



Sooner or later as we model our Christian faith for our children they will begin to ask questions. There are certain services that we want to encourage the whole family to be involved in, so that, our children can see us actively worshiping our savior and in turn they will begin to ask these questions. Some of these questions that we hope might come up might be “why are you eating that cracker and juice?” or “why are they in that pool and when can I do that?” As parents we don’t want to fear the questions being asked but rather be ready to answer them with wisdom and clarity.

When should my child participate in the Lord’s Supper and when should we consider letting them be baptized?

When parents ask these questions we first want to make certain that baptism and the Lord’s Supper are both important aspects of Christian worship for all those who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation; and therefore we want to encourage our children to be baptized and participate in the Lord’s Supper:

- When they are able to give credible profession of faith in Christ
- When they can understand the significance

There is no test they take or class they attend to help establish their readiness. We simply leave it up to parents to decide when their young disciples are ready. The decision for when your child is baptized and begins to participate in the Lords’s Supper is ultimately yours and yours alone. Be prayerful about it. No one knows your child better than you, and when it comes to a decisions like these, trust the Lord’s guidance and your discernment as a parent.

Baptism

How should I talk to my child about baptism?

When the Time is Right

When your wisdom and discernment from the Holy Spirit tells you that the time is right and your child is ready to be baptized, we recommend setting up a conversation that covers the following topics:

Help your child understand that baptism is an act of obedience for those who have already been saved.

- Baptism tells a story of being rescued from sin by Jesus through faith in His death and resurrection.
- Being baptized does not save you. Placing your faith in Jesus alone saves you.
- Baptism is a picture of what God has already done in the heart of a believer.
- When someone is baptized, that person is giving testimony to other believers of God’s grace, so others might rejoice with them in His saving work and worship Him together.

It might also be helpful to explain to your child what they see when someone is baptized.

- When the person stands in the water before being baptized, that represents their life before trusting Jesus. They were alive to sin, following and obeying it as their master.
- When the person is put completely underneath the water, that represents the fact that they died to sin when they became a believer; they turned away from sin to follow Jesus.
- When the person comes up out of the water and is completely wet, that represents the new life they have because of Jesus. They have been washed clean from sin – not because their bodies are wet but because they have been forgiven by God because of Jesus’ death in their place.

The Lord’s Supper

How should I talk to my child about the Lord’s Supper?

When the Time is Right

When your wisdom and discernment from the Holy Spirit tells you that the time is right and your child is ready to participate in the Lord’s Supper, we recommend setting up a conversation that covers the following topics:

What is The Lords Supper

Make sure they understand what the Lord’s Supper is and what it isn’t. We recommend starting with Jesus’ institution of the Lord’s Supper in Luke 22. Talk about what Jesus was teaching when He spoke to His disciples and how we continue to remember Jesus broken body and shed blood. Be sure to explain that what we are doing is symbolic and not literal. We are not literally drinking Jesus’ blood and eating His body. The Lord’s Supper is not magical.

Why Do We Partake of The Lord’s Supper?

Teach your child that we partake of The Lord’s Supper because Jesus instructed us to and as a way of remembering and celebrating what He did for us. 1 Corinthians 11:26 tells us that as often as we eat of the bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes again.

How Do We Take The Lord’s Supper?

Coach your child through the logistics and the spirit of taking the Lord’s Supper. Teach them on the proper way to receive and the proper time to partake of the bread and juice. Also, help and encourage them to be in the right mindset. 1 Corinthians 11 gives personal instructions for taking communion and tells a believer to “examine himself” before eating and drinking.

If you would like some more teaching on these subjects you can find sermons on these topics at lakecountrybaptist.com

Sermon Series:

Next Steps: Week #2 Baptism

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Lake Country Baptist Church