

The Church and the Home: We Can Do More Together

Dec. 2, 2018

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:5-7; Ephesians 2:19

Bottom Line: When **parents** and the **church** work together, it's far more likely that our kids will experience a lifelong relationship with Jesus

The Facts

60% of Christians abandon the Church/Jesus by young adulthood. Over half of these will disconnect in Junior High.

Young adults are far more likely to engage in church, the Bible, and prayer if they see their parents genuinely value these things.

Teens that building intergenerational relationships, leading younger Christians, and involvement in Sunday morning worship services are more likely to retain their faith past graduation.

Next Steps for Parents

1. **Pursue strategic relationships for our kids**
2. **Partner with your kids Small Group Leader**
3. **Let them see a real faith journey**
4. **Model the importance of a faith community**

Next Steps for the Church

1. **Build relationships with other families**
2. **Identify the kids and teens in your life**
3. **Get involved in Kids and Student Groups**

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Appetizer

1. Which piece of research sticks out to you most? Anything surprise you?

Entree

1. When you think back to your own childhood and teenage years, how would you answer the questions regarding the "4 Faith Drivers" in the research?
 - a. Did I experience personal intimacy with God?
 - b. Do I now (and did I then) experience spiritually engaged parents and mentors?
 - c. Did I experience the Church's teachings & beliefs as empowering instead of restrictive?
 - d. Did I experience my local church as a vibrant, organic faith family?
2. What do you wish you had experienced in the Church when you were younger that you want the next generation to experience?

Dessert

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions with each other.

1. Which next step could you take to help the next generation experience a lifelong relationship with Jesus?
2. How can your small group encourage you to take that next step?

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