



# Parent Guide

# I Said “Yes!”

SECOND EDITION

Developed by Wooddale Church.

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[wooddale.org](http://wooddale.org)

## PARENT GUIDE

### Congratulations! At Wooddale, we are excited your child has chosen to say “Yes!” to Jesus.

There is no decision your child will ever make that is more significant than this! Jesus’ number one priority was having a restored relationship with His people. Through His sacrificial death on the cross, Jesus made it possible for all of us to become part of God’s family.

While this is an important decision for your child, as the parent, you will play a vital role to help your child walk through the beginning of his or her faith journey. I know this can feel intimidating, but it’s important. God cares deeply about your child’s relationship with Him. He’ll be there to provide you with guidance and wisdom as you engage with your child’s faith journey. And, of course, we’re here for you too!

One of the most powerful things you can do is to ask God to help you. James 1:5 says:

**“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”**

If you or your child is unsure if he or she is ready to make this decision, you can ask the following questions before leading your child in prayer to say “Yes!” to Jesus. These questions help you determine if your child understands the Good News of Jesus and if he or she is ready to take this important step. (A child-friendly explanation of salvation is in the “I Said Yes!” kids’ book.)

#### Questions to Check for Understanding

- What do you think sin is? Why is it a big deal?
- Can you give me some examples of sins?
- If you had to describe who Jesus is, what would you say?
- What did Jesus do for us? Why is what Jesus did important?
- What does it mean to say you believe in Jesus or that you are a Christian?
- Do you have any questions about who God is and what He’s done for us?
- Do you want to say, “Yes!” to Jesus?

If your child seems unclear on these important points, it’s OK to be patient in leading him or her through the ABCs of salvation. Every child comes to an understanding of Jesus’ death and resurrection at different times. If your child seems unsure, simply keep the conversation going over the next few weeks until you feel your child is ready to give his or her life to Christ in an authentic way.

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If you feel your child understands salvation and is ready for this important step, here's a basic framework you can walk through. It explains salvation in a clear way using ABC.

- **A is for ADMIT:** *You admit you are a sinner, you are not perfect and that you've done things wrong. You admit sin has separated you from God. (Romans 3:23 and Romans 6:23)*
- **B is for BELIEVE:** *You believe Jesus came to earth, died for us and rose again. You believe God will forgive you of your sins. (1 John 1:9)*
- **C is for CHOOSE:** *You choose to live for God. That doesn't mean you'll be perfect every day for the rest of your life but it means you're committed to trying to please God by following what He tells us in the Bible and by spending time with Him through prayer. (Romans 10:9-10)*

## Prayer of Salvation

*Dear God, I know I sin and do things you do not want me to do. I believe Jesus is Your Son, He died on the cross to save me, You raised Him from the dead and He lives with You now. Right now I'm asking you to forgive me of my sins and come into my life. I want You to help me make good choices in my life and for others to know who You are. Thank You for loving me so much. Amen.*

## Next Steps:

- Go to [wooddale.org/yes](http://wooddale.org/yes) to let us know your child said, "Yes!" to Jesus.
- If you haven't already, download the 5-day "I Said Yes!" devotional to help your child begin his or her new life in Christ.
- Use this parent guide to work through each daily lesson with your child.
- Set aside 30 minutes each day to lead your child through the activity.

If you have any questions, please email [childrens@wooddale.org](mailto:childrens@wooddale.org)! We have a wonderful team at Wooddale Church who would be honored to walk alongside you.

## DAY 1

### BIG IDEA

*Jesus is excited to connect with you and be your friend forever.*

#### **What It Means**

We want your child to understand Jesus is passionate about being friends with us. Being friends with Jesus doesn't have to be some formal or prescribed thing. He simply wants your child to gain a greater understanding of who He is, how much He loves us and how He is able to support your child throughout his or her life!

#### **Questions to Check for Understanding**

- Why are friends important to you?
- What do you think makes someone a good friend?
- What do you think Jesus is like?
- Can you tell me the story from today's lesson?
- What does it look like for you to have a relationship with Jesus?

#### **Activity**

List the people you would be most excited to be in a relationship with. Who in the world would you love to meet and why? Understand that Jesus is even **more excited** to connect with you than you are with your favorite hero or celebrity! You should be excited to get to know Him as well.

If you sense your child does not understand today's main point, share your perspective on friends. If you feel comfortable, talk about how you view your own relationship with Jesus.

## DAY 2

### BIG IDEA

*Jesus wants to talk with you to help you grow.*

#### **What It Means**

In this lesson, your child learns prayer is a great way to grow in relationship with Jesus. You can't have a healthy relationship with anyone without good communication. Jesus wants to connect with your child every day! That way, your child can learn more about Him, share problems and successes with Him, and ask for help when needed.

#### **Questions to Check for Understanding**

- What do you talk to your friends about?
- How do you talk with your friends? Do you use fancy words or do you always bow your head?
- Do you find it easy or hard to pray to God?
- Can you tell me the story from today's lesson?

#### **Activity**

Think about times in your life when you're sad, hurt or happy. Whom do you most want to talk with during those times (mom and dad, brother or sister, grandparent, friend)? Why do you like to talk with them?

If you sense your child does not understand today's main point, share your perspective on prayer. How do you pray? What has made it hard or easy for you to pray in the past?

## DAY 3

### BIG IDEA

*Jesus wants to help you grow through reading His Word, the Bible.*

#### **What It Means**

We believe reading the Bible is one of the best ways we can grow in our faith. The Bible teaches us who God is, how God thinks and how we can live to honor God. This lesson is meant to help your child develop a habit of reading God's Word in ways that help him or her grow deeper in faith.

#### **Questions to Check for Understanding**

- How do you feel about reading the Bible?
- When you read, how much do you feel you understand?
- What are your favorite Bible stories?
- Can you tell me what today's Bible story was?
- What are the three questions you can ask after reading a Bible verse? (*Answer: What do these verses teach me about God? What do these verses teach me about myself? What does God want me to do?*)

#### **Activity**

Ask your parents to talk about some favorite memories from when they were kids. What was school like? What did they do for fun? What were some fun trips they took? Keep talking and get creative with other questions to ask!

If you sense your child does not understand today's main point, share your perspective on the Bible. How has the Bible impacted your understanding of God? Do you have tips that have been helpful in your own Bible reading?

## DAY 4

### BIG IDEA

*Jesus wants you to be more like Him so you can serve others.*

#### **What It Means**

Jesus is the only perfect person to ever live on earth. His example is the best for our kids to follow. Today's lesson will encourage your child to follow Jesus as the example for all situations in life. When we become more like Him, we will make better decisions, have healthier relationships and change the world around us for the better!

#### **Questions to Check for Understanding**

- What things do you love best about Jesus?
- Based on Jesus' life, how should we treat other people?
- What are some areas in your life where you want to follow Jesus' example better?
- Can you tell me today's Bible story?

#### **Activity**

Play "Simon Says" with a parent or sibling. Notice how hard you are trying to follow everything he or she is doing. When we pray to God and read His Word, we can see the things Jesus did and learn how God wants us to live.

If you sense your child does not understand today's main point, share ways you are trying to be more like Jesus. Has this led to any new ways you're trying to serve others?

## DAY 5

### BIG IDEA

*Jesus wants us to tell others about Him.*

#### **What It Means**

We all love to share great news with those around us. The Good News of Jesus is the best news you could tell someone! This lesson inspires your child to share Jesus with others. This can be done by talking about his or her faith, inviting someone to church or through being a great example of love and care to others.

#### **Questions to Check for Understanding**

- What is the best news you've ever had to share?
- To whom did you want to tell that news?
- Is talking about your faith in Jesus easy or hard?
- What are some ways you could tell others about Jesus or share God's love with them?

#### **Activity**

List several pieces of good news you've had in your lifetime. These could include times you won an award, made a sports team or earned a good grade in school. Think about how excited you were to share that good news. That's how excited we should be to tell others about what God has done for us!

If you sense your child does not understand today's main point, talk about ways you've tried to tell others about Jesus. That could mean sharing your faith or treating someone the way you think Jesus would treat you.

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## WHAT'S NEXT?

We're so excited you've completed this devotional with your child! Investing in the faith and life of your kids is one of the most important things we can do as parents. We believe your child is off to a great start on his or her spiritual journey, and we can't wait to see all God does in and through your child!

We also encourage you to get connected at Wooddale Church. Some ways you can do that include:

- joining a LifeGroup
- attending Woods Kids events and programs
- attending weekend services or watching Church Online when you can't be present
- setting up a time to connect with a pastor or staff member to help you and your child grow in your faith.

Woods Kids (Wooddale Church's children's ministries) is here to support you every step of the way. You are not alone! We have a team of people who have your back and want to support you during this fun, exciting and important season of parenthood.

We'd love to connect with you! Please email [childrens@wooddale.org](mailto:childrens@wooddale.org) to tell us how this devotional experience was for you and your child.

We are praying for you and your family!



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