

DECIDE

Milestone 2

Description

The Bible teaches that all have sinned and are in need of forgiveness of their sins. While God alone can change children's hearts to accept Jesus as Savior of their sins, parents and the church can consistently, prayerfully, and faithfully "lay the kindling and logs in the fireplace, so that when the spark of the Holy Spirit ignites your child's heart, there will be a steady, mature blaze." (Kathy Keller in The New City Catechism)

Parents can prepare children by teaching them how to turn away from their sin towards God. The church can teach parents about salvation so that they are prepared to present the Gospel continuously to their children. Redeemer Kids and Redeemer Students pray for and share the Gospel with children during their time in these ministries. Then, when children are ready to be forgiven of their sin, they are prepared to be led in prayer for salvation.

This milestone can be celebrated at any time during a child's life, as parents cannot control when children pray for salvation. Another celebration occurs when children decide to be baptized and thereby publicly declare before Redeemer Church and the Lord that they have decided to follow Jesus.

Preparation

- Write out a prayer to use with your children when they are ready to receive Christ.
- Use our Discipleship Guides for your child's age group
- Follow along as RK goes through the New City Catechism
- Take **The Gospel-Centered Parent** class
- See the Parenting Ministry website for additional resources

Ideas for Celebration

- Share with RK that your child has prayed to receive Christ and receive a gift
- Buy a special new Bible or journal for your child
- Get baptized at church
- Party at home to celebrate this milestone

Connection to Path of Discipleship

- Convert to Christ
- Commit to Redeemer (children have provisional membership under their parents)

