

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP ROADMAP

"Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ."

Colossians 1:28



Preparing for Dedication

- Setting a solid foundation
- Helping parents recognize their responsibilities as the primary disciplers of their children
- Helping parents understand the roadmap

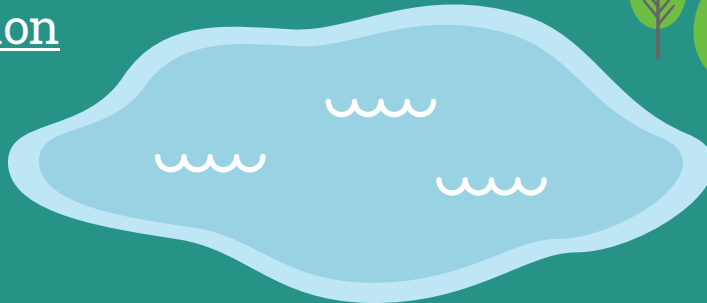
KEY VERSES: Deuteronomy 6:4-8



Preparing for Conversion and Baptism

- Understand doctrines of salvation and conversion

KEY VERSES: Proverbs 4:1-9



Preparing for Christian Maturity

- Helping parents understand a whole-life discipleship mindset
- Church programs as one aspect, but teaching as-you-go discipleship

KEY VERSE: Colossians 1:28



Preparing for Launch into Adulthood

- Aiming for the finished product: godly men and women who are ready to be adults in every sphere of life: **SELF, FAMILY, CHURCH, WORLD**

KEY VERSES: Philippians 2:12-13



FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP ROADMAP

Introduction

While parents are the primary disciple-makers of their own children, the church plays a vital role in supporting parents in this glorious work. At Grace Church we see this as three things: training, opportunities and resources.

The purpose of the roadmap is to highlight specific areas of focus for teaching at different stages. It is not meant to create an expectation that these will all happen by certain ages.

Like any map, there is a starting point (birth) and a destination (launching into adulthood). There are also some markers along the way, but different people will arrive at them at different times. For example, we can't determine when conversion and baptism will happen in a person's life, but it's important to pay attention to this and also pray and work to prepare your kids for this. Even if a child isn't professing faith in Jesus, it is still important to work toward maturity and godly character.

Preparing for Dedication | Beginning at Birth

Dedication is the pledge of parents to raise their children in the fear and instruction of the LORD with help of, and in the community of, the body of Christ.

Pray:

- For salvation
- Wisdom and endurance in parenting
- For godly spouses and grandchildren
- For sound routines and godly habits in parenting.

To Do:

- Attend dedication class
- Talk to an elder about a parent mentor
- Participate in G2g
- Conduct family worship

Questions:

- How will you provide a Christian education?
- What older families can we get advice from?
- What is our plan beyond the toddler years for parenting?

Preparing for Conversion & Baptism | Beginning at Age 2

Baptism is the public act of being immersed in water in obedience to Jesus, and is a visible picture of several key elements of the invisible gospel.

Pray:

- For salvation
- For discernment to recognize signs of conversion

To Do:

- Begin building a family library
- Make a family plan based on the Roadmap
- Look over the assessment questions to begin covering them with kids

Questions:

- What are the marks of conversion?
- What does it actually mean to follow Jesus?
- How can I teach my children to pray?

Preparing for Christian Maturity | Beginning at Age 10

Helping parents understand a whole-life discipleship mindset. Church programs as one aspect, but teaching as-you-go discipleship.

Pray:

- For sanctification
- For ownership of the child's faith
- For godly character

To Do:

- Talk to a deacon or elder about ways for your kids to serve
- Help kids take sermon notes

Questions:

- What signs of sanctification am I seeing?
- What areas of discipleship do we need to cover?
- What practical skills do we need to focus on?

Preparing for Launch into Adulthood | Beginning at Age 14

We are striving to produce adults who fear the LORD, living lives of holiness, prepared to have families, be active members of the local church and be godly citizens of society.

Pray:

- For direction after launch
- For a love of God's Word
- For purity of heart
- For courage over fear

To Do:

- Attend Berea
- Attend membership class
- Assign a Bible and Doctrine paper

Questions:

- Is my son/daughter ready for adulthood?
- Are there areas of discipleship I need to emphasize?
- Does my son/daughter know how to use scripture to think and live in all areas of life?