

A Church Where Kids Thrive

This week we are taking a break from our study in Romans to discuss the importance of being a church in which kids thrive spiritually. We want our kids to grow up loving the local church and the larger body of Christ. We believe that such an experience is an important foundation for helping them walk with God for a lifetime. We can't guarantee that every single kid will have a great experience here, but that's our desire. And we believe that helping our kids have such an experience is the responsibility of all of us who call Faith home.

Read Acts 16:1-2; 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17

1. What do these verses communicate about Timothy's early faith journey?
2. What insights do these verses give us about the people who were influential in Timothy's early faith journey?
3. Why do you think it is so important for kids to grow up around older folks whose faith is sincere?
4. How do you think it affected Timothy's early experience with the Scriptures growing up around people who had a sincere faith?

Read Ephesians 4:1-3

5. Why do you think unity is so important in order for a church to be the kind of place that does a good job of helping children get off to a good start on their faith journey?
6. What was your experience of church as a kid? How did it affect your journey with God?

7. Did you have another adult (besides a parent) in your life as child that had a positive influence on your spiritual growth? If so, what did that look like? How did his/her life impact you?
8. If you could imagine the ideal church experience as a child what would it include? How might Faith move towards being a place more like that?
9. For those who have children now, what do you hope for your kids as they grow in our church?
10. Regardless of whether or not you have kids, or whether or not you serve in KidMin, Faith believes our kids are all of our responsibility. What thoughts come to your mind in terms of what role you can play?
11. Do you sense God tugging on your heartstrings to invest in the next generation in some way? If so, explain.

Note from our KidMin Folks: Serving in the Kid's Ministries at Faith does not mean you have to be a Sunday School teacher. We have a wide variety of volunteer positions that fit a broad spectrum of gifting. Many of our positions don't even involve working with kids. Some are behind the scenes positions others involve pouring into the adults who pour into our kids. If you feel God stirring something inside of you we'd love to chat and explore some different roles that might be a good fit. We'd LOVE to have you join our team! If you have questions, please contact Chris Barker at chris@faithmanhattan.org.