

Why Do We Baptize Infants?

by Bryan Chapell

This resource is designed to help you better understand one of the “Basics of the Faith” booklets published by P&R.

1. *Why do you think Presbyterians baptize children?*
2. *Read Genesis 17:1-14. How do you define a covenant?*
3. *Were the promises made to Abraham given only to ethnic Israel? Read Genesis 12:3 and Galatians 3:8*
4. *What did the sign of this covenant represent? Read Romans 4:11*
5. *Read Genesis 17:11-13. Who all was to receive this sign?*
6. *Does the receiving of this sign guarantee eternal salvation? Read Genesis 32:28*
7. *Why place this sign on someone who has not yet come to faith? Read Romans 4:11*
8. *Does the covenant continue in the New Testament? Read Act. 2:38-39*
9. *Where in Scripture do you find the change in the sign of the covenant? Read Colossians 2:11-12*
10. *What is the significance of “household” baptisms in the New Testament for Christian families today?*
11. *Does baptizing our children guarantee God will later bring them to saving faith? Read Romans 2:28-29*
12. *If the child doesn’t automatically get saved at baptism, and there is no guarantee the child will come to faith later, then what benefits are there in baptizing them?*

Application

1. Do you have children at home? Does this study help you understand the blessings of covenant baptism? If you would like to bless your children in this way, please talk with your pastor.
2. If your children are already baptized, do you remember the vows you took at that time? If this study helps you remember your vows and the blessings promised to your children, take this moment of encouragement to ask God to help you raise your children to know and appreciate his covenant blessings that he promises to all who love Him.