



## WAREHOUSE KID'S GUIDE TO BAPTISM

Hey Warehouse Kids! We are so excited that you're considering baptism! Everyone of us was created to have a relationship with Jesus and that includes you.

The first thing you should know is this...we believe that baptism is a BIG deal.

### BAPTISM IS...

a one-time, public announcement to declare that you follow Jesus because you believe he rescued you from your sin. Except instead of telling people one by one, you show a whole lot of them at once...by getting dunked in and out of water. Kind of like wearing a jersey to show you're a fan of a sports team.

### WHY DO WE NEED TO BE BAPTIZED?

#### WE WE'RE BROKEN.

Everybody has done wrong things. It all started when God told Adam not to eat from one tree in the Garden of Eden. God said, *"If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die"* (Genesis 2:17). Unfortunately, God's enemy, the snake, tricked Adam and Eve into thinking God didn't really love them. So they chose to disobey him (Genesis 3:1-6). That's when death and all the wrong things in the world began. Adam and Eve eventually died. And now everyone who disobeys God—which is all of us—deserves the same punishment (Romans 3:23).

#### BUT GOD DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

God sent a rescuer. God created us to love him and be close to him, forever. And he loved us way too much to let death stand in the way of that. So he sent his own, perfect son Jesus—who didn't deserve death—to take our punishment (John 3:16). But Jesus didn't stay dead; he came back to life. Jesus took our punishment by dying—and got rid of it by coming back to life. Since Jesus beat death, now death can't separate us from God anymore (Romans 8:38-39).

#### AND JESUS MADE IT PERSONAL.

There's nothing any of us can do to make up for the wrong things we have done. Even if we do a million good things, it's not enough (Ephesians 2:8-9). But this rescue is a special gift God gives us all for free. And just like we have to open presents if we want to see what's inside, we have to decide that we want God's gift. Making that choice is like opening our present! When we do, God sees us as his very own children (John 1:12). That means we are close to him again.

#### SO WE FOLLOW HIM.

Ephesians 5:1-2 says: *"You are the children that God dearly loves. So be just like him. Lead a life of love, just as Christ did. He loved us. He gave himself up for us. He was a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God."* Leading a life of love in this world full of wrong things is not easy (Romans 8:17). And we'll definitely mess up sometimes. But ...if we accept God's gift and do our best to live like Jesus, we will one day live with him forever in a perfect, glorious world, where there's no sickness or sadness or death or anything bad. And that will be worth the wait (Revelation 21:1-4).