

Leading a Child to Christ

God will bless your availability and your willingness to pray with a child. Let go and let God do the leading. If you are praying at an altar, always ask the child if you can pray with them and if they know what they want to pray about. Sometimes a child may be thinking of a sick pet or family member. Children seeking salvation usually express this by saying, "I want Jesus to be my friend" or "I want to be a Christian."

Once you know a child is seeking a relationship with God, lead the child through the following conversation. You can use this as a script or say it in your own words. Pause periodically and ask if they understand what you are sharing. Start by asking the child the following questions:

1. Do you believe that God loves you?

God loves you and all people. He wants to have a loving friendship with you. John 3:16 tells us that God loves us so much that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to make forgiveness possible.

2. Do you know what sin is?

Sin is disobeying God. Sin breaks our friendship with God. Romans 3:23 says, "Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." Everyone has disobeyed God. The Bible says in Romans 6:23 the consequence of sin is death, but the gift of God is life forever in Jesus. Jesus saves us from sin and death. That is good news! **Although we do not deserve it, God loves us so much He made a way to fix our broken relationship with Him.** 1 John 4:9 says, "How did God show His love for us? He sent His one and only Son into the world so that we could receive life through Him."

3. Do you know who Jesus is?

- I. Jesus, God's one and only Son, came as a little baby. He grew to be a man that told everyone about God's love and showed people how to love with God's perfect love. He fed hungry people, healed sick people, and made dead people alive again!
- II. Some people did not believe that Jesus was God's son and decided to kill Him. Jesus allowed this to happen to show the world God's great love. God brought Jesus back to life again and showed His power over sin and death!
- III. Jesus is alive today! He loves you and wants to be your Savior and Friend forever. All you need to do is ask God to forgive you for disobeying Him and believe that He will do it. We do not have to stay separated from God! We can accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness and life.

4. Would you like Jesus to be your Savior and best Friend and to begin to live as a child of God?

It is as easy as A-B-C!

A: Admit that I have sinned and I need God to forgive me and to help me change.

B: Believe that God loves me and sent His only Son, Jesus, so I can be forgiven.

C: Claim Jesus as my Savior and claim my new identity as a child of God.

5. Would you like to pray with me as I pray for you?

“Dear God, thank You for loving me and sending Jesus to earth. Thank You for allowing Jesus to die for the things that I have done wrong and for raising Him to life again. I am sorry that I have disobeyed You. Please forgive me. I want Jesus to always be with me. Help me to obey You every day. I believe You love me and have forgiven me. Thank You for making me your child. I believe that You will be with me forever! Amen.”

When Jesus is our Savior, He will always be with us. He will help us to live the way that God wants us to live. Romans 12:2 says, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Living for God means that we will act differently toward others than we did before. We will want to know His will and do things that please Him. We will want to be kind and loving. We will talk to God in prayer and listen to God in His Word. (This is how we become God’s friend.)

Tell the child how excited you are that they are now a child of God. Let them know that you will pray for them. Invite them to come to church. Tell them that it will be important for them to learn more about God through reading the Bible and by talking to Him through prayer. Make sure that you let the child’s leader know that the child made a decision to become a Christian so that the people in the church can follow up with this precious new believer and their family.

