

How to Start the Journey Well



What does it mean for parents
to be the **primary** faith trainers?

Let no Christian parents fall into the delusion that Sunday School is intended to ease them of their personal duties. The first and most natural condition of things is for Christian parents to train up their own children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

-Charles Haddon Spurgeon



“Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6



Today we will be discussing how you as preschool ministers and leaders can equip the parents in your church to love and lead their preschool families well using three simple questions.



1. How does it fit with the mission of your church?
2. How are parents seen in this event?
3. How does the event flow into the home?

How does it fit with the mission of your church?

- If it does not support your church's mission statement, then how much time and energy are you spending on this event and why?

How are parents seen in this event?

- Are they involved?
- Do they just drop off their children for child care?

How does the event flow into the home?

- Is there a take-home component?
- Does it stop when they leave the event?

Pick a preschool ministry event and evaluate it using these three questions.

1. How does it fit with the mission of your church?

- If it does not support your church's mission statement, then how much time and energy are you spending on this event and why?

2. How are parents seen in this event?

- Are they involved? Do they just drop off their children for “child care”?

3. How does the event flow into the home?

- Is there a take home? Does it stop when they leave the event?

Sundays

- Not Child Care
- Curriculum
 - Baby Church

God Made Me

“I am fearfully and wonderfully made” Psalms 139:14

This month on Sundays your child will be learning about how they were fearfully and wonderfully made by God. On Sunday mornings they use a hand mirror to allow the children to see themselves. They also take a look at their fingers and toes, and the unique way we are each made with eyes and hair of different colors.

Here are some activities you can be doing with your child this month to teach them at home about being fearfully and wonderfully made by God.

- God Made Me – Pull out the family album and a favorite picture of your child as a baby. Share with him unique traits God has created in him. Thank God together for making people.**

Sundays

- Not Child Care
- Curriculum
 - Baby Church
 - Gospel Project
 - Social Media
- What are ways that you involve parents on Sunday mornings?

Family Events

- Missions
 - Little Lights

Family Events

- Missions
 - Little Lights
 - Partnering with a charity
- Devotions
 - Faith Talks
 - Advent & Easter
 - Christmas and Easter gifts

Parent Tools

- Parent Classes/Resources
 - Family Dedication/Milestone 1 Class



Praying for our children

1
SALVATION

Lord, I pray that my children would obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.
2 Timothy 2:10

8
MERCY

Oh Father, grant that my children would be full of mercy and compassion as you are Lord.
James 5:11

15
GENEROSITY

Lord, I pray my children would be rich in good deeds, generous and willing to share.
1 Timothy 6:18

22
CONTENTMENT

Father, teach my children the secret of being content in every situation, through Him who gives them strength.
Philippians 4:12-13

29
**PRAYERFUL-
NESS**

I ask that my children would be committed to prayer, and not faint, lose heart or give up.
Luke 18:1

2
GOD'S GRACE

I pray that my children may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
2 Peter 3:18

9
RESPECT

Lord, help my children to show proper respect to everyone, as your Word commands.
1 Peter 2:17

16
PEACE LOVING

Father God, help my children make every effort to do what leads to peace.
Romans 14:19

23
FAITH

Lord, help my children to fight the good fight of faith, taking hold of the eternal life to which they were called.
1 Timothy 6:12

30
GRATITUDE

Lord, help my children to live lives that overflow with thankfulness, always giving thanks to You.
Ephesians 5:20

3
LOVE

Father, grant that my children would learn to live a life of love, through the Spirit who lives in them.
Ephesians 5:2

10
SELF-ESTEEM

God, help my children develop a strong self-esteem rooted in the realization that they are Your workmanship.
Ephesians 2:10

17
JOY

Heavenly Father, grant that my children would be filled with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.
1 Thessalonians 1:6

24
**A SERVANT'S
HEART**

God, help my children develop servants' hearts, that they may serve wholeheartedly.
Ephesians 6:7

31
BOLDNESS

I pray that my children would fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel of Christ Jesus.
Ephesians 6:19

4
INTEGRITY

Lord, may integrity and uprightness protect my children because their hope is in you.
Psalm 25:21

11
FAITHFULNESS

Let faithfulness never leave my children, but bind this virtue around their necks.
Proverbs 3:3

18
PERSEVERANCE

Lord, teach my children to persevere in all they do, and help them run with perseverance the race set before them.
Hebrews 12:1

25
HOPE

God of hope, grant that my children may overflow with hope and hopefulness by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

5
SELF-CONTROL

Father, help my children not be like many others, but to be alert and self-controlled in all they do.
1 Thessalonians 5:6

12
COURAGE

Lord, may my children always be strong and courageous in their character and their actions.
Deuteronomy 31:6

19
HUMILITY

God, please cultivate in my children the ability to show true humility toward all.
Titus 3:2

26
PATIENCE

God, strengthen my children with all power, so that they may have great endurance and patience.
Galatians 5:22

6
**LOVE FOR GOD'S
WORD**

Lord, may my children regard your Word as more precious than gold and sweeter than honey.
Psalm 19:10

13
PURITY

Create in my children pure hearts, O God, and let that purity of heart be shown in their lives.
Psalm 51:10

20
COMPASSION

Holy Father, I pray that You would clothe my children with the virtue of compassion.
Colossians 3:12

27
**PASSION FOR
THE LORD**

Lord, I pray my children's souls would pant for you as the deer pants for streams of water.
Psalm 42:1

7
JUSTICE

God, help my children to love justice as You do and act justly in all they do.
Psalm 11:7 & Micah 6:8

14
KINDNESS

Father, I pray that my children would be kind to each other and to everyone else.
1 Thessalonians 5:15

21
RESPONSIBILITY

Lord grant that my children would learn to be responsible, for each one should carry his own load.
Galatians 6:5

28
WISDOM

Father, I pray my children would ask and that you would generously give wisdom to them as you promise.
James 1:5

Using this calendar will allow you to pray thirty-one different biblical virtues into your children. Use it as a guide each month, combining some of the traits for months which do not have 31 days. Claim and believe that God is working each one of these virtues into your children's lives.

| | Babies-1wos | Threes-Pre-K | Kindergarten |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Church | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People at church love God and Jesus. ● People at church love and teach me. ● People at church help me. ● People enjoy going to church. They sing, talk to God, listen to Bible stories, and talk about God Jesus at church. ● God wants people to go to church. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People learn about God and Jesus at church. People go to church in different kinds of places. ● People at church love each other and teach about God and Jesus ● People at church help other people. ● People thank God at church. People give money at church. ● People at church help in different ways. ● Jesus had a special meal to help His friends remember him. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Churches are a part of God's plan for people. ● Church helpers teach about God and Jesus. ● My church provides ways for me to help other people. ● People at church worship, pray, give, sing, read the Bible, and listen to teaching and preaching. ● At church people have different kind of jobs. ● The Lords Supper is a special meal to remember Jesus. ● A person is baptized after he or she becomes a Christian. ● People can learn about God's love at church. |
| Self | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God made me. ● I am special. ● I can make choices. ● I am learning. ● I can talk to God. ● I can grow like Jesus grew. ● I am learning to take turns. ● God loves me. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I am growing. ● I am special because God made me. ● I can make right and wrong choices. ● God made me so I can think, work, and play. ● I can pray. ● I can do some things like Jesus. ● I can take turns and learn to share. ● God will always love me. ● God has a plan for people. ● I can obey God. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I am growing as God planned for me to grown. ● People are special because God made them. ● My choices have consequences. ● God had made me able to do many things well. ● God wants me to pray. ● I can try to be like Jesus. ● Jesus is my example for how I treat other people. ● No matter what happens, God loves me. ● God has a plan for me. ● I can show love for God by obeying Him. ● God want me to take care of my body. ● I can say "No" to what I know is wrong. ● I can begin to recognize when I hurt others. ● I can think, work, and play because God gave me abilities. ● When I do wrong, I can ask God to forgive me. ● I can learn from the Bible how to live. ● God has a plan for my life. |
| Family | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God made my family. ● My family loves me. ● God gave me a mommy and a daddy. ● Family members help me. I can help my family. ● My family tells me about God. ● My family is kind to me. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God's plan for families is found in the Bible. ● God wants family members to love one another. ● I can do what my parents tell me to do. ● I can help my family in many ways. ● I can learn about God at home with my family. ● God wants family members to be kind to one another. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God's plan for a family is for mothers and fathers to raise children. ● I can show my family I love them. ● I can obey my parents. ● I can do my part by helping my family. ● I can take part in family worship. ● God cares for my family. |
| Community and world | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God made people. ● I can help. ● People tell about God and Jesus. ● I can talk to God. ● People work together. ● God cares about other people and me. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God made people alike and different. ● I can help others around me. ● Missionaries are people who tell other people about God and Jesus ● I can ask God to help others. ● God wants people to work together. People have different kinds of work to do. ● All people are important to God. ● I can give money to help other people learn about God and Jesus. ● I can tell others about Jesus. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God created the earth and everything in it. ● God created people able to make choices. ● God provides for his creation. ● God planned for people to care for the things He made. ● I can feel a sense of wonder as I enjoy God's creation. ● I can thank God for His creation. |

Building Biblical Foundations

Parent Tools

- Parent Classes/Resources
 - Family Dedication/Milestone 1 Class
 - Newborn Gifts

“How many of you have come here already knowing that our world is becoming very secular and that your child’s faith is likely to be challenged in some way because of it?”

“How many of you would go to the next step of saying you're confident that you know specifically what those big faith challenges are, how to effectively address them with your kids, and how that translates into parenting responsibilities on a day-to-day basis?”

-Natasha Crain, Christian Blogger

Parent Tools

- Parent Classes/Resources
 - Family Dedication/Milestone 1 Class
 - Newborn Gifts
 - Grace Based Discipline
 - Faith Foundations
 - Birds & Bees
 - Power Parenting

On Monday, pick one event to evaluate using the three questions.

