

SALVATION GUIDE for adults and kids

Life for our kids is exciting and scary all at the same time. There are a lot of questions and we don't always have the answers. But that's okay. We have a God who does! Starting the conversation about salvation can bring up some of your own faith questions, and that is normal since faith is a journey and we are all learning together. We trust God will lead you in these conversations.

We suggest you start with John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he GAVE his one and only Son. Anyone who BELIEVES in him will not die but will have eternal life."

What to say & ask:

1. God loved you before you were even born. He created you in His image. He loves you right now.

- There is something that separates us from Him, something that keeps us from being with Him forever. Sin. It's the stuff we do wrong. Sin keeps us from living out the life God wants for us.
- On our own, we can't do anything about this. We need God to step in and help. And because God loved us, He made a way for all of us to live with Him forever.

ASK . . .

What is sin?

Have you ever sinned? When?

What is the problem with sin?

2. God gave the most important, valuable, and perfect thing He had for you. He knew that our sin would keep us from living with Him forever.

- We're apart from God and would stay that way, but because God loved us, He gave His son to fix that relationship. Jesus came to make a way for you to be in God's story. And Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sin. Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead! His resurrection defeated death and makes a relationship with God possible again.

ASK . . .

What did God give us? Why did God give this gift? What did Jesus do for us?

3. When you receive a gift what do you do? You open it. God said you could open His gift by believing.

- Believing simply means to trust. It's a lot like sitting in a chair. When you sit in a chair, you put all your weight in it. You trust that it will hold you up. That's what it's like to believe in or to trust in this gift. To open the gift that God gave you, you trust Jesus with your whole life and rest in the fact that He died and rose again for you.

ASK . . .

How can you take part in God's Big Story?

What does it mean to trust in something?

How do you know God loves you?

Try NOT to say:

"INVITE JESUS IN YOUR HEART"

For kids, the phrase "inviting Jesus into my heart" can be confusing. They're such concrete thinkers that it can worry them to think that someone is living inside their actual heart.

"YOU HAVE TO PRAY LIKE THIS"

Kids are going to express their faith with words they understand at their age level. Don't get hung up on the "right words" but rather the heart with which they pray.

MADE UP RESPONSES

"I don't know" is a legitimate answer to questions your kids have about faith. There's so much that we don't understand about how God works and how the Holy Spirit enters our life. And that's okay.