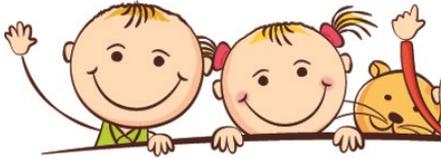


● "Worship is a challenge.
Worshiping with children is
a bigger challenge."

You've made it to worship this morning!
With the kids! Maybe even on time!?! We
commend you and want to support you in
training your children to come bless the
Lord with us. We are here to worship Him,
and children do not have to interfere with
God's experience of receiving our praise
this morning.



God had to train Israel to worship Him,
and you have the privilege of training
your children—even if "privilege" isn't your
initial word choice. It's hard work, a spir-
itual battle, and a command. And we, as
a congregation, are here to support you.
You have these short years to model lov-
ing God, seeking Jesus and following His
Holy Spirit. Children learn best by doing,
with all that wiggle & energy. Here are a
few tips for directing that towards worship-

Sundays

9:00 AM Nursery
PreK childcare

10:45 AM Nursery
PreK Sunday School
K-2nd Children's Worship
3rd-5th* Junior Worship

*On the first Sunday of each month, Junior
Worshippers remain with their families for
the service.

The Chapel, with worship audio, is
available for families with little ones,
for both services.

Spring

*Welcome to the Table:
Understanding God's Special Gift
Of Holy Communion*

A 3-week class for grade school children
and their parents.

Contact Kristine Lackowski for more
information, kristine@coveaston.org.



**COVENANT
CHURCH**

Loving God, Growing Together, Serving Others
1 Sport Hill Road, Easton, CT 06612
203-371-8335
www.coveaston.org

"Daddy,
I'd like
you to
meet
my kids."



**Engaging
Children in
Worship**

Covenant Church of Easton



"Then he put a little child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me.'" Mark 9:36-37

Sunday Worship Begins

Saturday Night

- Choose clothing, find shoes & Bibles, plan a simple breakfast.
- Prepare your offering and let them know you've thought about what & why you are giving. Maybe they have their own offering to prepare.
- Get kids to bed on time—you, too.
- Heart Prep: Are you ready for worship? Demonstrate your anticipation for Sunday morning.

Teach them
to pay attention,
not just to
"be quiet."

Sunday Morning

- Wake up with plenty of time to avoid rushing and yelling. Be on time. Visit the bathroom before entering the sanctuary.
- Eliminate distractions like electronics and toys.
- Sit together as a family, up front, so children can see what's going on. Explain who is who and what they are doing.
- Look at the sermon title and try to predict what it will be about. Look up Bible verses and explain a key word or two. Listen for that word during the service and let them squeeze your hand when they hear it.
- During the greeting, introduce them to others.
- Draw kids' attention to stories or illustration in the sermon, "Listen to this story..." Invite them to draw a picture of the story.
- Children may stand on pews with your arm around them to join in singing. Explain a key word or two.
- Initially you may need to whisper to them throughout the service to explain or to draw them back.
- Teach kids to fold hands and close eyes during prayer to help focus.

- If you have to leave the service, please come back and try again.
- After the service, commend them for ways they participated. Talk about an attribute of God or key idea from worship to which they can relate.

Throughout the Week

- Pray together at home.
- Download worship songs they like. Learn the words and talk about the meaning.
- Revisit the scripture in a children's Bible.
- Pray for, send cards to or visit those in our prayer concerns.

Based on *Parenting in the Pew* by Robbie Castlemann, Intervarsity Press, 2013.

Baptism & Communion

Baptism is a celebration of the grace and new life we have in Christ. These moments can teach children about what it means to be part of God's family. Tell about your own baptism, too.

Holy Communion is a joyful, sacred part of our worship of God, remembering our participation in Christ's death and resurrection. Affirm your kids' curiosity by answering their questions; to teach why communion is so special and to determine readiness for participation.