



Starting Your Family Off Right

Three Biblical Principles for Building Your Family

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. ² It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

³ Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. ⁵ Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate. - Psalm 127:1-5

1. God is both the _____ and _____ of strong homes. (1-2)

In the same way a strong and stable foundation is needed to build a house - a strong and stable foundation is needed to build a home, a marriage, a family.



Jesus told a parable of the foolish builder and the wise builder. The foolish builder built his house on sand, the wise builder on the rock. When the storms came - which they always do - the house built on the sand toppled. Only the house built on the rock stood strong and stable. It's all about the foundation. And, of course, Jesus is the rock, the firm foundation.

Foolish Family Foundations	Strong Spiritual Foundation
_____	Parents who _____ personal walk with Jesus
_____	Parents who _____ Sunday worship
_____	Parents who are _____ in biblical community

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established. - Proverbs 24:3

2. Children are a _____ from God. (3)



Every child, from womb to infancy and beyond, is a gift from God.

Throughout the Bible, God takes personal responsibility for the creation of life in the womb. As Christians we cannot separate our conviction about life from our convictions about God who creates and gives life.

Three Choices to Bless Your Baby

Choose a meaningful _____.

You can name your child after a family member, a Bible character or someone of significance. Or choose a fresh name with a significant meaning of the name.

Choose a Bible _____.

Pick a Bible verse for your child to represent your heart for your child. Pray this verse over your child often.

Choose to participate in _____.

Parent-Child Dedication is an opportunity for parents to declare before God, their family, and their church family their desire to raise their child in the grace, knowledge, and truth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**3. Parents called are to _____, _____, & _____ their children.
(4-5)**

Shape	Aim	Release
with _____ + _____	to Love _____ + Love _____	to be _____ with responsibilities

Shape your child with love - in their love language, with your time, with compliments, and with correction.

Shape your child with God’s Word - start reading the Bible to your child at an early age.

Aim to love God - cultivate a character, not just conduct.

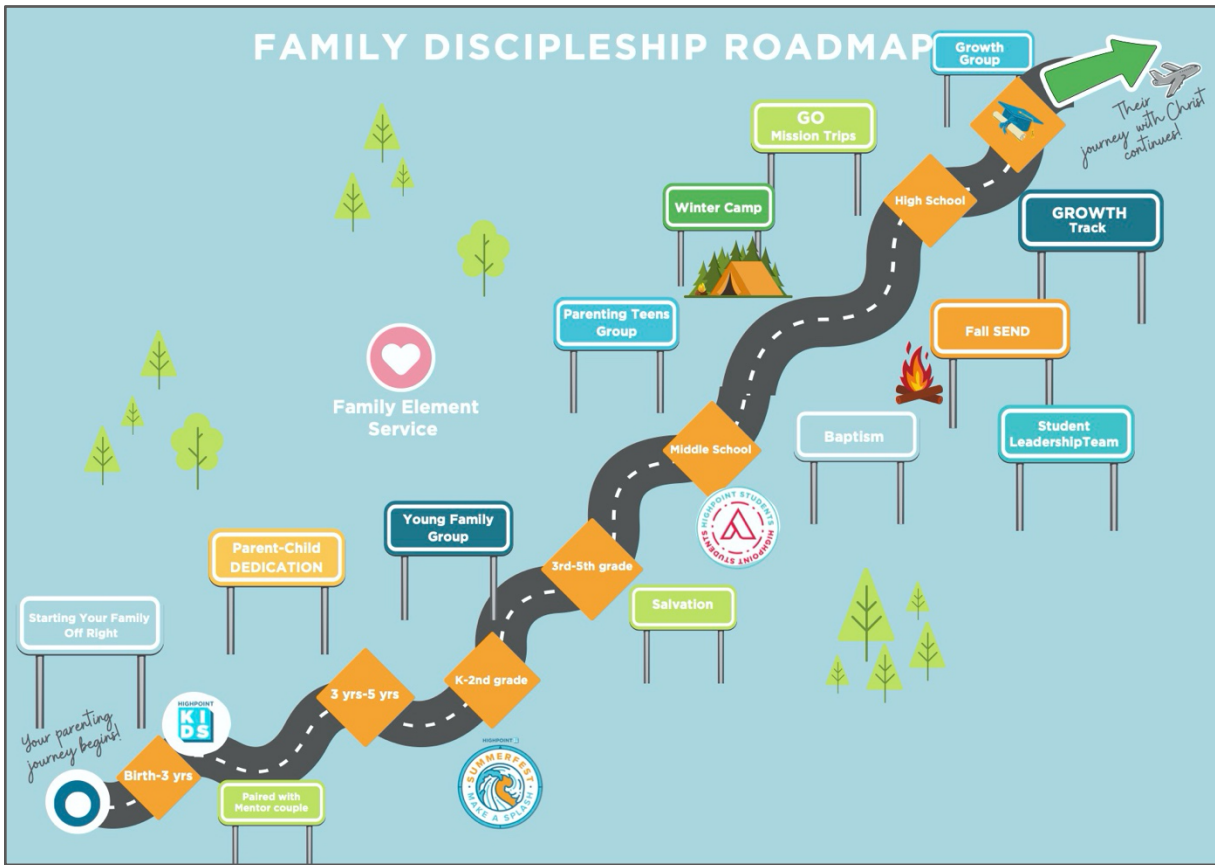
Aim to love others - train your child to show respect, resolve conflict, and act in kindness.

Release - raise your child to be responsible with responsibilities.

Highpoint comes alongside of parents to help families to believe in, belong to, and become like Jesus.

**HIGHPOINT
KIDS**

We offer intentional programming during services each Sunday for birth-fifth grade - providing age-appropriate spiritual development. In addition to Sundays, Highpoint Kids offers Midweek Kids for PreK-fifth grade during the school year and Summerfest day camp for kids.



The discipleship road map includes age-appropriate spiritual milestones for each age group - including parental involvement.



The Family Hub resources families with resources for parents, kids, and teens. The physical Hub at each location and the digital Hub is at www.highpoint.church/familyhub.

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Spiritual Development of Children

Ages	Milestone	Summary	Parent Emphasis	At Highpoint
Birth	Birth	Even when your child is an infant, you can begin to disciple. Praying over your child and giving them a Scripture blessing expresses your reliance on God.	Pray Give a blessing	Announce New Child
0-1 years	Dedication	God has given this child to you. The church and extended family can only supplement your primary role of discipleship. Use this season to orient your mind, heart, priorities, and schedule to this purpose.	Establish parents as primary disciplinemaker	Starting Your Family Off Right Group Parent-Child Dedication
1-3 years	Begin Training in Righteousness	So much growth happens in these early years. Use this opportunity to build habits that aim toward where you want your child to go. Establish times to read the Bible and sing. Help your child to understand parental authority from God,	Create patterns of loving, biblical discipline Form family worship habits	Young Family Group
3-5 years	Graduation to Preschool	During the preschool years, your child is growing and learning constantly. Use this time to build their foundation of biblical truth. Connect life to the gospel.	Start Bible memory Teach the story of the Bible.	Young Family Group
K-2 nd Grade	Begin School	So much forming and shaping happens during the elementary years. Invest heavily in building them into the people you hope they will become. Make sure they know what the Bible says, what it means, and what it means to them.	Teach the Bible Form character Teach worship	Young Family Group On Target Parenting Study
3 rd -5 th Grade	Putting Aside Childhood	These are transition years. Your child is aging out of childhood but not yet adolescent. These are great years to begin preparing them for greater things ahead. Grounding their view of gender, sex, technology from God's Word is important.	Talk about wise technology use. Talk more openly with your child about sex	Young Family Group On Target Parenting Study
6 th Grade	Promotion to 6 th Grade	Junior High marks a major transition as your child starts Highpoint Students. Many students begin wrestling with issues like gender identity, anxiety, and depression. Lean into your child and these topics together.	Attend Sunday morning worship as a family Address pre-teen topics.	Connect into Highpoint Students Parenting Teens Group