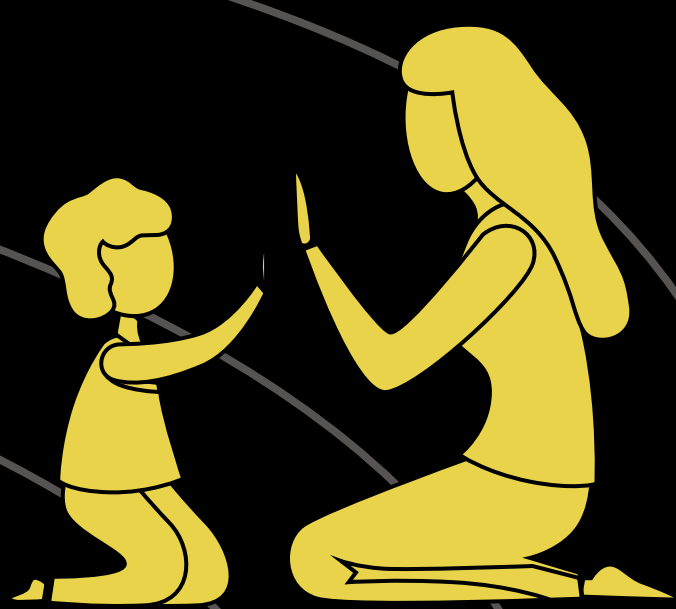
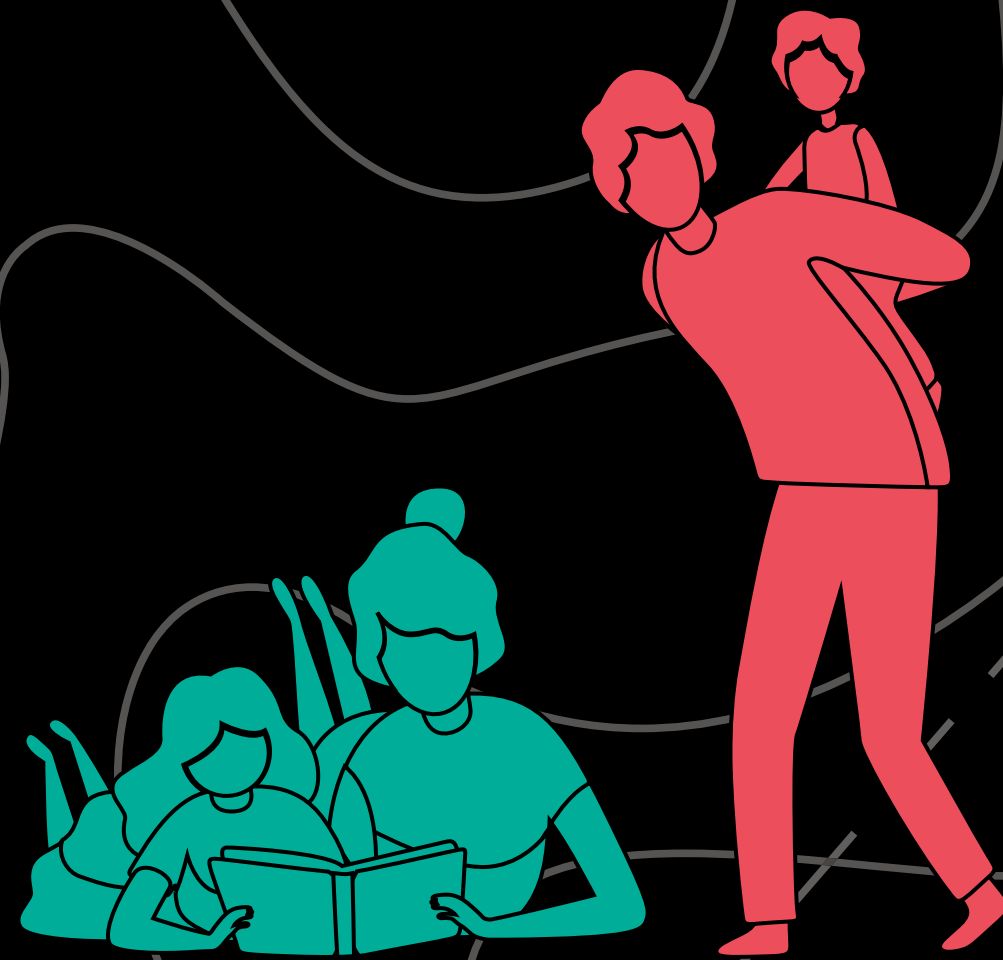


TOP 10 TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CHURCHES TO NAVIGATE FAITH IN A DIGITAL AGE



#1

BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT SERVING 11-YEAR-OLDS

The age of 11 is critical. Synaptic pruning begins at this age and the brain is highly malleable. Children can now handle more abstract thought.

#2

FOCUS ON RESOURCING AND DEVELOPING YOUR TWEENS

Without intervention, children ages 10 to 12 significantly pull back from regular Bible engagement and their interest in church attendance can begin to decline.

#3

DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ADDRESSING SENSITIVE TOPICS

Nearly nine out of 10 engaged Christian parents (88%) say they want their church involved in some capacity in sensitive conversations with their child. There also is a great deal of desire among these parents for church-based training on how to have these conversations.

#4

EXPOSE CHILDREN TO INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Beth Greene (senior fellow in education for Cardus) reflects that when these relationships grow, we all grow through them. "I think that's what Paul is encouraging in Titus 2 when he encourages older women to spend time with those who are younger."

#5

COMMIT TO BIBLE ENGAGEMENT

While delivery methods for Bible engagement can vary, what's clear is that Christian leaders and parents should treat the Bible as central to a well-formed childhood faith and thus facilitate its regular engagement by the young people in their family, church or community.

#6

PRACTICE THE DISCIPLINE OF SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

John Murray (founder & president of Imago Dei Leadership Forum) says, "I tell teachers not just to have their students memorize Scripture, but to also make sure they understand what that Scripture is saying and how it applies to their lives. This isn't just rote memorization for the sake of memorization. It's about more than the words."

#7

EQUIP THE CHURCH TO BE A LOCAL RESOURCE-PROVIDER FOR PARENTS

The data show a real hunger among engaged Christian parents to get their hands on anything that will help them form faith in their child. Along with the Bible, one of the most significant ways parents can help guide their children to a robust faith is using quality resources from outside the home to prompt and encourage Christian engagement inside the home.

#8

CARE FOR THE SINGLE PARENT

Engaged Christian parents who are single care deeply about their children's faith formation, but they experience greater challenges when it comes to consistency. Two-thirds of married Christians' children (64%) attend church every week, compared to half

#9

TEACH PERSEVERANCE

Beth McCauley (an educator for more than 30 years) writes, "We're seeing fewer children work hard, endure struggles, accept failure and get up to try again. ...(allow) the child to struggle to a resolution."

#10

NOTICE THE NEEDS OF OLDER PARENTS

Older parents may need special coaching and guidance regarding their child's media consumption and faith formation. Parents 50 and older are more apt to be media-stressed (43%) than parents 24–34 (29%).**

**correlated with the age of the child(ren)