



Is my child ready to say yes to Jesus?

Use the following 5 questions to help you determine if your child is ready to say yes to Jesus. Remember, there is no magic to the questions. The main goal is to determine if your child recognizes their sin separates them from God and that Jesus' death on the cross makes them right with God. You will also find some things to say if your child doesn't seem to be grasping these spiritual concepts. Make sure you read the suggested verses as tools to help you.

"WHO IS JESUS?" Read Matthew 3:16-17.

This is an easy question to answer and will get your child comfortable with answering questions. Their answer will be pretty simple. "He's God's Son".

"WHAT IS SIN?" Then ask: "HAVE YOU EVER SINNED?" Read Romans 3:23.

Younger kids may not understand the word sin. We teach kids that sin is lying, cheating, stealing, angry outbursts, doing bad things, or even thinking bad thoughts, etc. The truth is... anything that is inconsistent with God's character is sin. Talk about these things with your child recognizing that all of us sin. Keep it personal by talking about things that you may do wrong and how sin gets in the way of your friendship with God. Ultimately, you're looking for your child to identify specific things they do wrong. The goal isn't to rehash things in the past, but you're looking for a sense of ownership for their actions.

"WHAT DID JESUS DO ON THE CROSS? WHY DID HE HAVE TO DIE?" Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.

Again, these should be simple responses. "Jesus died on the cross." or "Jesus died for our sins." or "So we could be forgiven."

NOTE: If you don't feel that your child understands either what sin is or that Jesus died to forgive our sin, then simply table the discussion. You might say something like: "I'd like us to keep talking about this more over the next few months."

"WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR SIN WHEN WE ASK JESUS TO FORGIVE US AND WE SAY OUR SINS OUT LOUD?" Read 1 John 1:9.

Most responses will be very simple. "Jesus takes away our sins."

"DO YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS?"

If, yes, then great! This is the best part. Here is a prayer you may use as a guide. You can invite your child to repeat after you. However, remember, there is no magic in the words your child is saying. It's the condition of their heart that matters most.

"Dear Jesus, I am a sinner and I need you to save me. Thank you for dying on the cross. Because of this, I am forgiven. I want you to be the leader of my life. Help me live my life for you. Amen".

Congratulations! You've just led your child into a relationship with Jesus. There are few experiences as valuable as this!