



Dear Parents,

One of the goals of DCC's Children's Ministry is to see as many kids as possible enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This week in KidJam, we clearly presented the gospel to your child, with that goal in mind. However, we only gave your child the information that he or she needs to make that decision. We left the final part--the praying to ask Jesus into your child's heart-- for you to do with your child.

We believe that one of the most beautiful and memorable things that can happen to you, as a parent, is to help your child make the decision to ask Jesus to be their "forever friend."

If your child has already crossed that line and has made Jesus their forever friend, great!

If not, we've provided a guide below if you are not sure how to help your child with this decision. The first question could be "What did you learn about in KidJam today?" and "Do you understand what that means?"

The information below is taken from the book, *Leading Kids to Jesus* by David Staal.

Guidelines on Readiness

1. Ask your child "Why do you want to do this?" If he or she has a reason for asking Jesus into his or her life that makes appropriate sense then prompt the child through the ABC prayer (below). Make sure your child possesses a genuine, personal desire to pray.
2. Don't discount a child's desire to pray for salvation on more than one occasion.
3. Don't use age as a reason to dismiss your child's desire to start a relationship with Jesus. Studies indicate that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13.

If you feel that your child is ready to begin a relationship with Jesus, lead them through a simple ABC prayer.

ABC Salvation Prayer

- A – Admit your sins
- B – Believe in Jesus
- C - Choose to follow Jesus



The following serves as an example of prompting your child through the ABC prayer. Encourage your child to pray in their own words after your prompts.

Okay Lisa, sounds to me like you're ready to start a relationship with Jesus. Let's pray together, and I'll help you know how to say. Here we go.

God, Lisa wants to start a relationship with Jesus (make Jesus her Forever Friend).

Lisa, now it's your turn to go ahead and tell God that you've done wrong stuff and want him to forgive you....(pause)

Good job. Now tell him that you do believe in Jesus, and believe that he died as a punishment for the wrong stuff that you've done.... (pause)

Cool. Now tell him that you want to accept His gift of grace and forgiveness, and that you have decided to follow Jesus the rest of your life...(pause)

Amen! Way to go Lisa!

Options on how to respond:

1. Immediately make a big deal about the decision. Hugs, kisses and high fives are all appropriate!
2. Help mark the moment by giving your child something that shows the date.
3. Encourage you child to continue to make prayer a daily part of their lives.
4. Make sure that your child has a Bible that he or she can read and understand.

If your child does not have his or her own Bible, you can purchase one at our resource table the first and second Sunday of each month. We have a variety of Bibles available for ages K-5th.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Wayne Rockwell at 222-8586 X29 or Candy Tenpas X38 or email Wayne at wayne@doorcreekchurch.org

Please let us know if your child enters into a relationship with Jesus. We'd love to hear from you!

Resources:

David Staal, *Leading Kids to Jesus* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan 2005)
David Saal, *Leading Your Child to Jesus* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan 2006)