

FAMILY MATTERS



FOSTERING FAITH FORMATION

Parents who rarely attend church are more confident about nurturing their children's faith than parents who regularly attend church.



EFC 2023
Parenting Faith
Report

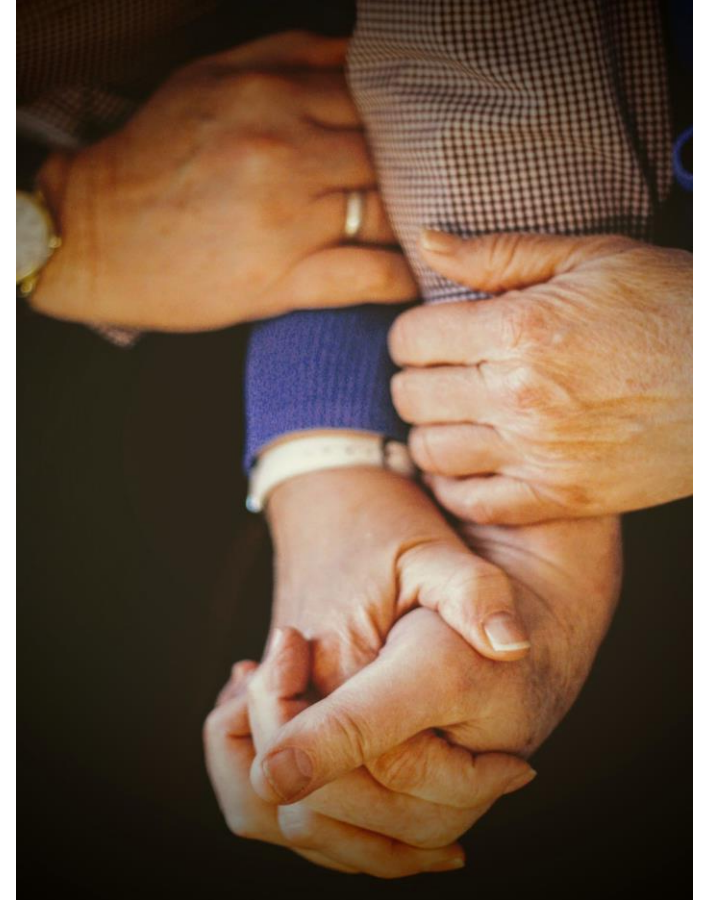
Most parents expect the church to cultivate their children's faith, and even when parents know it's their responsibility, it's a low priority.



Multi-National Children's Ministry Report 2021

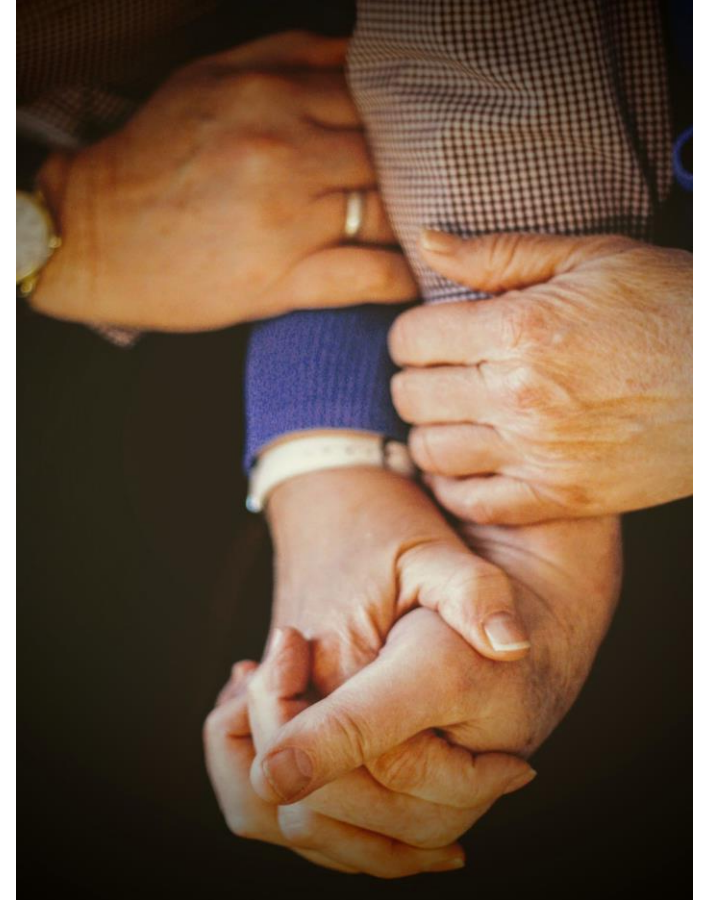
Deuteronomy 6:1-9
ESV

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.



Deuteronomy 6:1-9
ESV

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.





FOSTERING FAITH FORMATION



Deuteronomy 6:1-9 is God's blueprint for passing faith from one generation to the next.

Fostering Faith Formation

Faith formation involves everyone.

1

Faith formation
involves
everyone

Hear, O Israel ...

Deuteronomy 6:3-4





Children are three times more likely to read the Bible independently, obey the Scriptures, and rank church attendance as the high point of the week when they have meaningful relationships with one or more adults in their church.

Barna Group



Fostering Faith Formation

Faith formation starts with me.

2

Faith formation starts with me

Deuteronomy 6:5-6

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.





Write these
commandments
that I've given you
today on your
hearts. Get them
inside of you, and
then get them
inside your
children.

Eugene Peterson
The Message



Fostering Faith Formation

Faith formation is a journey

3

Faith formation
is a journey

Deuteronomy 6:7

*You shall teach them (the
scriptures) diligently to your
children ...*





Talk about Jesus
and His Word in
the home ...

When families eat
together at least
five times a week,
they build strong,
enduring bonds.





Talk about Jesus
and His Word in
the car ...

When you're in the
car, your family is a
captive audience!





Talk about Jesus and
His Word in the
bedroom ...

For the most part,
children just seem to
be more spiritually
sensitive and a lot
more open at
bedtime.

Phil Bell



Fostering Faith Formation

Faith formation is deliberate

4

Faith formation is deliberate

Deuteronomy 6:8-9

*You shall bind them as a sign on your hand,
and they shall be as frontlets between your
eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of
your house and on your gates.*





A child's faith formation requires a structured environment.



Implications



1. God wants parents to take the primary role in fostering their children's faith.
2. God wants the community of faith (the local church) to take a secondary/supportive role in fostering children's faith.
3. God wants us to foster faith so that we, our children and grandchildren, will respect and love the Lord as long as we live (cf. Deuteronomy 6:2).

*A child needs
you to help
them grow
up with
Jesus.*



BLOG

christianparentingbasics.com



RESOURCES

christianbookscanada.ca





For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:5