adapted from: www.baptiststart.com/sermons_ppt.html For more downloadable teachings see: www.altogetherlovely.org (FREE TEACHINGS)

"These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." (Deut.6:6-8)

"And fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Eph.6:4)

"For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

(Acts 2:39)

"So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." (Acts 16:31)

CHILDREN CAN BE SAVED

- They can understand the plan of salvation
 - The Gospel is simple
 - They can remember their responsibilities at "short stop" or as a "pitcher".
 - They can learn the names of the state capitals

CHILDREN CAN BE SAVED

- They can trust Christ to save them
- "I assure you: Whoever does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." (Luke 18:17)

Some Do's

- Pray for your child's understanding
 - The Holy Spirit can make the light come on
- Make sure your child knows the difference between baptism and salvation
 - Or between joining the church & salvation

Some Do's

• Wait until your child shows he/she understands the commitment involved before leading him in a prayer to receive Jesus.

Go see the preacher together

- Don't ask "yes or no" questions
 - Have them answer questions in their own words
 - "What does it mean to become a Christian?"
- Don't ask leading questions
 - "You love Jesus, don't you Timmy?"

Don't use figures of speech

 Don't rush a child – each one comes to Christ as he or she is ready

• Don't use scare tactics or use fear as a motive

 Don't use peer pressure or try to get a child to follow a group

Don't give rewards for a response

• Don't tell children that they are saved, even after they respond

When children aren't ready

 Don't belittle their interest or make them feel dumb for bringing up the subject

• Don't say, "You're not ready for that; we'll talk about this when you are ready."

When children aren't ready

• Instead:

- Answer their present questions
- Clarify their understanding
- Compliment their interest

- The Seriousness of Sin:
 - Sometimes it is hard to see our own children as lost sinners
 - Don't feel protective if your child is under conviction
 - "When He [the Holy Spirit] comes, He will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in Me" (John 16:8-9)

- The Cross:
- "For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (1 Cor.2:2)
- "When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners." (Romans 5:6)

Make sure they understand the cross!

• The Cross:

"You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He has done this through his death" (Col.1:21-22)

Make sure they understand the cross!

- Salvation is a Free Gift
 - It is not when I stop being bad and start being good
 - "He saved us—not because we were good enough to be saved but because of his kindness and pity" (Titus 3:5)

- Repentance
 - Repentance is a change of attitude
 - It is turning to God from having it my way
 - "Now it's time to change your ways! Turn to face God so he can wipe away your sins, pour out showers of blessing to refresh you" (Acts 3:19)

Faith

- Faith is trusting Jesus Christ to do things for me I cannot do for myself
- I cannot make myself right with God
- I cannot earn my own salvation
- "Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish!" (Eph.2:8)
- "We have been made right in God's sight by faith" (Romans 5:1)

When a Person is Saved

• A person is saved when he commits all that he knows about himself to all that he knows about God.

- A child won't yet know everything about himself
 - Children don't know about their careers or spouses yet

When a Person is Saved

- A child will not know everything about God
 - Children don't yet understand the doctrine of the virgin birth or be able to explain the doctrine of the trinity
- When our understanding of God or ourselves increases, we increase our commitment
 - This is called Christian growth

- Practice what you preach
- Exhibit Christ in your lives
- Be wise and discerning
- Speak in love
- Always show an interest in your children's questions
- Trust the Holy Spirit to convict of sin

How to Talk to Your Kids About Christ LET'S PRAY:

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