

FAITH PATH

Guiding Your Child's Spiritual Journey
One Step at a Time

***"Hear, my son, and be wise,
and direct your heart in the way."***
Proverbs 23:19

Faith Path Overview

WHY:

We believe God designed the family to be the primary disciple-making relationship. In other words, God gave parents the privilege and responsibility of nurturing faith in the next generation. Faith Path was created to be a step-by-step plan to help you - the parents - be intentional and organized as you foster spiritual disciplines in your child's faith journey.

WHAT:

The Faith Path strategy helps you point your child toward Christ in an age-appropriate manner. The Faith Path plan recommends when to focus on particular practices and what can be helpful at different ages and stages. The free kits will point you to God's Word, resources and ideas to help you guide your child along the path.

WHEN:

You know your child best and can determine the most appropriate time to emphasize each step. You can spend an entire year on a topic, combine topics, or plan shorter intentional time. Each family and child are different. Ideally most topics will build habits in the child and family that will continue through life.

NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Ideally, you are naturally exposing your child to many of these faith practices in day to day life. Parents should be modeling a genuine relationship with Christ, prioritizing God's Word, prayer, fellowship, worship and repentance. The task of discipling our children should spur on our own relationships with the Lord and dependence on Him. This may be a great time to find a discipleship group for yourself. Please reach out to the church office for help finding a group.



FAITH PATH

Dedication
0-2 years

The
Blessing
3 years

Family
Time
4 years

Gospel
Conversations
5 years

Prayer
6 years

Bible
7 years

Attend
Pkwy Kids
Clubs

The
Plunge

Essentials
of the
Faith
11 years

Ready for
Adolescence
10 years

Giving &
Serving
9 years

Worship
8 years

*Salvation
& Baptism

Discipleship
1.0

Identity
in Christ
12 years

Sexual
Integrity
13 years

Rite of
Passage
16 years

Launch
17-18 years

Discipleship
2.0

Lead
Pkwy Kids
Clubs

Senior
Celebration

FAITH PATH STEPS

Dedication (Recommended focus: Birth - 2 years)

Make a commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home.

The Blessing (Recommended focus: Ages 3+)

Establish the practice of praying for and giving a blessing to your child on a routine basis.

Family Time (Recommended focus: Ages 4+)

Establish the practice of connecting as a family while passing spiritual truths to your child.

Gospel Conversations (Age will vary: suggested Age 5+)

Learn how to explain the gospel in simple terms and begin having regular conversations with your child.

Prayer (Recommended focus: Ages 6+)

Teach your child about prayer and establish the practice of praying as a family.

Bible (Recommended focus: Ages 7+)

Teach your child about God's Word and establish the practice of reading and memorizing scripture as a family.

Worship (Recommended focus: Ages 8+)

Establish the practice of adoring God personally, at home, at church, and as a lifestyle.

Giving & Serving (Recommended focus: Ages 9+)

Establish the practice of giving and serving others for God's glory. Learn about spiritual gifting.

Ready for Adolescence (Recommended focus: Ages 10+)

Discuss the changes and challenges of entering adolescence with your child.

Essentials of the Faith (Recommended focus: Ages 11+)

Introduce the core doctrines and essentials of Christian Faith.

Identity In Christ (Recommended focus: Ages 12+)

Guide your child to grasp what it means to find their identity in Christ (as opposed to popularity, looks, dating status accomplishments, sexuality, and other worldly things).

Sexual Integrity (Recommended focus: Ages 13+)

Prepare and challenge your child to cherish and commit to sexual integrity and purity.

Rite of Passage (Recommended focus: Ages 16+)

Celebrate and give your child a vision for the future as an emerging adult.

Launch (Recommended focus: Ages 18+)

Coach your child to move toward college and/or career and adult independence.

*Salvation & Baptism (For when the child is ready)

Walk your child through questions as they process new life in Christ and baptism.

*Smaller milestones (varying ages)

These Parkway-specific events and resources are recommended around the placed ages.



Your Child's Faith Decision

Every step along the Faith Path is intended to guide and direct your child toward becoming a follower of Jesus Christ. At some point along the way, your child will be mature enough to understand the Gospel and make their own faith decision. We have suggested materials to assist you in leading your child in understanding salvation and coming to faith in Christ.

- The **Gospel Conversations** kit at age 5+ will help you begin to have those gospel-focused conversations with your child.
- The **Salvation & Baptism** kit will help you walk your child through their new faith decision and decision to be baptized.

You can start today regardless of your child's age or stage of development.

Don't worry if you "miss" a step or if you start the process with an older child.

- You can always go back and emphasize earlier steps, or combine topics
- Review and reinforce these practices as your child matures, rather than view them as a one-time emphasis
- If time allows, you can take a full year to focus on each topic with your child
- Other options:
 - Spend shorter amounts of time per topic
 - Walk a couple kids who are close in age through the same topic

Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's #1 Name & Age: _____

Child's #1 Next Step: _____

Child's #2 Name & Age: _____

Child's #2 Next Step: _____