



Here's a guide to help you as you discuss baptism with your student. We encourage you to have the student read the scriptures out loud. A worksheet is also provided---

Ask the student why he/she wants to get baptized. This question is a good gauge for his/her motivation and knowledge.

Romans 6:23 - *"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."*

What is sin? *Sin is when we think or act in a manner that goes against God. All have sinned and disobeyed God (Romans 3:23)*

What does Romans say about our sin? *Because of our sin, we deserve death. There is nothing we can do to save ourselves. We can never be good enough or do enough good things. We need a savior and that Savior is Jesus.*

John 3:16 - *"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."*

Romans 5:8 - *"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."*

How are we saved from our sin? *Jesus is our only means of salvation (John 14:6). He is the Son of God, he came to earth, lived the perfect life, and died on a cross for our sins. He rose three days after his death and did it all because of how much he loves you. Because of his sacrifice, grace and forgiveness are available to everyone. To become a Christ-follower we must believe, accept, and confess this.*

Romans 10:9 - *"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."*

Ask the student if he/she believes that Jesus is the son of God and our only means of salvation.

Confessing that Jesus is the Christ, the son of the Living God, is part of becoming a Christ-follower, but it doesn't stop there. Confessing is a continual process. As a Christ-follower, we are called to tell others about what Christ has done for us and the new life we have in him.

Acts 3:19 - *"Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away."*

What is repentance? *Repenting is to see our sin as God sees it, to turn away from our sin, and to turn toward God. Repenting is more than asking forgiveness; it's recognizing our actions that are against God and making steps to remove those actions from our life. Because we are imperfect, you will sin again even after accepting Christ. But because of your acceptance of Christ's grace, all of your sin has been forgiven. Christ-followers are called to continually repent, to turn away from their sin and to turn towards God.*

Acts 2:38 - *"Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Baptism is part of the process of becoming a Christ-follower. Baptism is simply when someone is publicly dunked under water by another Christ-follower for the purpose of accepting Christ. Christ set the example when he was baptized and he instructs those who accept him to be baptized. Time and time again we find in scriptures that when someone becomes a Christ-follower they are baptized, or fully immersed in water. (Examples if needed: Acts 2:38-41; 8:9-13,26-36; 9:17-18; 10:47-48; 16:14-15, 30-33; 18:7-8)

According to this verse, what happens at baptism? *We are forgiven of all our sins, past and future. We also receive the Holy Spirit at baptism. Once we accept Jesus as our savior, we will still make mistakes and sin. But with the power of the Holy Spirit, we can resist temptation. And knowing that God has forgiven us, we live in grace.*

Romans 6:3-5 - *"Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was."*

Baptism symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. In baptism, we die to our former selves and are raised as new creations in Christ.

(Other scriptures on baptism if needed: Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16, John 3:5, 1 Peter 3:21, Romans 6:3-5)

In your own words, describe baptism.

Belief, acceptance, confession, repentance, and baptism are all part of the process of becoming a Christ-follower. Becoming a Christ-follower isn't a one time decision, but a life-style. Christ-followers demonstrate their faith through their actions.

Ask the student to explain the meaning of each of the following scriptures.

John 14:15 - *"If you love me, obey my commandments."*

James 2:17 - *"So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless."*

Ephesians 2:10 *"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."*

Prayer for the student.

Now what?

Talk as a family.

Pray.

Read more scripture.

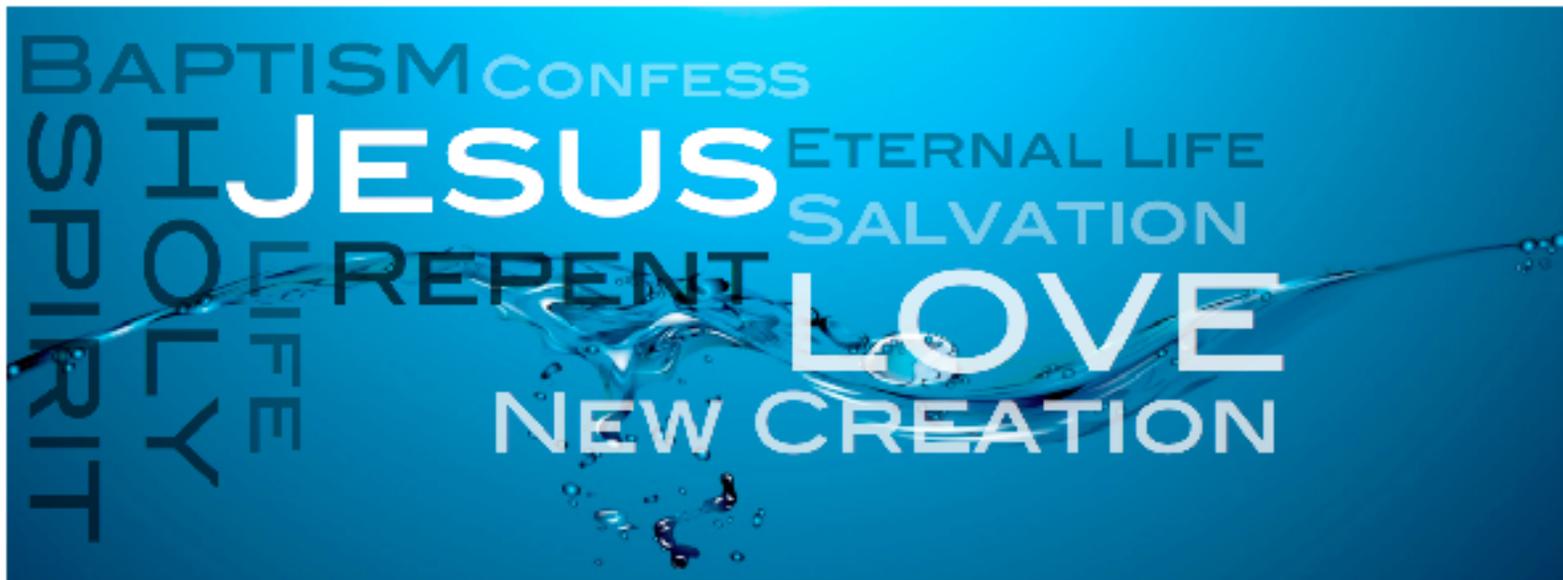
Once ready to make this decision:

Contact a staff member.

Set the date.

Invite friends and family.

Celebrate



Romans 6:23

What is sin? What does Romans say about our sin?

John 3:16

Romans 5:8

How are we saved from our sins?

Romans 10:9

Acts 3:19

What is repentance?

Acts 2:38

According to this verse, what happens at baptism?

John 14:15

James 2:17

Ephesians 2:10

In your own words, summarize these passages.