

Dear Child,

We are excited that you desire to be baptized and we want to help prepare you for that day. Because SGC allows baptism only for those who are 12 years of age or older we'd like you to use the time between now and your 12th birthday to prepare. We'd like you to do two things. First of all, we all know that when someone is truly "born again" it changes his or her life. The changes may not be huge but they are real. So we'd like you to demonstrate by your actions and attitudes that your faith in Jesus is real and changing your life. We wish for your parent(s) to confirm your testimony of faith in Jesus as your saving-Lord as evidenced by your actions. Second, we'd like you to complete a [course of study](#) with your parent(s) that will help you understand more of what it means to become and be a follower of Jesus Christ. We still want you to wait until you are 12 to be baptized, therefore you can work through the book anytime before then.

There are two reasons why we ask you to wait until you are 12. First of all, we want you to have the maturity to better understand the spiritual meaning and importance of baptism. Jesus was 12 when he was taken to the Temple to prepare for his Bar Mitzvah. Throughout history, this is the time in life when children moved to adulthood and became active in the life of the church. Secondly, it is important that you understand the reality of your confession of faith, and we encourage you to ask your parents (and Sunday school teachers) any questions that come to mind. They are there to help you get ready for your baptism.

We are encouraged that you are interested, and will be praying that God will continue to help you learn more about Him and grow in your faith as you prepare to be baptized after your 12th birthday.

For Christ's Kingdom,

[Pastor Nelson](#)
Southern Gables Church