

FAITH COMMITMENT

Baptism



Milestones

WHAT IS FAITH COMMITMENT?

Peninsula is excited to offer Splash Class as a segment of the *Faith Commitment Milestone*. This Milestone is about celebrating the decision that your child has made to ask Jesus Christ to forgive his or her sins and take control of their life. That decision will happen at various times and places in the lives of individuals. Splash Class will help you and your child or teenager understand the important decision they have made to follow Christ and the purpose of baptism as an act of obedience to following Him.

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

The Faith Commitment Milestone has four steps:

First, a child, teenager, or adult makes a decision to follow Christ, trusting in Him for the forgiveness of sins.

Second, the new believer and his or her parents attend Splash Class. This is an interactive session where we will discuss what following Jesus is all about, as well as how and why we should be baptized.

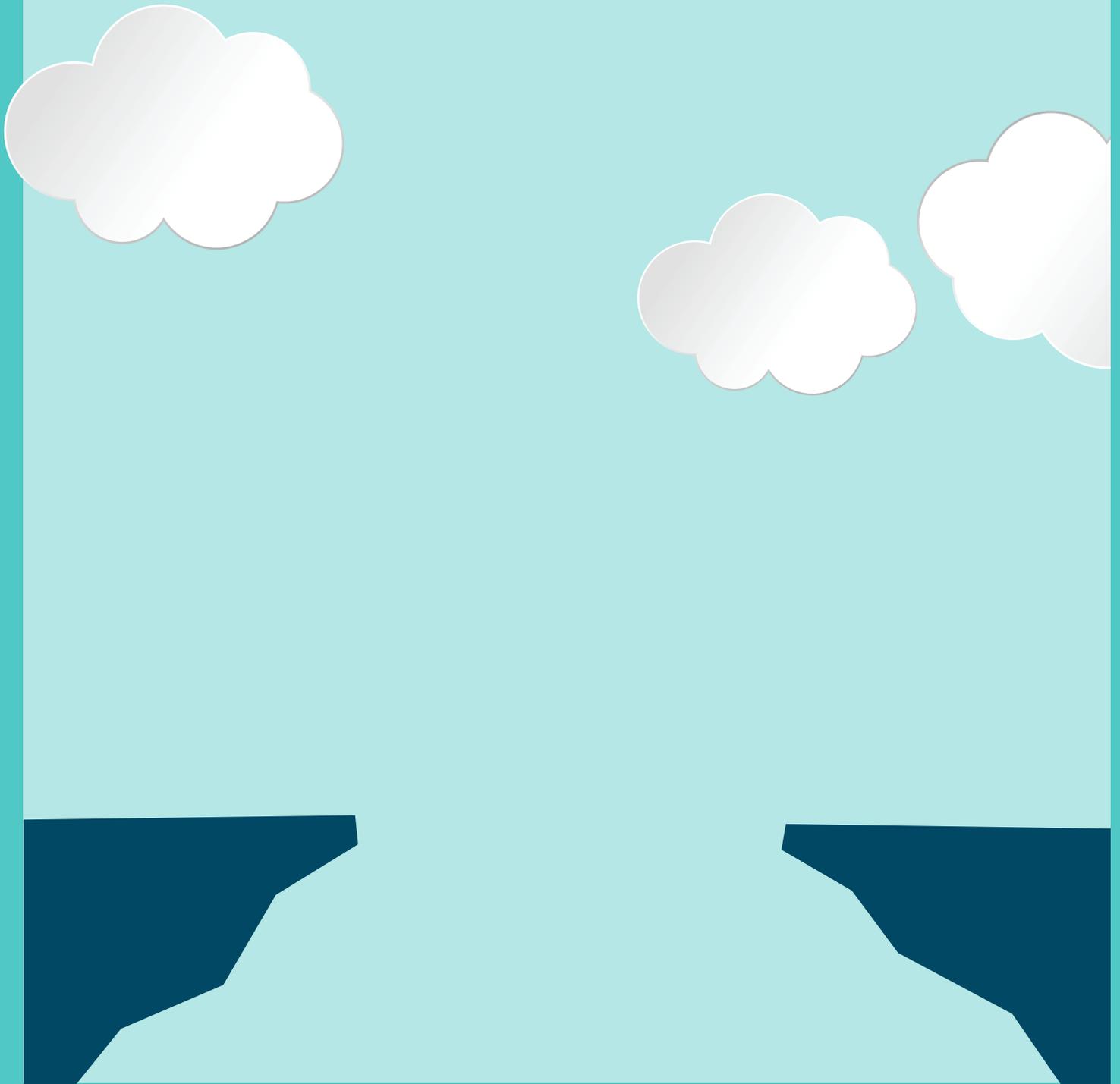
Third, we will celebrate your child's decision through Baptism! Your family and friends will be our VIP guests as we share this Milestone together as a church family.

Fourth, we will follow your child's baptism with a Faith Commitment Celebration, where we will encourage you to invite not only family members, but also small group leaders and others who have planted seeds of faith in your child. We want to celebrate your child's decision to follow Christ and honor those who have been a part of your child coming to know Christ personally.

We pray this Milestone event will be a memory that will be special to your child for a lifetime

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10



VERSES TO FIND:

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 10:9-10

John 3:16

1 John 5:5

1 John 5:10

1 John 5:1

Romans 5:8

1 Peter 2:24

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 Timothy 2:5

My verse is: _____

My verse says: _____

What my verse tells me about what Jesus did for me:

AROUND THE TABLE

Listening Guide

Name: _____ Age they asked Jesus into their heart: _____

Where were they when they asked Jesus in their heart? _____

Favorite verse: _____

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Where were they when they asked Jesus in their heart? _____

Favorite verse: _____

MY FAITH STORY

Where was I?

What was I doing?

Who prayed with me?

How old was I?



What is Baptism?

1. Baptism is a symbol of our decision to follow Christ.

When your sports team wins the championship, you get a trophy. The trophy isn't the team or the game or even the winning moment, but a symbol of the great playing that happened all season. Baptism is the symbol, or picture, of your decision to accept Christ as your Savior and follow Him with your life.

2. Baptism shows Jesus' death and resurrection.

“Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.”

Romans 6:3-5

BAPTISM	CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION
<i>Going under the water</i>	
<i>Coming out of the water</i>	

3. Baptism connects you to other followers of Christ.

Why Should We Be Baptized?

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 28:19

Jesus commands it.

“At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love: with you I am well pleased.’”

Mark 1:9-11

“Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.”

Matthew 10:32

Can you share another reason for baptism?

WHAT'S NEXT?

Now that you have asked Jesus in your heart and you have been baptized what's next?

Get to know God better...

Name a few things your friends enjoy doing.

What are some words that describe your friends?

How did you learn the things above about your friends?

You spent _____ with them!

WE GET TO KNOW GOD BETTER BY:

Reading His _____

Reading God's Bible is like reading a letter from a good friend! God left us the Bible so we could learn about his likes and dislikes, why He created us, and how much He loves us! We also get to read about some people just like us who loved God, trusted Him and saw Him do incredible things!

When you hang out with your friends, you find yourself liking a lot of the same things they do. When you spend time reading God's letter to us—the Bible—you will start caring about what He cares about! You will start thinking and acting like God. As you act more like God, people around you will see how awesome God is and want to know Him too!

TAKE 10 CHALLENGE

For the next month take 10 minutes a day and read through the book of James. Read just a few verses at a time. When you finish reading, write down something new you learned or a sin you need to stop doing.

Date: _____ Today I read: _____

Today I learned: _____

I think God wants me to: _____

Write a short prayer to God: _____

Date: _____ Today I read: _____

Today I learned: _____

I think God wants me to: _____

Write a short prayer to God: _____

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As a part of this Milestone we want you to take some time to talk with your child/teen about the importance of who they spend time with on a daily basis. It is important as your child begins to grow in Christ that they have a friend network who are also growing in their relationship with Jesus. Have you ever heard the quote: “Show me your 5 closest friends and I’ll show you your future?” If you were to look at your child’s future based on their current friends, in what direction do you feel like your kids are heading? Are their friends helping them move closer to Jesus or further away? The apostle Paul stated it like this, *“Do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’”* (1 Corinthians 15:33)

Friendships are crucial! Set aside some time to do this devotion as a family and help your kids develop a list of characteristics they need to be looking for in the friends they spend time with on a daily basis.

What does the Bible say? Take some time to look up these verses together:

Proverbs 12:26

Proverbs 27:17

Proverbs 13:20

Do not choose bad friends.

1 Corinthians 15:33

Psalm 1:1

Proverbs 22:24-25

1 Corinthians 5:11 (for teens)

Wise Christian friends will build you up, help you, and bring wisdom. **A bad friend will lead you to sin**, encourage ungodly traits, and would rather see you fall than do good in life. Being a loving and forgiving Christian doesn't mean that you are to hang around with bad friends who bring **peer pressure in your life**.

Sometimes you have to know when friendship with another person is leading you away from the Lord. In this case, you must choose Christ or that friend. The answer is always going to be Christ.

Just like a good parent tries to remove negative influences from their child's life, God will remove bad influences from our life and replace them with godly friends. Ask God for wisdom when choosing friends in your life and remember bad company ruins good morals so choose your friends wisely.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD FRIEND

Take a few minutes and write in the blanks provided characteristics you should be looking for in a friend.

THE FRIEND CHALLENGE: This week think about who you spend the most time with and ask yourself if they have the characteristics you wrote down above. Which friends are helping you live like Jesus and which are encouraging you to make unwise choices? Begin praying for your friends who are not living like Jesus. Remember, we often become like those whom we spend the most time around. Choose your friends wisely!

RESOURCES

801 Questions Kids Ask About God *by Focus on the Family*

Big Truths for Young Hearts *by Bruce A. Ware*

Family Night Tool Chest *by heritagebuilders.com*

How to Bring Your Children to Christ *by Ray Comfort and Kirk Cameron*