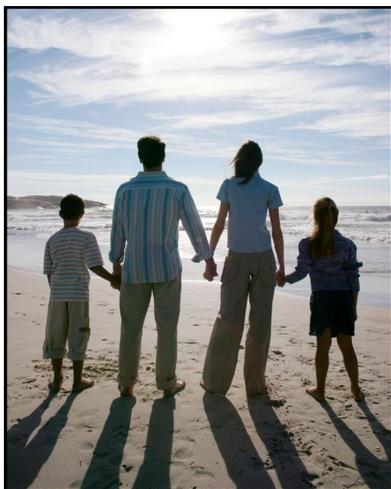


“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God,
the LORD is one. Love the LORD your
God with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your strength.
These commandments that I give you
today are to be on your hearts.
Impress them on your children. Talk
about them when you sit at home and
when you walk along the road, when
you lie down and when you get up.”
Deuteronomy 6:4-7

“He said to them, ‘Take to heart all
the words I have solemnly declared to
you this day, so that you may
command your children to obey
carefully all the words of this law. They
are not just idle words for you - they
are your life.’” *Deuteronomy 32:46-47*



Faith@Home

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As Christians, we recognize that nothing is more important than our life in Christ. Matthew 28 reminds us that, as we embark on a life-transforming journey of faith, we have a responsibility to not only be a disciple of Christ, but also to disciple others. While the church functions as an avenue of resourcing, encouragement and support, what happens in the home has the greatest impact in our lives. Deuteronomy 6, Psalm 78 and Ephesians 6 compel parents to give the spiritual training of their children the highest priority, recognizing that they are the primary spiritual equippers of their children.

How does a parent take on the responsibility of 'primary faith trainer' in the life of his growing child? **First**, it is impossible to pass on what one does not have. The parent needs to grow in his or her own relationship with Christ and understanding of the Bible. **Second**, a parent must recognize the importance of the family dynamic and the role the church plays as a support and guide. **Finally**, a parent will take advantage of the opportunities to be equipped and resourced, and put them into practice in their home.

By creating a Faith@Home focus, we become more intentional about investing in biblical discipleship, engaging in evangelism, and creating a legacy of faith.

At Christian Fellowship Assembly, we are developing a strategic plan that will help us be intentional about growing in our faith and raising up a generation of spiritual champions through intentional spiritual parenting. We call this plan **The Legacy Path**. When this plan is fully developed, the spiritual formation process will begin in infancy and continue through senior adulthood, designed around seven **Legacy Milestones**.

These Milestones are:

1. Parent/Child Dedication (infancy)
2. Salvation and Baptism
3. Preparing for Adolescence (Gr. 5/6)
4. Purity for Life (Gr. 8)
5. Rite of Passage (Gr. 10)
6. High School Graduation (Gr. 12)
7. Life in Christ (adult)

What does walking the Legacy Path look like?

It involves having intentional Faith Talks and, as a church, we are committed to offering a variety of resources and training opportunities to assist in this area. It also involves capturing God Sightings, recognizing the hand of God within our everyday lives. As well, it includes Celebrating Milestones, both as individual families and corporately as a church family.

To date, we have focused on the following Legacy Milestones:

I. Parent/Child Dedication

The 'First Steps' class is designed to envision and resource parents for their role as primary faith trainers of their child. During the dedication ceremony in a subsequent Sunday morning service, parents share a prayer of blessing as they dedicate themselves and their child to God's purposes and plans.

2. Salvation and Baptism

Resources are available to equip parents with a thorough knowledge of salvation and baptism and to help them lead their kids toward a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Baptism serves as an acknowledgement and corporate celebration of the salvation decision made. A family celebration, such as a spiritual birthday party focused on the date of salvation or a gathering following the child's baptism event, is also encouraged.

5. Rite of Passage

Rite of Passage is a process in which parents guide and prepare their teen to step out of adolescence and into mature ownership of their identity and faith. Through this milestone families are equipped with resources to help them prepare and bless their teen in the areas of faith ownership, spiritual gifts, and of biblical manhood and womanhood. This time of transition is celebrated with a Rite of Passage event that parents prepare for their teen to usher them into adulthood.

6. High School Graduation

The parent seminar discusses ways parents can help their students prepare for the world outside the nest by developing practical and spiritual skills. Topics include basic apologetics, courtship and marriage, determining God's will, and life skills for life away from home. Resources are also provided to help parents write a blessing for their graduate and help grads write a personal declaration, communicating their values and priorities in life. These are incorporated into our CFA Graduation Celebration event in June.