

**“...they brought Him to  
Jerusalem to present Him  
to the Lord”**

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Luke 2:22



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**Why do we baptize  
infants?**



# 1. This is the Lord's Teaching

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- “Let **the children** come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Matt 19:14).
- “Now they were bringing **even infants** to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him, saying, ‘Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God’” (Luke 18:15-16).



## 2. Circumcision was Performed on the 8<sup>th</sup> Day

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St. Paul notes that **baptism has replaced circumcision** (Col 2:11–12) “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead”.



## 3. This was the Practice of the Church of the Apostles

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- Lydia was converted by St. Paul's preaching and that "She was baptized, **with her household**" (Acts 16:15)
- The Philippian jailer: "the same hour of the night... he was baptized, **with all his family**" (Acts 16:33).
- "I did baptize also **the household** of Stephanas" (1 Cor 1:16).



## 4. This was taught also by the Church Fathers

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### St. John Chrysostom:

“You see how many are the benefits of baptism, and some think its heavenly grace consists only in the remission of sins, but we have enumerated ten honors it bestows! **For this reason we baptize even infants**, though they are not defiled by personal sins, so that there may be given to them holiness, righteousness, adoption, inheritance, brotherhood with Christ, and that they may be his (Christ’s) members”

[A.D. 388].



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**What is our  
responsibility towards  
our children?**



# 1. Present Them to the Lord

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“Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22).



## 2. Teach Them the Scriptures

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“and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim 3:15).



## 3. Lead Them in the Right Way

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“Train up a child in the way he should go,  
And when he is old he will not depart from  
it” (Prov 22:6).



## 4. Correct and Discipline Them

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“He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly”  
(Prov 23:14).