



## 5 Reasons why family worship is important:

### 1. Children aren't an inconvenience.

The Bible doesn't talk about the community of believers excluding children. In fact in Matthew 19:14, Jesus says, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

### 2. Children are part of the body of Christ.

From Old to New Testament Children are included. During the Feast of Tabernacles, all of Israel came before the Lord to hear the reading of the Law. That way, the children heard it and learned about the Lord. In [Paul's](#) letter to the Ephesians ([6:1-3](#)), he gives instructions directly to children to obey their parents. He considers them part of the church to which he's writing.

### 3. Children need godly examples of how to worship.

If children never see adults in the main service worshipping, they won't know how to worship or what is expected of them.

### 4. Children need to feel like they belong to the church community.

If children are always separate from the body of Christ, they'll never feel like part of the faith community. And older church members will never get to know the children and be an example to them.

### 5. Children who don't feel like part of the church may leave when they're older.

Imagine the culture shock of a child who's been in church all her life but has never been in the main service. She has played games in Sunday school, sung active songs, and heard every message or Bible story illustrated with a skit, object lesson or interactive device. Suddenly the child graduates to "big" church. The music is strange. No games, skits or illustrations are present. Someone she's never met preaches for a long time. She doesn't know anyone sitting around her. Talk about uncomfortable. This may be why so many young people are no longer attending church. They were never truly part of it to begin with.

Adapted from <https://churchleaders.com/children/childrens-ministry-articles/261362-5-reasons-children-main-service-regularly.html>

## VPC worship progression:

At Valley Presbyterian Church our worship progression is designed to gradually introduce children to more frequent worship as they mature.

#### 0-2 year olds

Nursery/toddler room is available at all worship service.

#### 3 year olds-1st graders

Join corporate worship 4-6 times per year. *(Sunday after Christmas, Easter, Memorial Day, Labor Day, plus mid-week holiday services such as Christmas Eve)*

#### 2nd-5th graders

Join corporate worship 14-15 Sundays per year plus holiday services. *(Same as 3 y.o.-1st grade plus June, July & beginning of August)*

#### 6th graders & older

Join corporate worship on communion Sundays.