**MODIFY FOR YOUR OWN MINISTRY:**

**Kids and Baptism Answer when the child is under 3-5th Grade**

**Thank you for your interest in baptism for your child!** It’s always exciting when families are taking steps to grow spiritually together. At our Highpoint Church, we love celebrating baptisms—especially when kids come to faith and want to express it publicly.

We generally *recommend baptism for children who are at least in 3rd through 5th grade and up.* This isn’t a hard rule, but a guideline based on several important considerations.

First and foremost, **we want to ensure that the decision is initiated by the child**—not just by well-meaning parents. While it’s natural for parents to desire spiritual milestones for their children, baptism is a personal step of faith. We want to be sure that each child understands their own faith in Jesus and is making this decision for themselves after learning about baptism and wanting to respond in obedience.

Another reason for our age recommendation is **comprehension and memory.** At the 3rd–5th grade level, most children can better understand the significance of baptism and can also *remember* it. Many adults who were baptized as very young children later share that they either didn’t fully understand what they were doing or simply don’t remember it, and end up wanting to be baptized again. We want baptism to be a meaningful and memorable milestone in their spiritual journey. That is why we usually recommend they wait until they are a bit older.

To support families, we offer a **simple Bible study for parents and children to do together** that explains salvation and baptism. You can request this on Sunday morning, we have them already printed and available for you. This study helps kids explore what it means to follow Jesus and whether they are ready to take this important next step in their spiritual journey.

If your child is under the recommended age but is expressing faith and a desire to be baptized, **I’m happy to meet with both of you!** I’d love to hear them share about their faith, their understanding of baptism, and their personal desire to be baptized. After meeting with them, exceptions to the recommended age range *can* be approved based on the child’s maturity and understanding.

Thanks again for guiding your child’s spiritual growth—we’re here to support you every step of the way!