

SALVATION



&

BAPTISM

Children's Guide

ALL ABOUT SALVATION

WHAT IS IT?

Salvation is God providing a way for us to be free from our sin so we can have a relationship with Him and spend eternity with Him in heaven.

WHY DO WE NEED SALVATION?

We need salvation because of our sin. Sin is doing anything that God doesn't want you to do.

- Activity – Take a couple of 3x5 cards and write down general examples of sin that you can think of (lying, stealing, etc). Now, talk about times when you have done something wrong, something that God didn't want you to do.
- Look up Romans 3:23 – Who are sinners?

- Now read the first sentence of Romans 6:23 – What does the Bible say that we earn (wages) for sin?

When you break a law, there is a penalty. Ask your parents if they've ever received a traffic ticket. What was the penalty for getting that ticket? Or, if they've never gotten one, what would be the penalty if they got a ticket for speeding?

The Bible says that the penalty for our sin is "death". Not only does our body die (eventually), but our relationship with God is broken. God, however, is a very merciful God and forgives us for our sin when we repent.

When your parents speed on the freeway, they have to pay a penalty, and when we break God's law (sin) we have a penalty. That's a problem, isn't it?

THERE'S GOOD NEWS THOUGH!

THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT OUR SIN PROBLEM

- Read the second sentence of Romans 6:23 - What does God say His gift to us is?

- Ask your parents to hold out a \$5 bill. If they were giving you that \$5, what would you have to do to make it yours?

- God's gift works the same way. We have to "accept" His gift of eternal life. If you never accepted (took) the \$5 from your parents, would it be yours? No, and God's gift is not ours either, until we accept it.
- Accepting God's gift is a little different than accepting a \$5 bill. The Bible says that we can accept God's gift when we believe what God has done for us.

THE A, B, C'S OF ACCEPTING GOD'S GIFT



ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER AND TURN TO GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.

- Look up 1 John 1:9 – What does the verse say we should do with our sins?

- What does the verse say that God will do when we confess our sins?

When He forgives our sins, the Bible says He removes them as far as the East is from the West (Psalm 103:12). That's a LONG way! Take the cards you wrote sins on, tear them up and go throw them away. They're gone, just like our sins when God forgives us!

- Now look up Acts 3:19. What does the Bible say we should do so that we can be cleansed from our sins?

- "Turning" from our sins means to completely turn around and go the other way. God wants us to completely turn away from our sins. Have you ever ridden a skateboard and done a "180"? If not, maybe you've seen someone do it... it's when the skateboarder is going one way and then suddenly turns the board around and goes in completely the opposite direction. That's what God wants us to do with our sin... turn from it completely.



B

BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED FOR YOU.

- Do you remember the penalty for our sin? That's right, it's death! Someone has to die for our sin. Jesus (God's Son) took our place and died for our sin.
- The Bible says that if we believe that Jesus died for us, we will be "saved" (have the gift God wants to give us).
- Look up Romans 10:9 – What does the second part of that verse say?



C

CALL ON JESUS TO SAVE & LEAD YOU.

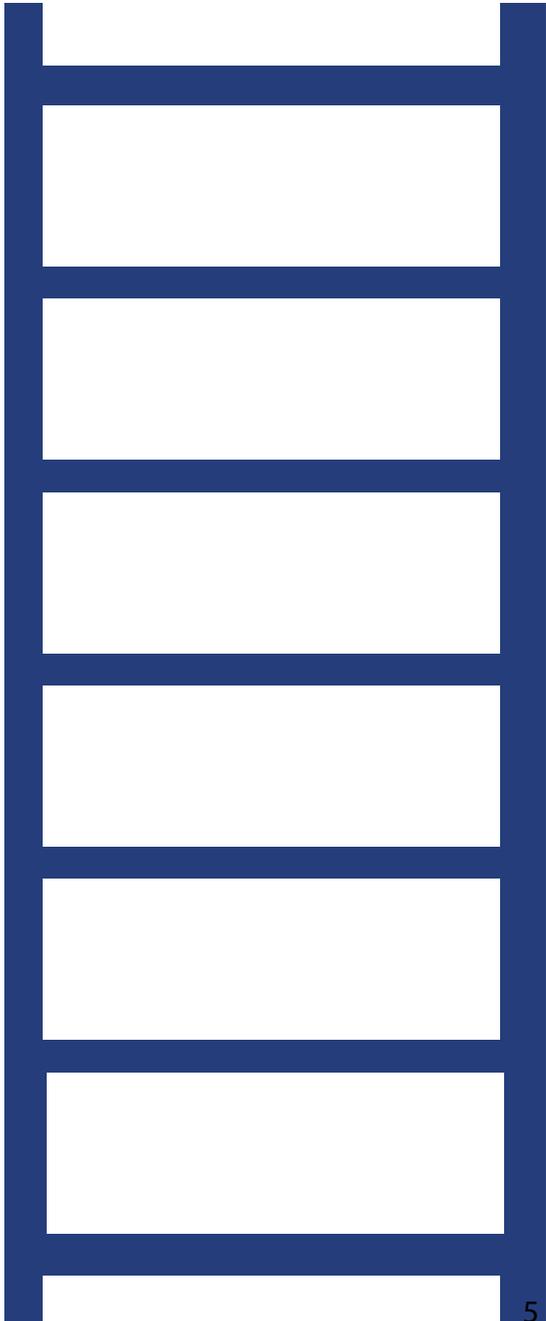
- Look up John 1:12-13 - What do verses say about what happens when we believe and accept the Lord Jesus?

• God WANTS us to be part of His family. That's why He sent the Lord Jesus to die in our place. When we believe that Jesus died, and accept Him into our lives, we are accepting the "gift" that God wants to give us. As verse 13 says, it's like being "re-born" into God's family. One day, just like we live with our earthly families, we will go to heaven and live in "God's family". When we become part of God's family, we are called a "Christian", which means "a Christ one", or a believer of Christ (Jesus).

GOD'S GIFT IS MUCH BETTER THAN ANY GIFT WE COULD UNWRAP!

WHEN WE BECOME A CHRISTIAN, GOD WANTS US TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP AND “GROW”. LOOK UP THE VERSES AND FILL IN THE BLANK TO LEARN HOW TO GROW.

I John 2: 3-6
God wants us to:



Ephesians 3:20
God gives us His:

Philippians 4: 6-7
God wants us to:

II Timothy 3: 15-16
God wants us to:

Hebrews 10: 24-25
God want us to go to:

John 1: 41
God wants us to tell:

ALL ABOUT BAPTISM

- Baptism is publicly declaring that we are believers in the Lord Jesus, and we are trusting in Him alone for salvation.
- Have you ever been part of a team, or seen a team on TV? Teams wear uniforms so you know what team they are part of. In the same way, being baptized is saying “I’m part of God’s team (family)”.

BAPTISM IS NOT A WAY TO GET TO HEAVEN.

The only way to be part of God’s family and get to heaven is by believing (faith) in Jesus, like we talked about earlier. There is **NOTHING** else we need to do to be a Christian. Baptism is simply an act of obedience **AFTER** we are a Christian to show others that we believe.

Look up Ephesians 2:8-9 – Is there anything we can do on our own to be saved?



A gift is **FREE**, and we do not need to do anything but accept it.

WHY SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED?

- Look up Matthew 28:19-20 – Jesus’ followers were told to “make disciples” (tell others about the Lord Jesus). Then they were to do something with those disciples ... what was that?

So we are baptized to OBEY Jesus.

- Like we said earlier, being baptized shows others that we are part of God’s family. Romans 6:4 says that when we are baptized, it’s telling everyone that we believe in the Lord Jesus, and want to live the Christian life.

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?

- The word “baptism” comes from the Greek word “baptiso”, which means “to dip” or “to immerse”, which means to go under water.
- When we are baptized, we are “dipped” under the water.
- Baptism is like a picture (see Romans 6:3-5):
 - Going under the water is a picture of the Lord Jesus’ death on the cross and being buried in the tomb.
 - Coming up out of the water is a picture of the Lord Jesus being raised on the third day.
 - Baptism is identifying with the Lord Jesus and expressing that you are going to follow and serve Him.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Anyone who has accepted God’s free gift and become a Christian should be baptized. Remember, baptism is showing that we believe in the Lord Jesus and what He did for us, that we are part of God’s family. Acts 2:41 says that those who believed were baptized.

WHEN IS THE TIME RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE BAPTIZED?

- When you have accepted God's free gift and believe that Jesus died on the cross for you and know that you are part of God's family.
- When you WANT to be baptized and let everyone know that you belong to God's family, and want to follow Him.

WHAT WILL OTHERS THINK OF MY BAPTISM?

- When you're baptized you publicly show everyone you belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. Other Christians will be glad for you and being saved and baptized should give you joy as well, just like the Ethiopian man who was saved and baptized. You can read about him in Acts 8:26-39.
- Your friends in school who are not Christians and other unbelievers might find it strange that you are a Christian. Some people might not like you for being a Christian. In many countries Christians are persecuted for just being a Christian. Some are put in jail and others are killed. In our country it's not that serious, but this might change some day. The Lord Jesus warned His disciples about persecution and the world hating them, just like they hated Him. You can read that in John 15:18-26.
- Just remember, the most important is what the Lord Jesus thinks of your choice, and He is really glad that you want to follow Him!

HAVE YOU BECOME PART OF GOD'S FAMILY?

YES NO

DO YOU WANT TO TELL EVERYONE BY BEING BAPTIZED?

YES NO

