

# Preserving Your Family's Legacy Of Faith

## The Reality

### Statistics

- Studies from the Barna Group and Lifeway Research show that **70–75%** of Christian students disengage from church after high school.
- Another study said:
  - **66%** of students leave church after high school
  - Only **20%** return by age 30
  - **46%** leave and never come back

### Big Idea

Everyone leaves a legacy:

- Wealth/business
- Dysfunction/addiction
- OR faith in Christ

### Key Question

How do we preserve our family's legacy of faith for future generations?

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## Point 1: Know Your Role to Reach the Goal

### Main Point

If parents don't understand their God-given role, they can't effectively pass on their faith.

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## Roles & Responsibilities

### The Church's Role

#### **Ephesians 4:11–12 NLT**

- The church is called to:
  - Equip believers
  - Build up the body of Christ
  - Prepare people for ministry

The church's role is to **support and equip families**, not replace them.

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## The School's Role

- Schools are designed to educate:
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Math
  - Science
  - History

It is not the school's primary role to build a child's spiritual foundation.

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## The Parent's Role

### Proverbs 22:6 KJV

- “Train up a child...”
- Train = repetition, discipline, intentional leadership, you lead

### Ephesians 6:4 AMP

- Raise children with:
  - Love
  - Discipline
  - Instruction in the Lord

### Deuteronomy 6:6–7 AMP

- Teach God's Word daily:
  - At home
  - On the road
  - Morning and night

### Parents are called to:

- Train children spiritually
  - Teach God's Word
  - Model prayer and worship
  - Lead children toward God
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## Key Thought

Faith formation is primarily the responsibility and privilege of:

- Parents

- Grandparents

The church should **support what is already happening at home.**

### **We GET The PRIVILEGE TO:**

- Tell Bible stories
  - Teach our children to pray
  - Celebrate answered prayers
  - Teach faith and trust in God
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## **Encouragement**

“You may not have been given a legacy, but you have the opportunity to create one.”

— John Arroyo

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## **Point 2: What You Model, They Will Follow**

### **Main Point**

Children imitate what they consistently see.

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## **Biblical Example: Abraham & Isaac**

### **Genesis 12 & Genesis 22**

- Abraham trusted God fully
- Isaac witnessed his father's faith
- Isaac trusted God because he saw faith modeled at home
- Abraham modeled faith for Isaac, Isaac modeled faith Jacob, Jacob to his sons/12 tribes

### **Key Lesson**

Faith is caught through example, not just words.

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## **Biblical Example: Lois, Eunice & Timothy**

### **2 Timothy 1:5 NIV**

- Faith passed from:
  - Grandmother Lois
  - Mother Eunice
  - Timothy

## 2 Timothy 3:14–15 NLT

- Timothy learned Scripture from childhood

### Key Lesson

Generational faith matters.

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## Power of Role Modeling

### Negative Modeling

- Children of smokers are more likely to smoke
- Children exposed to addiction often repeat it
- Violence in the home often repeats across generations

### Positive Modeling

- Healthy marriages influence children's future marriage
  - Strong confidence is often reproduced in children
  - Family values and professions are often passed down
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## Personal Story Summary

Rhonda's mother:

- Lost her mother at age 9
- Was separated from siblings
- Found Jesus as a child
- Stayed faithful through hardship
- Modeled trust in God for her family

### Key Principle

Children may forget sermons, but they will remember your example.

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## Point 3: Parents & Grandparents Lead the Legacy

### Practical Ways to Lead

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#### 1. Make God's Word a Priority

## **Practical Ideas**

- Read Scripture together daily
  - Talk about Bible stories in everyday life
  - Answer children's questions about God
  - Ask reflective questions:
    - What is God teaching us?
    - What did you notice about God?
    - How can we apply this?
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## **2. Make Church a Priority**

### **Why Church Matters**

Church is where we:

- Grow spiritually
- Serve others
- Use our gifts
- Receive encouragement
- Build community

### **Key Thought**

Children notice what we prioritize.

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## **3. Let Children Hear You Pray**

### **Why It Matters**

Children learn:

- Prayer is real
- God listens
- Faith works in difficult situations

### **Important Reminder**

It's okay for children to hear:

- Honest prayers
- Emotional but still faith-filled prayers
- Faith-filled prayers during hard times

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# You're Not Alone

## Church Resources Mentioned

### Faith Kids

- Biblical foundation from Genesis to Revelation
- Encourages relationship with Jesus
- Encounters with the Holy Spirit
- Faith Kids Academy on Wednesdays

### Student Ministries

- Student LEAD Prayer — Sundays at 9am
- Worship nights every 3 months
- Wednesday Bible study

### Family Life Department

- Faith 5 Seminar with Doc & Melissa Garrett

### Reminder

The church supplements the spiritual foundation built at home.

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## Final Takeaways

### To Preserve a Legacy of Faith:

1. Know your role to reach the goal
2. What you model they WILL follow
3. Lead the legacy intentionally

### Important Reminder

Perfection is not required.

Just be:

- Intentional
  - Consistent
  - Faithful
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## Gospel Invitation Notes

## The Gospel

- Sin entered the world through Adam & Eve
- Sin separates humanity from God
- Jesus took our punishment through His death on the cross
- Salvation comes through faith in Jesus

### **Romans 10:9–10 NLT**

- Believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead
- Confess with your mouth that Jesus is God's son and Lord of all
- You will be saved

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## Salvation Prayer Summary

- Admit your need for a Savior
- Believe Jesus died and rose again
- Accept His forgiveness
- Begin a new life in Christ

### Key Thought

When someone accepts Jesus, a new legacy can begin in their family.

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## Final Reflection Questions

1. What kind of legacy am I creating?
2. What am I modeling to the next generation?
3. How can I make faith more visible in my everyday life?