

## My child is ready when...

- They trust in Jesus alone.  
1 John 5:11-13
- They understand they are sinners.  
Romans 3:23
- They understand the penalty for Sin.  
Romans 6:23
- They know and believe in Jesus Christ.  
John 3:16; Hebrews 2:17;  
Hebrews 7:25
- They understand how the penalty is erased. John 3:18
- They understand the magnificent gift God provided. Ephesians 2:8-9
- They understand the Gospel.  
1 Corinthians 15:1-4

JUDSON BAPTIST CHURCH  
ARROW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Is My Child Ready For Baptism?

*Guide For Parents*



JUDSON BAPTIST  
CHURCH

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Resources: Gunderson, Dennis. *Your Child's Profession of Faith*  
Family Ministry at Northwest Bible Church

## Why Baptism?

We are commanded by the Lord Jesus in Matthew 28:19. Our Lord Jesus calls believers to make disciples and baptize them. Jesus commands believers to be baptized in order to exercise our allegiance and to be identified with him recognizing there is no hope of salvation in no other.

## What Is JBC's Position on Baptism?

- We believe that children can be genuinely converted and born again by the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 1:16; John 3:3
- We believe that children will demonstrate some evidence of the spiritual transformation resulting from true conversion, although this may not be immediately obvious.  
John 15:8
- We recognize that baptism is an important step of growth and obedience in the life of a Christian.  
Matthew 28:19-20
- We acknowledge that there is a risk of mistakenly baptizing some children who have not been truly born again. We cannot eliminate this risk but we desire to take steps to minimize it.  
Matthew 7:21-23

## How Do I Know When My Child Is Ready?

All who sincerely repent of their sins and exercise a living faith in the Lord Jesus are eligible for baptism. In the early church, the rite was accompanied by the following outward expressions: (1) profession of faith - Acts 8:37; (2) prayer - Acts 22:16; (3) vow of consecration - 1 Peter 3:21.

Additionally, please consider the following guidelines to assess your child's spiritual condition.

- Did your child take the initiative to communicate their desire for baptism?
- Can your child clearly state their saving faith in Jesus Christ and his death for their sins?
- Does your child demonstrate Christian character in a variety of settings, e.g. church, school, sports teams?
- Does the child demonstrate a desire for God's Word and a willingness to apply the Word?
- Does the child respond with a willing and teachable spirit when confronted by a mature believer?
- Does the child understand the meaning and significance of believer's baptism?

## What is the Process?

Once parents have had discussions with their child about placing their trust in Christ and the importance of a public demonstration to the covenant community, families should attend the baptism class. After the class, families should make an appointment with one of the Pastors.

### The Pastor will:

- Interview the child.
- Review the Baptism Testimony form.
- Clearly explain the baptism procedure.
- Provide the child with the necessary information as to when to arrive, whom to meet, what to wear and what to bring.

### The child should:

- Be prepared to state a clear personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ.