

* RADIANT CHURCH

PARENT BAPTISM GUIDE



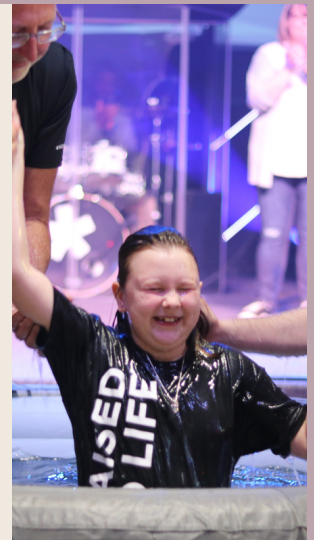
WHAT IS WATER BAPTISM?

WATER BAPTISM IS A PUBLIC DECLARATION OF FAITH. IT IDENTIFIES YOU AS A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST, SHOWS YOUR PLACE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD, AND REPRESENTS THE BEGINNING OF A LIFE CHANGED IN CHRIST.

IS MY CHILD READY?

IF YOUR CHILD LACKS UNDERSTANDING WHEN YOU TALK WITH THEM, THEY MAY NOT BE READY TO TAKE THIS NEXT STEP AND THAT IS OKAY! KEEP TALKING WITH THEM ABOUT THEIR FAITH, ASK QUESTIONS, WATCH A BAPTISM SERVICE WITH THEM AND CONTINUE TO DIRECT THEM TO THE REASON THAT WE AS FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST WANT TO IDENTIFY WITH HIM. AS THEY GROW IN THEIR FAITH, THEY WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND MAKE THE STEP THEMSELVES!

WE RECOMMEND THAT A CHILD BE NO YOUNGER THAN AGE 10 TO BE BAPTIZED. ANY EARLIER THAN THAT AND A CHILD MAY NOT BE ABLE TO REMEMBER OR TRULY UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THEIR DECISION.



QUESTIONS TO ASK MY CHILD:

1) WHEN DID YOU DECIDE TO FOLLOW JESUS AND MAKE HIM THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE?

YOUR CHILD SHOULD HAVE A SPECIFIC MEMORY OF A MOMENT WHERE THEY ASKED JESUS INTO THEIR HEART OR HAVE HAD AN EXPERIENCE GROWING UP IN THE CHURCH WHERE THEY HAVE ALWAYS MADE JESUS THE LORD OF THEIR LIFE. BY HAVING MADE THIS DECISION, BAPTISM WILL NOW SERVE AS A WAY FOR THEM TO SHOW THE WORLD THE DECISION THAT THEY HAVE MADE.

2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE WATER BAPTIZED

IT IS OKAY IF YOUR CHILD TELLS WHAT PHYSICALLY HAPPENS DURING THE BAPTISM CEREMONY, BUT THE ACTIONS THEY DESCRIBE SHOULD BE LINKED TO WHAT IS HAPPENING SPIRITUALLY TOO. "IT MEANS THAT I AM SHOWING THAT I IDENTIFY WITH JESUS AND HAVE DIED TO MY OLD SELF," WOULD BE A WONDERFUL ANSWER.

3) WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE WATER BAPTIZED AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

A DESIRE TO BE BAPTIZED SHOULD BE FOCUSED AROUND IDENTIFYING WITH JESUS AND TELLING THE WORLD OF THE DECISION THAT HAS BEEN MADE TO FOLLOW HIM.