



***PATHWAY* GUIDES FOR FAMILY MINISTRY**

How we partner with families to see kids grow and mature to become more like Jesus.

1.) WEEKLY GATHERING

Providing age appropriate environments for kids and students to hear, explore, and experience
The Gospel story through discipleship with leaders and community with their peers.

2.) PARTNERING WITH PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Providing resources and tools for parents to grow in discipling their children.

3.) CHURCH FAMILY

Intentional opportunities for children and students to participate with the broader church family.

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY



BIG IDEAS

Our overall objective for children's growth toward Jesus for each developmental stage.



CORE FOCUS

Our foundational teachings to equip our children for their walk with Jesus.



NEXT STEPS

How our children pursue Jesus alongside their parents, caregivers, and the church.



MILESTONES

How we celebrate who our children are becoming.

**FAMILY
DISCIPLESHP
PATHWAY**

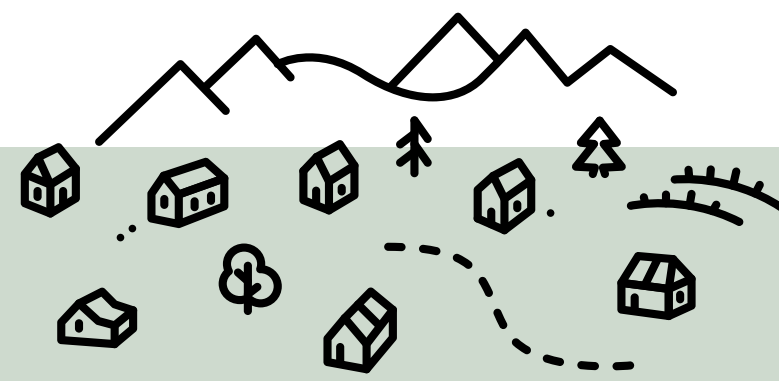
EARLY CHILDHOOD

4 MONTHS-KINDERGARTEN



EARLY CHILDHOOD

4 MONTHS-KINDERGARTEN



BIG IDEAS

*Embrace Their Physical
Needs so That They...*

- **Know God's Love**
- **Meet God's Family**



CORE FOCUS

- *Image of God*
- *Character of God*
- *Relationship with God*
- *Emotional Health*
 - *Rest*
 - *Prayer*



NEXT STEPS

- *Pray*
- *Sabbath*
- *Read the Bible*
- *Explore Emotions*
- *Memorize Scripture*
- *Attend Church Weekly*
- *Participate in Community*
- *Serve Locally and Globally*

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

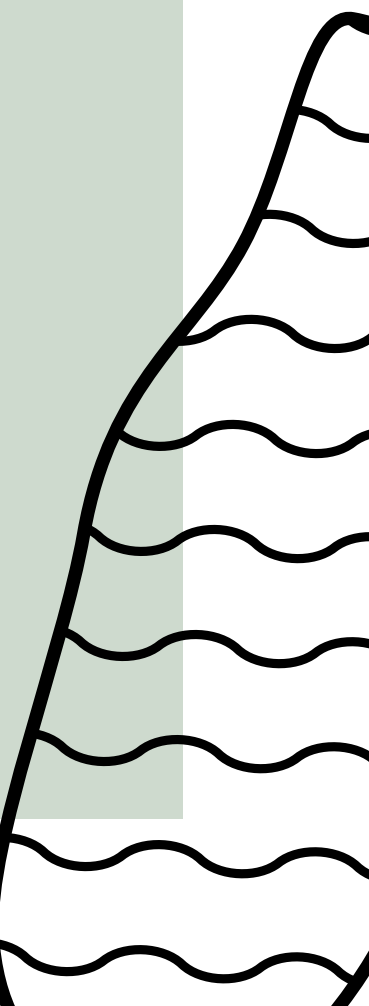
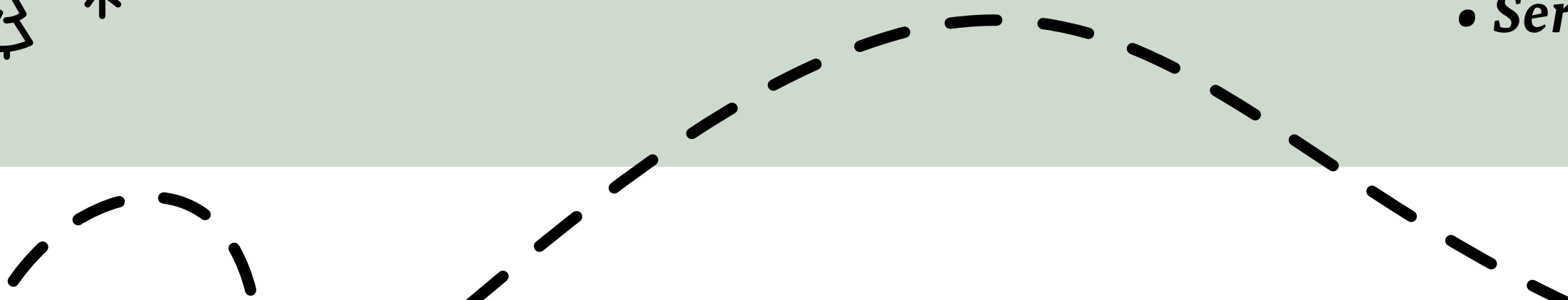
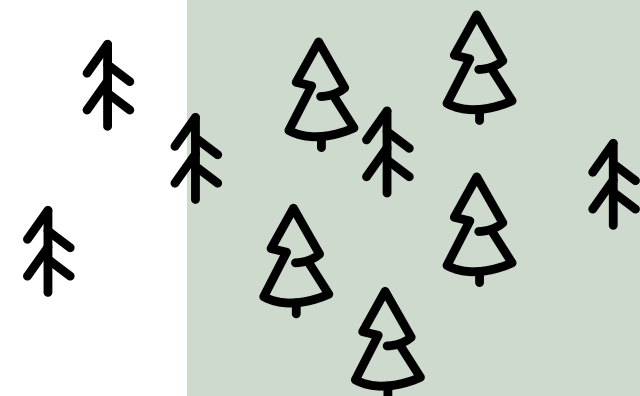


MILESTONES

Birth or Adoption Care

Child Dedication
(0-3 Years Old)

Storybook Bible
Presentation
(3 Years Old)



FAMILY
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PATHWAY

ELEMENTARY

1ST-5TH GRADE

ELEMENTARY

1ST-5TH GRADE



BIG IDEAS

*Engage Their Interest
so That They...*

- **Trust God's Character**
- **Experience God's Family**



CORE FOCUS

- *Pursuit of and
Friendship with Jesus*
- *Global Awareness*
- *Beginning to Identify
Their Own Story*
- *Emotional Health*
- *Worship*



NEXT STEPS

- *Pray*
- *Sabbath*
- *Read the Bible*
- *Explore Emotions*
- *Memorize Scripture*
- *Attend Church Weekly*
- *Participate in Community*
- *Serve Locally and Globally*



MILESTONES

***Bible Presentation
(2nd Grade)***

***Identity Weekend
(5th Grade)***

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PATHWAY

EARLY CHILDHOOD

4 MONTHS-KINDERGARTEN



Birth or Adoption Care

Welcoming a new little one into a family is an exciting time. The Journey Kids team wishes to care well for families during this transition by providing tangible care as the hands and feet of Christ.

Child Dedication

Child Dedication is a special time for parents to publicly announce their intention to raise their child in a way that teaches about God and honors Him.

Storybook Bible Presentation

As children grow and begin to have the language to discuss God's character more, a storybook Bible is a special way for families to step into age-appropriate conversations about God's love and character.

ELEMENTARY

1ST-5TH GRADE



MILESTONES

Bible Presentation

2nd grade is a significant time in a child's life as they enter into a new season of being able to read and, as such, experiencing the Lord. Receiving their first full-text Bible is a small way to celebrate all the ways they are growing in wisdom and stature.

Identity Weekend

As children and their parents/caregivers prepare for the middle school years, new experiences begin to introduce themselves. During this one-day conference, children and parents/caregivers will experience discussion, teaching, and activities to provide wisdom and guidance for those unique middle school years.



NEXT STEPS

Memorize scripture together.

As a family, memorize the memory verse from Journey Kids. These simple verses carry big truths for your little one. As they learn more about God's love, knowing about his character helps them trust Him. (2 and up)

Pray together.

Children learn best from seeing actions modeled and repeated. From birth, you can share a simple “thank you, God for...” Prayer. As children get older, they will be able to articulate prayers in their own words; we like using the Five Finger Prayer model in Journey Kids. (1 and up)

Practice Sabbath together.

Choose 24 hours during the month to practice only doing what is restful together. Sleep in, don't work, enjoy God's creation, and fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ. Say to your child; we honor God when we slow down and rest. (birth and up)

Explore emotions.

We see throughout scripture that it is good and right to take all of our feelings to God; he cre-

ated them. When your child expresses big emotions, thank God for giving us feelings. They help us trust you! (2 and up)



NEXT STEPS

Plan to attend Sunday morning service each week.

Set a rhythm in your household that we attend church together on Sundays. This rhythm of worship, rest, and fellowship are essential for your child to experience God's Family. As you enter the church on Sunday, introduce your little one to those you see, point out the sanctuary, and explain that while they worship and learn with their friends, you will be worshiping and learning with yours!

Read the Bible together.

At age 3, your child will receive a Storybook Bible. Then as they enter 3rd grade, they will receive a full-text Bible. Build time in your week for family worship. Set aside time each week to read scripture and worship God together. When your children are younger, you will always lead this time. As your child gets older and grows in faith, allow them to lead. Age 2 and up. Ask questions like:

- What does this story teach me about God's character?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- How does this story change the way I/our family lives?



NEXT STEPS

Participate in community.

We are made to live in the community. Sharing this with our children is vital in helping them develop a healthy view of doing life with others.

Serve together.

Choose a family service project two times a year in the local community. As you serve together, talk about how God calls us to serve the community around us that we are in. (1st grade and up)

FAMILY
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PATHWAY

A photograph of two young women with long, wavy hair, seen from behind as they walk away on a paved path. The woman on the left has brown hair and wears a grey sweater with a black backpack. The woman on the right has blonde hair and wears a black jacket with a black backpack. The background is filled with lush green foliage and white daisies in the lower-left corner. A dashed white arrow points from the top-left towards the text 'MIDDLE SCHOOL'. A dashed white circle is around the bottom-right of the image.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH-8TH GRADE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH-8TH GRADE



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PATHWAY



BIG IDEAS

*Affirming Their
Personal Journey by...*

- **Owning Their Faith**
- **Valuing a Faith Community**



CORE FOCUS

- **Gospel Foundations**
 - Identity
 - Missions
- **Emotional Health**
- **Healthy Relationships**



NEXT STEPS

- **Pray Together**
- **Study the Bible**
- **Attend Sunday Morning Service Weekly**
 - Sabbath
- **Share Family Meals**
- **Participate in Community**
 - Practice Hospitality
 - Serve Together



MILESTONES

***Journey Kids to Journey
Students Celebration***
(6th Grade)

Summer Camp
(6th-8th Grade)

Identity Weekend
(8th Grade)



MILESTONES

Journey Kids to Journey Students Celebration

Going from 5th to 6th grade is a huge change for students and parents alike. It's important for us to come alongside our families at this pivotal time to celebrate what the Lord has done through Journey Kids, and look forward to what He will continue to do in Journey Students. At the JK to JS Celebration, stories are shared, games are played, introductions are made, and Bibles are gifted to our students.

Summer Camp

Middle and high school students are invited to join us at Camp Generate each summer. Throughout the week, students grow closer to each other and the Lord through a service project, Bible studies, incredible worship, and impactful messages. We believe this is an especially significant milestone for middle school students because it is a unique opportunity for them to be captivated by the Lord and more deeply rooted in our ministry.



MILESTONES

Identity Weekend

As students enter high school, we know there will be plenty of opportunities for them to place their identity in things other than Jesus. Our Identity Weekend will allow us to proactively prepare our students for what's to come, and encourage them to root their hope and identity in the only source that can truly provide the fullness of life.

FAMILY
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HIGH SCHOOL

9TH-12TH GRADE



HIGH SCHOOL

9TH-12TH GRADE

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY



BIG IDEAS

*Mobilize Their
Potential by...*

- **Continuing to Pursue
Authentic Faith**
- **Discovering a
Personal Purpose**



CORE FOCUS

- *Gospel Conviction*
- *Truth in Context*
- *Unlikely Relationships*
- *Sacrificial Sending*
- *Restorative Beauty*
 - *Anchored Joy*
 - *Flawed & Free*



NEXT STEPS

- *Pray Together*
- *Study the Bible*
- *Attend Sunday Morning
Service Weekly*
 - *Sabbath*
- *Share Family Meals*
 - *Participate in
Community*
- *Practice Hospitality*
 - *Serve Together*



MILESTONES

- **Mission Trip
(9th-12th Grade)**
- **Student Leader Training
(11th-12th Grade)**
- **Graduation
(12th Grade)**



MILESTONES

Mission Trip

Our goal is to go on a mission trip every other year. We believe this will encourage our students to become more outward-focused and grow in their desire to serve the Lord and His people.

Student Leader Training

For students that have taken ownership of their faith, we want to train and empower them to become disciple-makers. Our Student Leader Training will equip students to disciple our middle schoolers and the people they interact with on a daily basis.

Graduation

As we send our students into the next phase of their lives, we want to equip them to continue prioritizing and pursuing their relationship with Jesus. We celebrate their graduation, but more importantly, we desire to help them make informed decisions about their future by providing them with gospel-centered resources, connecting them with college ministries, and continuing to be in relationship with them.



NEXT STEPS

Pray together.

Praying for our students reminds us that we have a Heavenly Father who is tirelessly working to protect His children and draw them closer to Himself. When we pray, we experience alignment with God, which brings us hope for the future and a level of trust that He has the lives of our students in His hands.

Praying with our students is a powerful way to demonstrate our dependence on Him. As parents, we don't have to have it all together because the Lord is the perfect parent that our students truly need. And by praying with them, students will learn that prayer is not something we need to overcomplicate, but it's simply a conversation with the Lord that He longs for.

Study the Bible.

Middle schoolers will be sent home with daily devotionals that will hopefully encourage them to consistently read God's word and prayerfully consider what it means for their lives. Please feel free to read along with them and discuss the questions from the devotional together!

High schoolers will be going through reading plans via the Bible App. Each day they will have suggested scripture to read and a devotional to go with it. Parents and families are more than welcome to participate in the reading plans as well! We hope you'll capitalize on this opportunity to grow closer to your child, encourage them to spend time with the Lord every day, and hold them accountable to spiritual disciplines.



Attend Sunday morning service weekly.

We hope that our church family encounters and experiences God on Sunday mornings in church. Since being a disciple of Jesus is a daily commitment, we pray that your time with the Lord on Sundays empowers you to display His presence and love to those around you in your everyday life. Sunday morning is meant to be formational and a means toward discipleship in Jesus. Committing to being consistent sets a precedent in your family that spiritual formation is a priority.

Practice Sabbath together.

We all live very busy lives, and students are no exception. They're constantly being pulled in so



NEXT STEPS

many different directions, having to give their time and attention to school, work, sports, friends, and the list goes on and on. So when we intentionally and thoughtfully rest as a family for a 24-hour period, we make space for quality time with each other and the Lord. Help your student prioritize rest and being present with family and their Heavenly Father.

Share family meals.

Similar to a Sabbath, family meals help us create space to be present with one another and press pause on the busyness of our lives. Investing in your children over a meal takes effort and intentionality, but it will leave them feeling valued and pursued.

Participate in community.

The Lord created us to need other people and to be in community to care for one another. We hope and pray that our students see the value in a church community at a young age.

Practice hospitality.

Jesus loved sharing meals with His friends. Practicing hospitality and opening your doors is a

way to share warmth and kindness with others that your child will learn to appreciate and adopt.

Serve together.

Serving with your child helps them to develop a servant's heart. When we have compassion and empathy for others and are moved to meet their needs, we reflect Jesus' heart for His people. The essence of the gospel is service and sacrifice, so we can become more like Jesus when we see beyond ourselves and care for those around us.



NEXT STEPS



MILESTONES

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*Celebrating developmental
and spiritual milestones
as children grow and mature*

- Birth or Adoption Care
- Child Dedication **(0-3 yr old)**
- Storybook Bible Presentation **(3 yr old)**
- 2nd Grade Bible Presentation **(2nd grade)**
- Identity Weekend **(5th grade)**
- JK to JS Celebration **(Summer between 5th & 6th grade)**
- Summer Camp **(6th - 8th grade)**
- Identity Weekend Two **(8th grade)**
- Mission Trip **(9th-12th grade)**
- Student Leader Training **(11th-12th grade)**
- Graduation **(12th grade)**



FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP *PATHWAY*