about Jesus is "to confess Jesus." When you are telling others about Jesus you are witnessing.

Let's practice witnessing by sharing the story of how we became Christians.

As the child writes out their grace story, feel free to give editing help and suggestions as needed, but allow the Holy Spirit to pen their testimony. (See page 15 for template)

Explain that before the child is baptized, he will read a copy of his testimony. This serves as a witness to those watching the baptism.

Look up 2 Thessalonians 1:10.

In his letter to the Christians at Thessalonica, Paul talked about other people believing the testimony of Paul, Silas and Timothy. They believed in Jesus because of what Paul, Silas, and Timothy told them about Jesus.

Do you know anyone who has not heard about Jesus? Ask the child to write the name of a person he wants to tell about Jesus on a card.

Stop and pray for the person you know that you can tell about Jesus.

Look up Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:19-20. Explain that Jesus commanded us to go into all the world and make "disciples." A disciple is a follower and learner of Jesus Christ.

Acts 1:8-

Jerusalem: In your neighborhood, at your schools, at the ballpark, at dance class, at the pool, at playground, etc.

Judea: South Carolina

Samaria: United States

Ends of the earth: Outside the U.S.

Talk about how you can share the "good news," the "Gospel" of Jesus Christ in your neighborhood, your town, your country, and with others outside the U.S.

Examples: Phone calls, e-mail, face-to-face, letter, etc. Talk about missions and how we can be involved in missions locally and abroad.

Close in prayer thanking God for His love for us and for His desire to help us grow as Christians. Ask God to give this child courage and boldness to share the good news.

MY GRACE STORY

Name: _____ Date: _____

[illegible]

