Wondering about Baptism Together

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS + TEACHERS

When a child asks about baptism, you do not need to have every answer or turn the conversation into a decision. Start with curiosity. Listen well. Wonder together.

THE BIG IDEA

Baptism is our personal “yes” to following Jesus, celebrated together with the church family.

01 Start with their questions

Before explaining, find out what sparked their interest.

- What have you noticed when someone gets baptized?
- What do you think baptism means?
- What made you start thinking about it?

02 What baptism means

At Second Baptist, baptism is an outward expression of inward faith and a celebration of belonging to God’s big family. It does not earn God’s love or bring about salvation.

- What does saying “yes” to Jesus mean to you?
- Why do we celebrate baptism with the church?

03 Explore Scripture

Matthew 3:13–17 — Jesus’ baptism. Romans 6:3–4 — new life in Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12–13 — one body, many parts.

Following Jesus

Readiness is a journey, not a checklist

04 Explore their relationship with Jesus

We are listening for a sincere desire to follow Jesus with one's life, not a perfect explanation of faith.

- What do you love about Jesus?
- What does following Jesus look like at home or school?
- When have you tried to show someone Jesus' kind of love?
- What are you still wondering about God?

WHAT TO LISTEN FOR

A child may describe faith through caring for others, prayer, questions, stories, and a desire to grow. These can be glimpses of a growing relationship with Jesus.

WHAT NOT TO WORRY ABOUT

There is no required birthday, theology exam, dramatic conversion story, or perfect answer.

05 Talk about church family

Children already belong and matter here. Baptism publicly celebrates faith and a new expression of connection to the church.

- Who at church helps you learn about God?
- How do you help make church a place where people belong?

06 Explore their reasons

If friends or siblings have been baptized, curiosity is natural. Keep exploring what this decision means to the child.

- Why does baptism feel important to you now?
- Would you still want to be baptized if friends were not?

There Is No Rush

Continuing the Conversation Together

07 When a child may not be ready

Honor their interest without hurrying a decision. Waiting is not rejecting their faith. God is already at work, and there is no deadline for baptism.

WORDS YOU CAN USE

“I’m so glad you’re thinking about baptism. Let’s keep talking about what following Jesus means to you.”

08 If they were baptized as an infant

We respect different Christian traditions. There is no pressure to be baptized again. If a child later chooses baptism as a personal profession of faith, we welcome that as believer’s baptism.

- What do you know about your baptism story?
- How would you like to express your faith as you grow?

09 Keep the conversation going

You do not need to cover everything at once. “I’m not sure; let’s wonder together” can be a faithful answer. Reach out to Pastor Krystal, Pastor Carrie, or Pastor Tim to talk, listen, and discern next steps together.

YOU ARE NOT ON AN ISLAND

Helping children grow in faith is something we do together, as the family of God.