## **Intentional Faith Path Plan**

Child's Name:

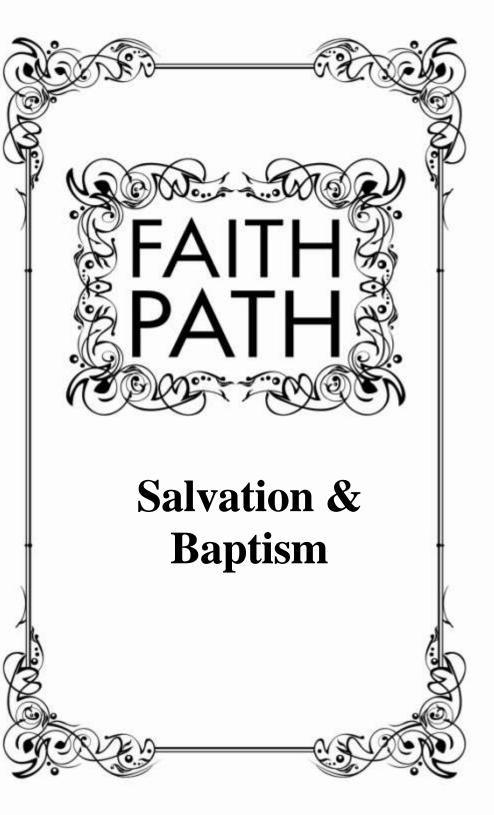
How will you be intentional this next year?
Pray daily with and for my child.
Consistently spend time in God's Word.
Bless my child daily.
Schedule and have regular family times.
Celebrate my child's baptism

Faith Path Sunday – from time to time we will offer classes for parents during Sunday morning Bible class time covering the various steps along the Faith Path to help you be intentional in the spiritual growth of your child. Be looking for upcoming Faith Path Sunday dates or see one of the hosts at the Faith@Home Center to request additional coaching or to answer any of your questions.

## **Recommended Resources**

Baptism @ Home: A Parent Led Study equips parents to lead a child to Christ in language he or she can understand.
Family Night Tool Chest: Basic Christian Beliefs from Heritage Builders
Am I Ready to be Baptized? By Kyle Butt & James Farber

Please visit the Faith@Home Center to browse the above recommended resources and to find information, guidance, and resources on a wide variety of topics. Visit online at burlesoncoc.com/faithathome.



There is nothing more exciting for a parent than guiding a child to salvation and baptism. If you are not sure if your child is ready to make this decision yet, please request the "Prepare to Lead Your Child to Christ" kit in the Faith@Home Center or view it online at **burlesoncoc.com/faithpath**. This kit contains valuable guidance and resources to help you lay a foundation to help prepare them and to help you discern their readiness to be baptized.

**Guide your child to repent:** Acts 2 tells us, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off- for all whom the Lord our God will call." (Acts 2:38-39). Consider using the parent led study of baptism included in this kit to help you guide your child through a biblical study of the meaning of salvation and baptism.

If you sense your child has a basic understanding of what sin is and what it leads to, as well as what it means to accept God's gift of salvation and His Lordship, then you can guide your child to repent, or turn away, from sinful living. Instead of quoting specific words for your child to repeat, it's best to prompt them to use their own words – to tell God they are sorry for their sins, to ask for His forgiveness, and to ask Him to be Lord over the rest of their life.

**Prepare them for baptism:** Once your child has understood and decided to accept God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, it is time to baptize them by immersion in water. When baptized, we die to sin and are resurrected to eternal life with Christ when we come out of the water (Romans 6). Baptism can be done at the church building baptistery or in any body of water, and it can be performed by anybody, whether a family member, friend or minister.

**Communion:** The Lord's Supper is a special time when those who have been baptized remember that He died for their sins. We remember this by eating bread, which represents Jesus' body, and by drinking juice, which symbolizes Jesus' blood. Read about the Lord's Supper with your child (Matt. 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-25, or Luke 22:7-20) Then, discuss the meaning of communion, the bread and the cup, with your child.

**Symbols and Celebrations:** Consider giving your child something to signify the decision he or she has made. This can be a cross, a new Bible, a Bible study or a hand written note in the front of a blank journal. As children get older they sometimes question their earlier faith decision. Help your child feel secure by providing a firm foundation. Use the *Spiritual Birthdays* card included with this kit for ideas on how to celebrate your child's spiritual birthday. Take time to talk about what he or she is learning. Allow your child to ask questions and talk through new areas of spiritual growth. Pray for the upcoming year in his or her journey. This will also give you great insight into where some extra help or attention is needed and how you can pray more specifically for your child.

Help your child begin to walk with Jesus: Show your child what a Christian life looks like. Teach your child how to pray and coach him or her on how to read the Bible. Salvation and baptism are only the beginning of a wonderful journey with God. Now that you have helped your child take this exciting first step, you have the opportunity and responsibility to continue disciple him or her into developing more fully as a Christian.