

Dear City Lights Parents:

Have you been looking for an opportunity to teach your kids about baptism? Or maybe an opportunity to share the experience of baptism with your child(ren)?

If your child has shown interest in being baptized, but you feel like you need some extra conversation starters to help you decide if he/she is ready, I have attached an article from Lifeway Women with some excellent talking points on the topic.

Thank you for trusting us to partner with you in *equipping, empowering, and releasing your children to exemplify the Kingdom of Heaven.*

In His Grace,

Pastors Kate & Dustin Groeneman

## Talking Points for [Parents]

Teaching children about the Lord is so exciting! There are lots of great places to start when explaining baptism. A key text about baptism is Romans 6:4-5. Read this passage to your kids, teach it to them, and have ongoing conversations about these important concepts:

“We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”

Romans 6:4-5, ESV

**Here are a few talking points that you can use to start conversations with your kids about baptism:**

1. **Baptism is about identification.** When a believer is baptized, they publicly identify with Jesus and with other Christians. To “identify” with someone is to say that you are with that person; you belong together. You identify with your mom and dad; you belong together.
2. **Baptism is a symbol.** It’s a physical picture of a spiritual reality. You see symbols all the time. The red mark on the faucet in the sink symbolizes hot water. The blue mark represents cold. When you see the dial turned to the red mark, you know that the water coming out of the faucet is hot. Baptism is a symbol of our union with Christ and his church.

**When you see someone being baptized, you’re watching a moving picture of what has happened to that person spiritually.**

3. **Baptism is a picture of our death.** The person being baptized goes under the water, which is a picture of the burial of their old self that was enslaved to sin. We are as dead to our sin as Jesus was dead on the

cross. Jesus really died on the cross, and they buried him. When we put our trust in Christ to save us, God's Word assures us that we really died to our sin and our old self was buried along with Jesus.

4. **Baptism is a picture of our resurrection.** The person being baptized is brought up out of the water, which is a picture of their soul being raised from the dead to eternal life. Being brought up out of the water is *also* a forward-looking picture. It reminds us of God's promise to one day resurrect our physical bodies from the grave just like he did for Jesus.

When we place our faith in Jesus, we are united with him in his death and resurrection. I tell my kids that baptism is like an Easter play, replaying what happened to Jesus on Easter weekend in His crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. **Even though we are walking the earth over two thousand years after that Easter weekend, when we place our faith in Jesus, we are spiritually right there with him on the cross, in the grave, and walking out of the tomb in newness of life.**

Baptism reminds all of us big kids, too, that we are to respond to Jesus childlike wonder and faith every day. **Because of what Jesus has done, we can walk in the newness of life in him forever.** We can be about what we're going to be about thirty trillion years from now— seeing and savoring him.

\*Taken from [blog.lifeway.com](https://blog.lifeway.com/womenallaccess/2016/04/18/explaining-baptism-to-kids/), Explaining Baptism to Kids by Gloria Furman  
(<https://blog.lifeway.com/womenallaccess/2016/04/18/explaining-baptism-to-kids/>)