

## Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*How will you be intentional this next year?*

- ☐ Pray daily with and for my child.
- ☐ Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- ☐ Bless my child daily.
- ☐ Schedule and have regular family times.
- ☐ Schedule my child's baptism and celebration.
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommended Resources

*My Faith Box* by Lydia Randall available at the HomePointe Center

*I'm a Christian, What's Next?* by Kyle Butt

*30 Days with Jesus – Life Changing Devotions* by F. LaGard Smith

Present this guide to save 20% on any Faith Path recommended resource at the HomePointe Center.

### Bentonville Church of Christ Ministries

Children's Ministry · [bencoc.org/ministries/children](http://bencoc.org/ministries/children)

Teen Ministry · [bencoc.org/ministries/youth](http://bencoc.org/ministries/youth)

HomePointe · [bencoc.org/homepointe](http://bencoc.org/homepointe)



## Salvation & Baptism

**Celebrate Your Child's Faith Decision**

There is nothing more exciting for a parent than guiding a child to faith. Deuteronomy 6:1-12 speaks of *our* remembering what God has done for us and then being very intentional in passing that heritage *to our children*. When our children open their hearts to God and respond to their need for forgiveness through repentance, confession and baptism, we are witnessing a great milestone in their faith journey.

**Thoughts Concerning Baptism:** Baptism is a display of our personal belief in Christ. It is a visible picture of an inward transformation which God effects. All who desire to experience God's saving grace are called to respond to Him through trusting obedience [Hebrews 11:6]. We show our faith in part by being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin [Acts 2:38]. This model was repeatedly preached in the early church and recorded for us in the New Testament, especially throughout the book of Acts.

Surrendering to Jesus in baptism was and is a crucial experience for all Christians to be able to recall a time of deliverance—when death was defeated and life in Christ began. The Apostle Paul paints this picture with great care and in detail in the sixth chapter of Romans. Our God cleanses us from the guilt of sin through the power of the gospel—which is the story of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Having been baptized, we are called to a life of faith, and a life of grace. This life by design reflects the very nature of our Father. Once we are “in Christ” Jesus' blood continues to cleanse us as we walk in the light [1 John 1:6-7].

Your child might be nervous about getting baptized. Assure your child that he or she will just be under the water for a couple of seconds and that this is an exciting time. If you have a **My Faith Box**, be sure to fill out the designated page in the Milestones section after your son or daughter is baptized.

**Communion:** The Lord's Supper is a special time when those who have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior remember that He died for their sins. We remember this by eating bread, which represents Jesus' body, and by drinking juice, which symbolizes Jesus' blood. Celebrate your child's first participation in communion. Discuss the meaning. If you have a **My Faith Box**, be sure to fill out the designated page in the Milestones section noting his or her first Lord's Supper.

**Symbols and Celebrations:** Consider giving your child something to signify the decision he or she has made. This can be a cross, a new Bible, a Bible study or a hand written note in the front of a blank journal. As children get older they sometimes question their earlier faith decision. Help your child feel secure by providing a firm foundation. If you have a **My Faith Box**, write down the date and other special memories from the day he or she gave their life to Christ on the designated page in the Milestones section. Use the *Spiritual Birthdays* card included with this kit for ideas on how to celebrate your child's spiritual birthday. Take time to talk about what he or she is learning. Allow your child to ask questions and talk through new areas of spiritual growth. Pray for the upcoming year in his or her journey. This will also give you great insight into where some extra help or attention is needed and how you can pray more specifically for your child.

**Help your child begin to walk with Jesus:** Show your child what a Christian life looks like. Teach your child how to pray and coach him or her on how to read the Bible. Being baptized into Jesus is only the beginning of a wonderful journey with God. Now that you have helped your child take these exciting first steps, you have the opportunity and responsibility to disciple him or her into a fully developing follower of Christ.