

*baptism...*

# WHY BELIEVE?

talking about baptism with your child



CITYLIGHT  
KIDS

# PARENT GUIDE SHEET

## Questions you (parents) may have.

### How old does my kid need to be to baptized?

At Citylight Lincoln we would *suggest* waiting until your child is 7 years of age or older. This is a guideline set for the child to be able to make a decision and articulate that decision as their own. The point of baptism isn't an exact age but a clear profession of faith.

### Who should baptize my kid?

The primary disciple maker should be the one to baptize your child. If you have played a role in raising your child and walking in faith to point them to Jesus, we would love to see you baptize them! It doesn't have to be a pastor but it can be. Also, more than one person can help baptize your child.

### How do I know if my kid is ready?

Ask them questions. Walk through this packet and you will get a better idea of where they are at.

- 1) Do you know what baptism is?
- 2) Have you thought about being baptized?
- 3) Would you like to be baptized?
- 4) Do you believe in Jesus and follow His ways?

It is okay to wait! Baptism isn't salvation. It's an outward expression of an inward decision; an outward act of an inward change.

## Questions your child may have.

### What is baptism?

Baptism is a sign to show others that you are a follower of Jesus. It shows that your old life of sin has died and is buried with Jesus as you go under the water and that you have risen to a new life in Jesus as you come up out of the water.

### Who should be baptized?

A person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God and has become a follower of Jesus. That means, the person must first repent of sin and decide to live the new life that Jesus gives.

Read Acts 2:38, 1 John 1:9, Romans 6:4, John 8:12

### How is a person baptized?

The person being baptized goes down in the water. The person doing the baptizing dips the person being baptized under water for a short moment.

### Is there anything special about the water?

You can be baptized in a river, a pool, or any other place where the water is deep enough to cover you. The water is not special water. Baptism is just a living picture of what has happened in your spirit.

We are so glad you are taking time to walk through this with your child. As a parent, you are called to be the primary disciple maker. We are here to come alongside you, support you, and encourage you as you do this! Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

- Citylight Kids -

### **Steps to take for your child to be baptized**

- 1) Review the Parent Guide Sheet.
- 2) Walk through the **Why Believe** activity with your child.
- 3) If your child is ready to be baptized have your child complete Written Testimony Assignment at the end of this packet.
- 4) Schedule a meeting with Family Pastor or Kids Director.
- 5) Attend the next Baptism Class.
- 6) Choose who will baptize your child.

### **In the following pages, we have two activities for your kid to complete. The first is called "The Terrible Lie" and the second is called "Heaven Breaks Through."**

We suggest that you use a Jesus Storybook Bible to help find the answers to the questions and fill in the blanks. The Jesus Storybook Bible is not a direct literal translation from the bible. It does help kids grasp the theological ideas behind the text. You can also just read Genesis 2 and 3 with your child. However, we suggest that you find a kids version to help kids truly understand on their level.

Please let the kids answer on their own. You can prompt them and ask them questions, but we want to be sure that they truly understand. We also attached an answer key.

The Jesus Storybook Bible – Page 28 or refer to the attached printed copy. If you need to borrow one from our library let us know. You may be able to find a free audible version of the story online.

*\*\* The Jesus Storybook Bible is also available on Amazon for \$12 \*\**

Turn to page 200 in your Jesus Storybook Bible to "Heaven Breaks Through." Or you can watch the story video online: <https://vimeo.com/61196030>

You can also read a kids version of Matthew 3. We have copies at the church if you need to borrow one. Then have your kids can answer the following questions.

# The Terrible Lie

Read or watch "The Terrible Lie." Then have your kid answer the following questions.

Draw a picture about the story

At the beginning, was everything perfect?

What is the name of God's enemy?

Why did God need to send satan out of heaven?

How did satan disguise himself in the Garden?

What was the one rule God gave Adam and Eve?

# The Terrible Lie - Answer Key

Read or watch "The Terrible Lie." Then have your kiddo answer the following questions.

Draw a picture about the story

In the beginning, was everything perfect?

yes

What is the name of God's enemy?

Satan, the devil, Lucifer

Why did God need to send satan out of heaven?

he wanted to become God - he became proud, evil, and full of hate

How did Satan disguise himself in the Garden?

as a snake or serpent

What was the one rule God gave Adam and Eve?

don't eat the fruit on the tree in the middle, the tree of Knowledge

Finish this sentence: God knew that if they ate the fruit, they would think

they didn't need him, they were their own God, etc.

What did the snake make Eve wonder?

does God love me? Is He for my good?

What did Adam and Eve do after they ate the fruit?

they hid

What had come into the world that would never leave?

a terrible lie - God doesn't love me, God isn't good, etc.

What did God do for his children before they left?

he made clothes and gently covered them. He promised them he would come for them.

Do you think this story is over? Why or why not?

No. God loves us too much!

# The Gospel

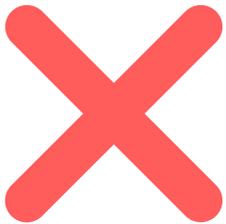
## God's Plan for Me



### GOD RULES

Ask: "who is in charge at home? Explain that because God created everything. He is in charge of everything.

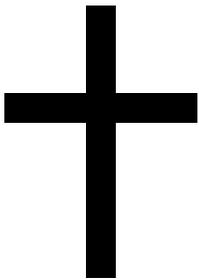
"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. Revelation 4:11



### WE SINNED

Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23



### GOD PROVIDED

Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*



### JESUS GIVES

Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever!

*God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

### WE RESPOND

Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus."

*If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.*

*Romans 10:9-10*



# Real vs Not Real

There are two types of stories, nonfiction (real) and fiction (not real).  
Do you know the difference?

Who are two people from a story you have heard that **ARE NOT** real?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Who are two people from a story you have heard that **ARE** real?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

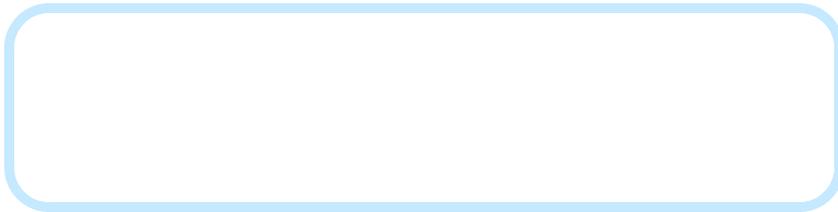
# God Loved

**For God so loved the world**, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

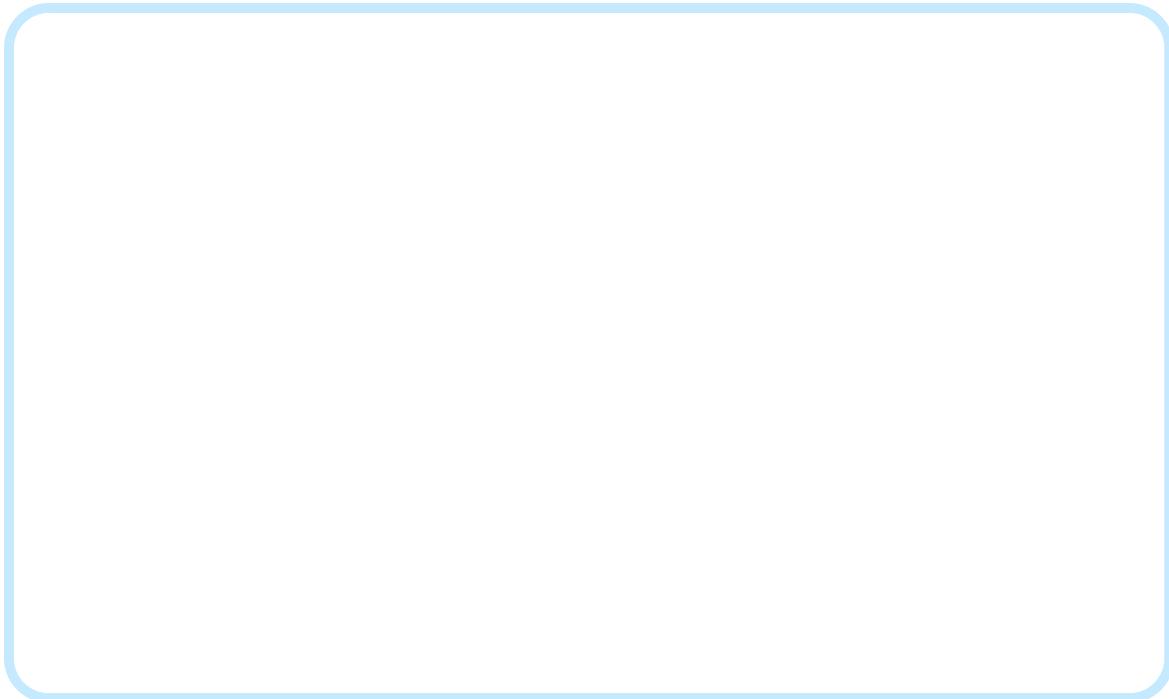
John 3:16

The first thing we need to know and remember about God is that... "God Loved"

Write down the name of someone who loves you A LOT



What does that person do to show you that they love you SO MUCH? Write it down or draw a picture!



Can you imagine that **GOD LOVES YOU** even **MORE** than that person?

# Bad Stuff Happens

**All have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

The Bible calls the bad things we do wrong "sin", and this sin separates us from God. EVERYONE sins and needs Jesus. You. Your parents. Your siblings. Your friends. Your teachers.

Write down some of the sins (wrong things) that you have done.

# Receive The Gift

For God so loved the world, that **he gave his only Son**, that **whoever believes** in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

It is not enough to know about God's gift, we have to receive it. If someone gives you a gift, but you never take it, then you don't actually have the gift, do you?

For by grace you have been **saved through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is **the gift of God**, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift of God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Believing means trusting and having faith. You trust things every day!

What are two things, like chairs, that you trust everyday?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

What are two things that you can trust Jesus with?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

# We are in God's Family

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**

John 3:16

We get the gift of being a part of God's family. That means we get to have abundant life while we are here on earth!

We get to be a part of God's

What does it mean to have abundant life? Write or draw a picture.

# We are in God's Family

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have **eternal life**.

John 3:16

## Look up these verses with your kiddo:

Ephesians 2:6

Colossians 3:1

Romans 6:1-5

Colossians 2:12

Jesus died on the cross, but He did not stay dead! Three days later, He rose from the dead. This proved that he was stronger than death. Because of that, we get to live forever with God and everyone in His family.

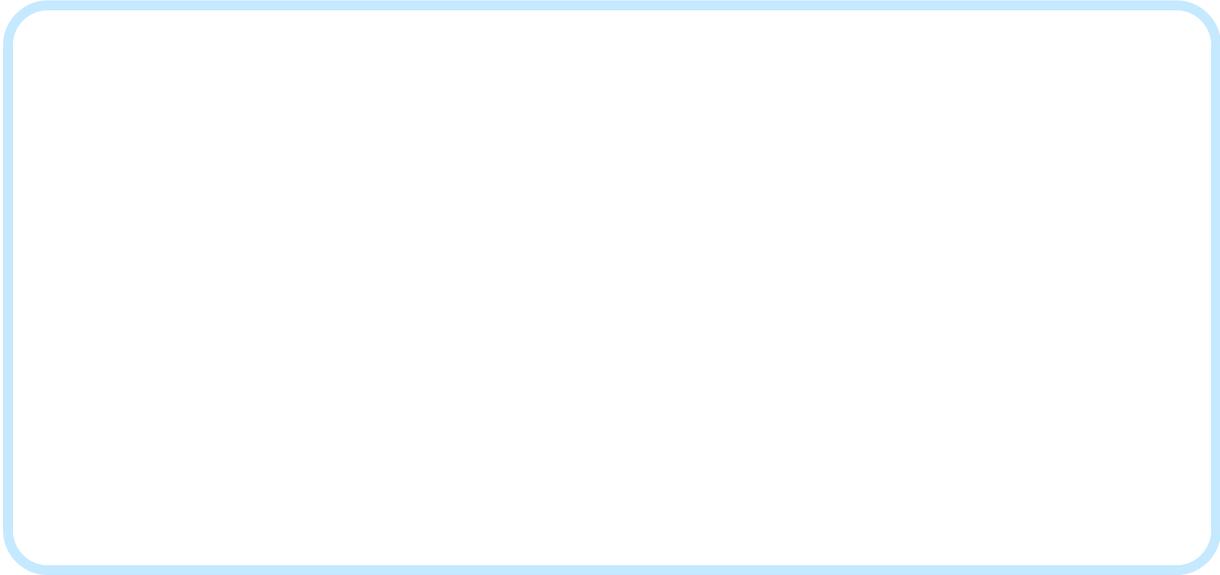
How does it make you feel knowing that even after your time on earth is over, you get to be with God in His family FORVER?

# Heaven Breaks Through

Turn to page 200 in your Jesus Storybook Bible to "Heaven Breaks Through." Or you can watch the story video online: <https://vimeo.com/61196030>

You can also read a kids version of Matthew 3. We have copies at the church if you need to borrow one. Then have your kid answer the following questions.

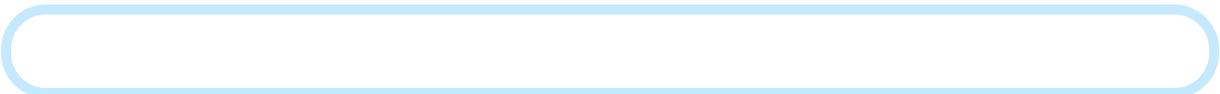
Draw a picture about the story



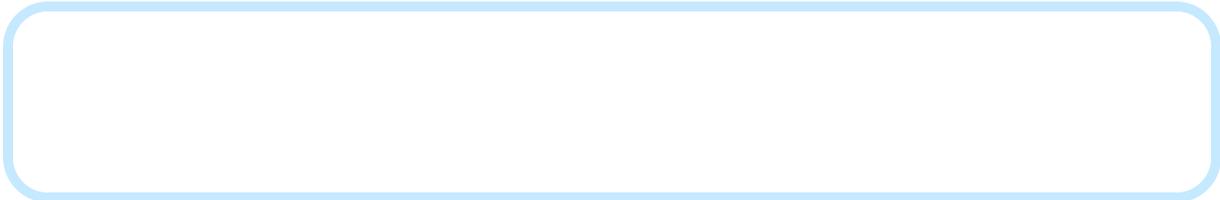
What was John's Job?



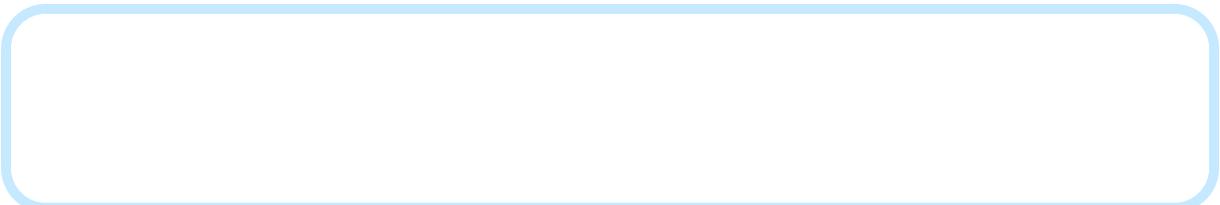
Who do you think the rescuer is?



Why did John Baptize People?



What are two things baptism shows?



Who did John say was "the one"?

Why did Jesus get baptized?

What does the Lamb of God do?

# Heaven Breaks Through: Answer Key

Turn to page 200 in The Jesus Storybook Bible and read "Heaven Breaks Through." Then have your kiddo answer the following questions.

What was John's Job?

to get people ready for Jesus.

Who do you think the rescuer is?

Jesus

Why did John Baptize People?

people were sorry they had sinned and they wanted to be forgiven, they wanted to stop running from God and start to follow God.

What are two things baptism shows?

that people wanted to follow God and that they wanted a new life

Who did John say was "the one"?

Jesus

Why did Jesus get baptized?

it's what God, my Father wants me to do

What does the Lamb of God do?

takes away the sins of the whole world

# Writing your testimony

A testimony is an eyewitness account of how God rescued you from sin and death through Jesus Christ, and changed your life as a result! When we share the story of who Jesus is and what He has done for us, we give honor and glory to God!

Here are some questions to help you get started. Answer them openly and honestly. Don't feel like your story has to be "spectacular" but it should show how spectacular Jesus is!

Your testimony DOES NOT have to and probably WILL NOT follow this model exactly. This is just a helpful tool to help you elaborate on how Jesus has broken into your life!

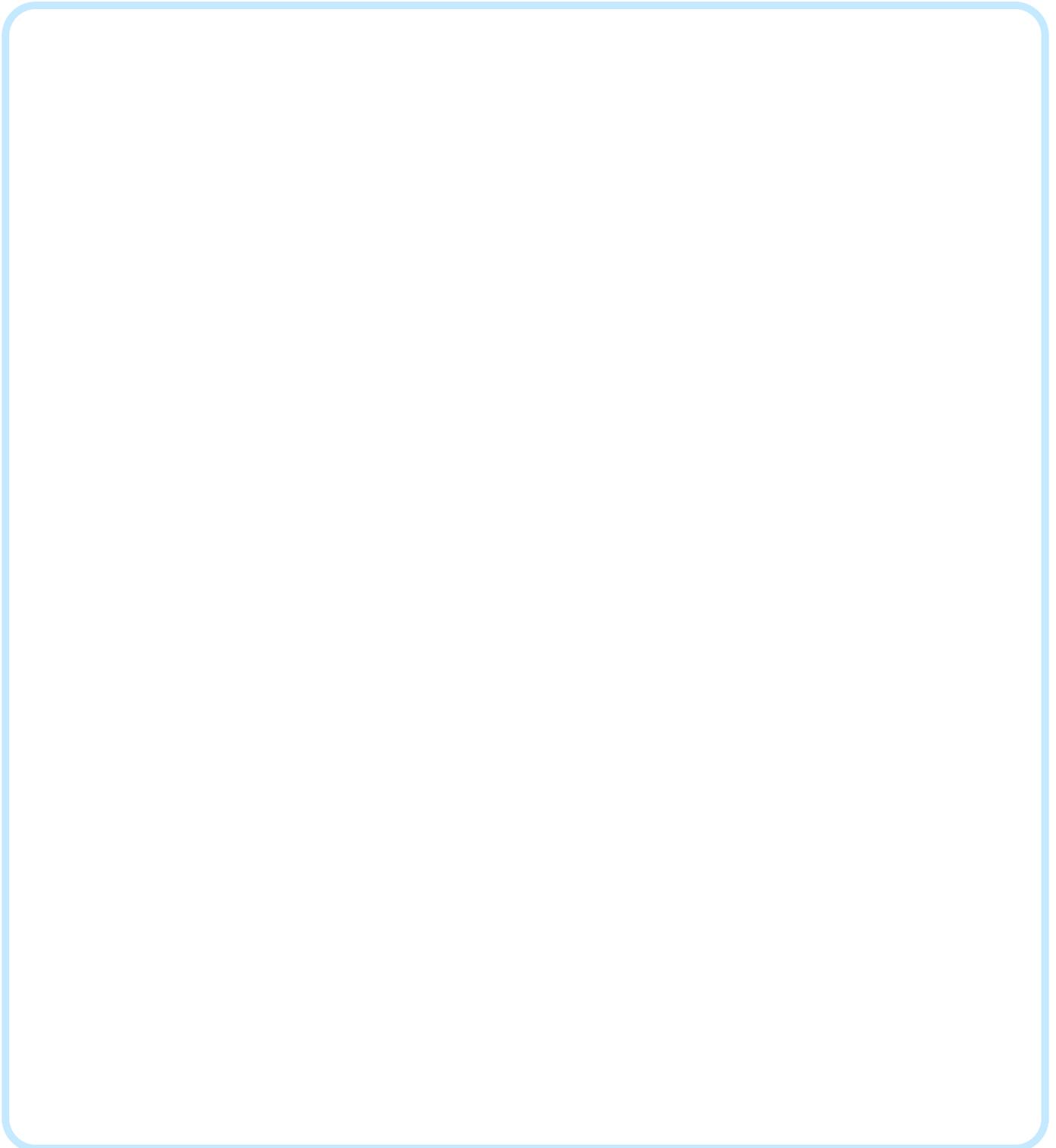
# Guiding Questions

**What was my life like before Jesus became my Lord and Savior?** (What did my life revolve around? Was it the approval of my friends? Was it being well liked? Was it the approval of my parents? Was it the way I look? Was it my grades? Was it myself/always having things MY way?)

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a light blue border, intended for writing answers to the guiding question.

# Guiding Questions

**How did Jesus break into my life and become my Lord and Savior?** (Did someone tell me about Him? Was it through reading the Bible? Did I learn about Him at church? Where was I? When did this happen?)



# Guiding Questions

**Why did I think I needed to ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior?** (Did I come to realize that I could never be good enough to save myself? Did I realize that God was Holy and Perfect? Did I find out that God created everything and is in charge of everything? Did I realize that I didn't have to work harder or try more, that I could just trust in Jesus' perfect work on the cross?)



# Guiding Questions

**Who is Jesus to me? Why is the gospel good news to me? What does it mean for me to have a personal relationship with Jesus as my Lord and Savior?**

# Guiding Questions

**How is my life different now that Jesus is in my life?** (Has Jesus taught me to be kind to others because I know that He is kind to me? Has Jesus taught me to forgive others when they hurt me because I know how much He has forgiven me?)



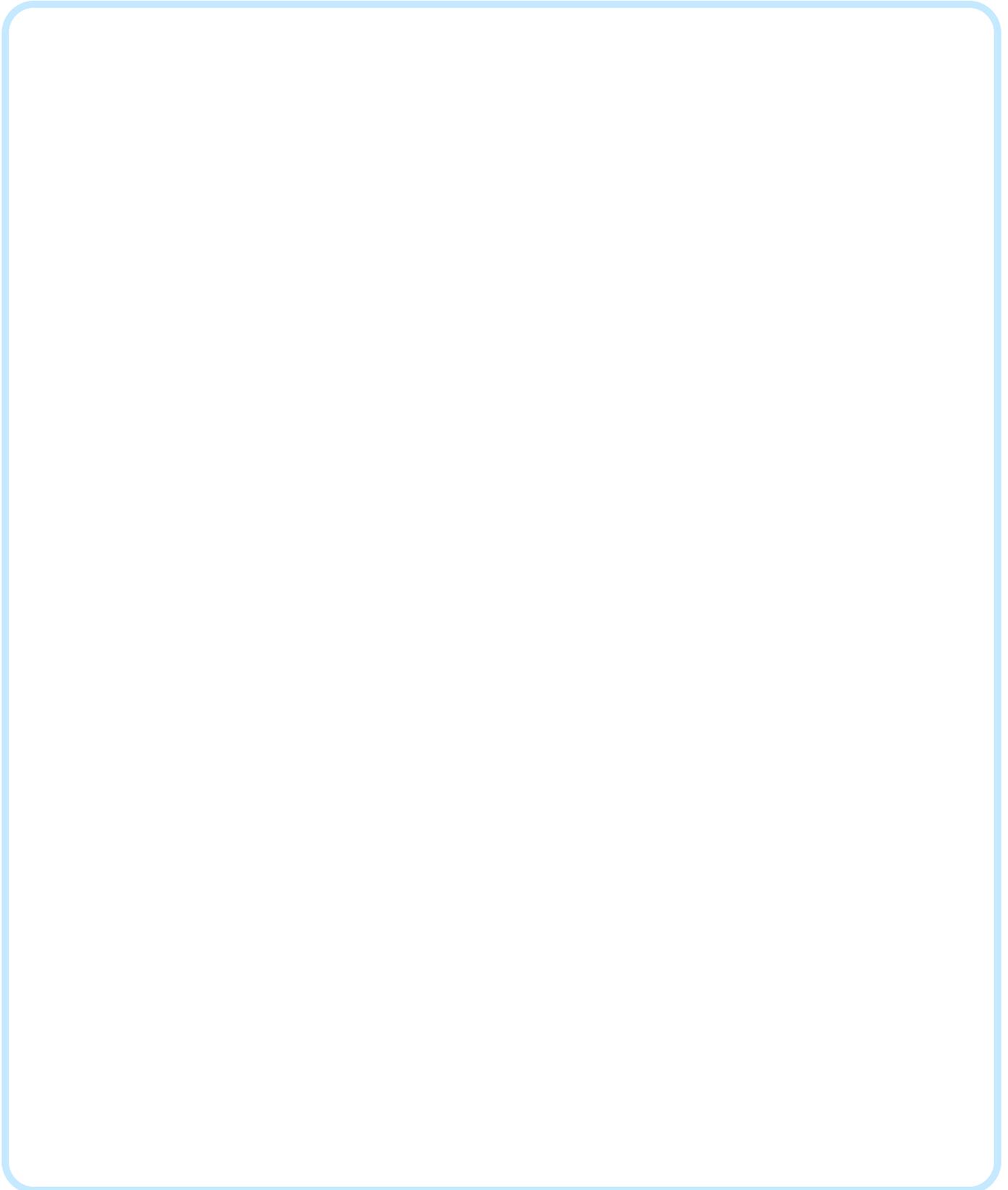
# Guiding Questions

Why do I want to be baptized?

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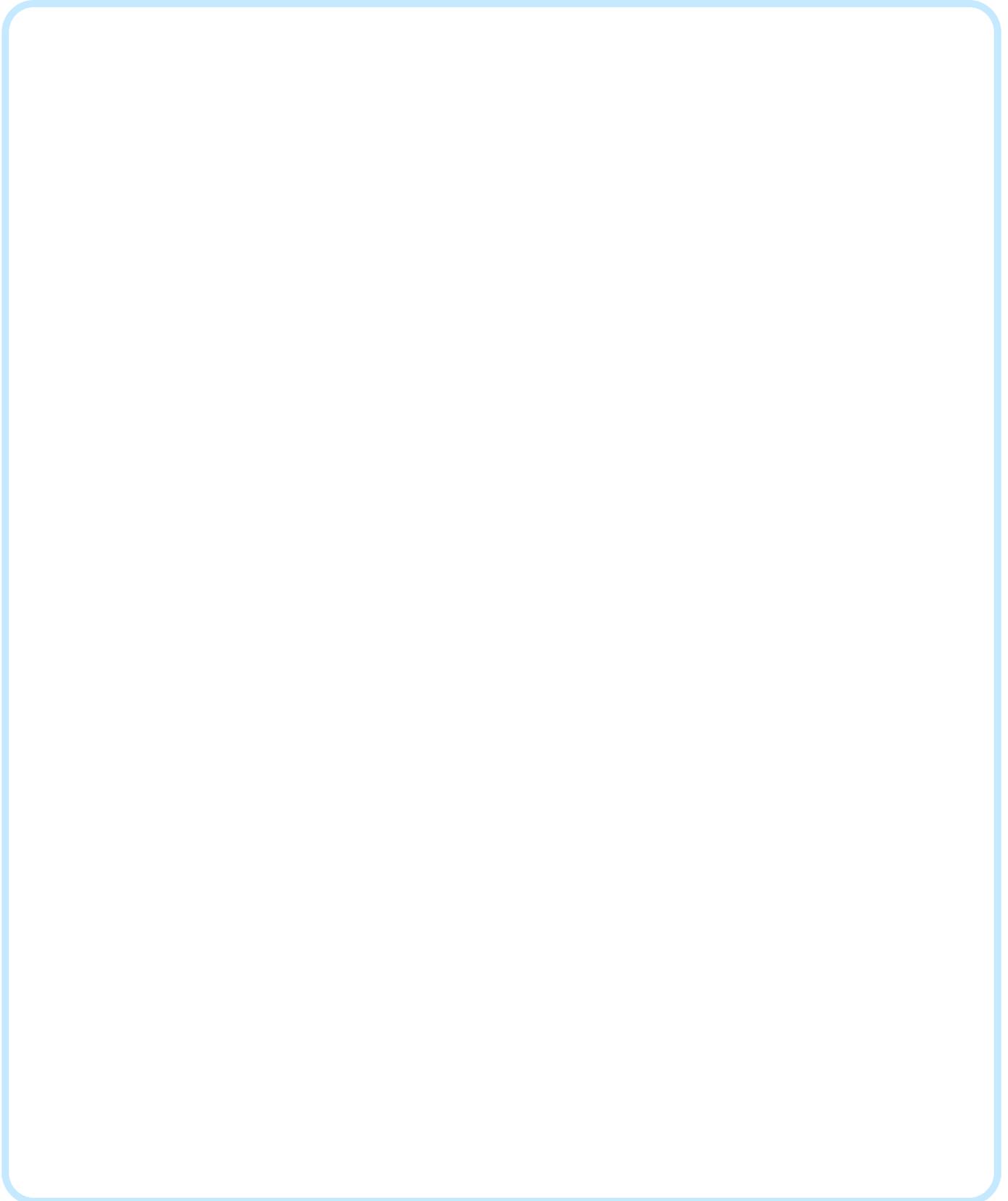
# Putting it all together

Now take the answers you have written and create a story so that you can share your testimony from start to finish!

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a light blue border, intended for writing a story. The box is currently blank, providing space for the user to write their testimony from start to finish.

# Putting it all together

Now take the answers you have written and put them in story format so that you can share your testimony from start to finish!

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a light blue border, intended for writing a testimony. The box is centered on the page and occupies most of the lower two-thirds of the page.