



APRIL 2015

Purposeful Parenting
Connecting Church and Family
Deut.6:7

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water.
At that moment heaven was opened. Jesus saw the Spirit of
God coming down on him like a dove.*

Matthew 3:16

Baptism celebrations are some of the sweetest times for our Mosaic church family. Together we get to see and hear testimony of Christ's saving work in men, women, and children.

Recently in KidMo we had the privilege of teaching our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders about Jesus getting baptized as we taught Matthew 3:1-3; 13-17. We explained that baptism is an outward sign of a change in our heart. The change comes when a person chooses to no longer live for himself, but wants to live for Jesus.

If you find your child asking questions about baptism, and are unsure how to respond, below are some brief explanations on what it means to be a believer, what baptism is, who it is for, and why someone should want to be baptized.

Help your child understand that baptism is an act of obedience for those who have already been saved.

- Baptism tells a story of being rescued from sin by Jesus. It is a symbol of Jesus' death on the cross and His rising 3 days later. (1 Cor 15:3-4)
- Being baptized does not save you. Placing your faith in Jesus alone saves you. Baptism is a symbol of what God has already done in the heart of a believer. Baptism is a sign for others to know we are going to live for Christ. It shows that you are believer. (Acts 18:8)
- Christ commanded Christians to be baptized. As Christians we commit to obey everything He commanded. (Matthew 28:19-20)
- Obeying Christ's command shows you know Him. (John 2:3)
- Baptism is a symbol of your new life as a Christian. When we're baptized, it shows that we belong to Jesus. (Romans 6:1-4)

The one requirement for baptism is belief in Christ. It is important for a person who is getting baptized to understand what it means to be a Christian.

- We need to understand: That God loves us no matter what. That we have all sinned. That Jesus died for us. That we can make the choice to live for Him!

It might also be helpful to explain to your child what they see when someone is baptized.

- The word "baptize" means to dip under water. When you're baptized, you are dipped in the water and then raised back up again. This is a way of demonstrating that our old lives are washed clean with forgiveness and we are made new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- As a believer you want to follow Christ's example. He too was baptized through water as an example for us to follow (Matthew 3:13-17).

- Baptism is a special, one-time event. Every person who has made the decision to follow Christ can, and should be baptized, so that everyone will bear witness to his/her decision to follow Jesus. Acts 2:41 tells: "Those who accepted His message were baptized." About 3000 joined the believers that day. (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:13)

What does Baptism do? What does Baptism not do?

The trophy received when winning a game does not make you the winner. It instead shows people who the winner is. In a similar way, baptism does not make you a Christian. It will not give you special powers, and it will not make God love you more. Instead it says, "I've made a choice in my mind and heart to love Jesus, and I want everyone around to know." It is a symbol of your faith in Christ. It is an outward sign of a promise made to love Jesus and follow Him forever.

Resources

Books and Articles

[Should we Baptize Small Children? | The Gospel Coalition](#) - Blog article on when children should get baptized

[God...Should I Be Baptized?](#) by Laurie Donahue and Ralph Rittenhouse

[Baptism - A Mosaic Core Value](#)

What's Happening?

Calendar of Events: April/May

Saturday, April 4: NEXT GEN Night, Students 7th-12th grade will worship with their families at 5:00 and 6:45 pm in the Worship Center

Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22: Junior High and High School Townhouses.

Wednesday, April 29: FINAL Townhouse/ Townhouse Parties

Tuesday, May 5: Senior Banquet - Student Center East, 6-8 pm.

Wednesday, May 6: End of year Barn Party for Mosaic Junior High & High School Students.

Contact Janie at janolen@fellowshipnwa.org for more information.

Friday, May 8 - Saturday, May 9: Blast at New Life Ranch

Saturday, May 23: Mosaic Outdoor Baptism and Extravahoopla. For more information about baptism, contact Kassie Roland at karoland@fellowshipnwa.org

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Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

- Deuteronomy 6:7

