

GOING FURTHER RESOURCES

What is a Christian? Answers for Kids by Lifeway Kids

Workbook-styled content covered includes questions about God, Jesus, Sin, The Gospel, Becoming a Christian, Heaven, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. An included parent section equips parents to have conversations with children who are asking questions about the gospel. (for an upper elementary student)

Am I Ready? Gospel Colors Booklet by DeeperKidMin.com

Uses the Gospel Colors to help kids understand the Good News of Jesus and help parents engage their kids in the discussion at home. Each page corresponds to a color to remind kids of the gospel: Dark, Red, Clean, Blue, Yellow/Gold, and Green. Each page also includes questions and Bible verses for families to explore together

The Faith of a Child: A Step-by-Step Guide to Salvation for Your Child by Art Murphy

Your Heritage: How to be Intentional About the Legacy You Leave by Kurt Bruner & J. Otis Ledbetter

Designed to teach parents, grandparents, or anyone who works with children how to be equipped and confident in guiding them to a saving faith in Christ

GOING FURTHER

PARKWAY BIBLE CHURCH SUPPORT

Faith Path: Prepare to Lead Your Child to Christ

This resource is available at Family Resource Wall, or by emailing kids@parkway.church. It includes a training video and other tools to help you gain confidence as you lead your child to faith

Faith Path: Salvation and Baptism

This resource is available at Family Resource Wall, or by emailing kids@parkway.church. It includes a training video and other tools to help you gain confidence as you lead your child to faith

Pkwy Kids

Parkway Bible Church offers Pkwy Kids, our kids' ministry that come alongside parents in their effort to instill faith in children including Sunday classes for kids from birth through 5th grade. Find more details at parkway.church/kids



Introducing a Child to Christ



Life Season

INTRODUCING YOUR CHILD TO CHRIST

One of the greatest privileges you have as a parent is to help your child come to faith in Christ. As you care for your child's daily needs and work to prepare him or her for success in life, there's nothing more important than caring for their spiritual needs and helping them prepare for eternity. Like many parents, you may not quite know how or when to approach one of the most exciting yet intimidating moments of parenthood.

That's understandable, but God has given you the most important and most influential role when it comes to nurturing your child's faith. All it takes is a little training for you to feel more comfortable about the when and how of introducing them to Christ.

STEP ONE

Lay a Foundation

- A child's decision to follow Jesus is rarely a one-stop process. Your son or daughter grows in their understanding of God by developing a foundation; hearing the stories of the Bible, learning scriptures, singing about Jesus, and so forth. Your child also learns by experiencing life in your home; watching your example, feeling your love, learning right from wrong. These two ways of learning work best when they are connected in your home and integrated into your family life. We see this in Deuteronomy 6:6-7 that says, "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 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." Don't worry if your child hasn't grown up in church because your family is new to the faith. It is never too late to start.

STEP TWO

Discern Readiness

- Do your best to discern when your child is mature enough to put the pieces together. Avoid the temptation to push him or her too fast, making sure they are ready in both heart and head and can truly understand the gospel. Your child may intellectually understand before being socially or spiritually mature enough to make a commitment.

STEP THREE

Ask Questions

- When you feel they are ready, ask a few questions to help gauge your child's level of understanding. Read Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." Then ask questions like, "What is sin?" "How does your sin affect your relationship to God?" and "How can you be right with God?" How they respond can help you sense whether your child is ready to understand two important concepts:
 - ***Jesus as Savior: The need for forgiveness and cleansing from sin which was made possible through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.***
 - ***Jesus as Lord: The need to submit to God as "the boss" by making Jesus Christ the Lord of one's life.***

STEP FOUR

Guide Your Child in Prayer for Salvation

- Romans 10 tells us, "...if you confess 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 confess and are saved" (Romans 10:9-10).
- If you sense your child has a basic understanding of what sin is and what it leads to, as well as what it means to accept God's gift of salvation and His Lordship, then you can guide your child to pray along those lines. Instead of quoting specific words for your child to repeat, it's best to prompt them to use their own words- to tell God they are sorry for their sins, to ask for His forgiveness, and to ask Him to be Lord over the rest of their life.

STEP FIVE

Prepare Them for Baptism

- Once your child has understood and decided to accept God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, it is time to guide them toward following Christ in believer's baptism. Parkway Bible Church holds public baptisms three times a year – in the spring, summer and fall. Children 5th grade and younger need to attend our 3-week Kids' Baptism Class. Watch for the sign-ups for the next baptism, or reach out to the church office to be put on the list for the next baptism.