

GRANDPARENT, WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE FAITH OF YOUR GRANDCHILDREN?



Topic: Grandparents passing on the faith to grandchildren: a unique opportunity.

Goal: Grandparents will pursue opportunities to engage grandchildren in faith events.

Preparation: An internet connection and Bible

Activity Plan:

Introduction

1. Grandparent, remember when you met a grandchild for the first time?
2. What were some of your memories of that meeting?
3. Why are grandchildren important to many grandparents? To you?

Activity: Watch YouTube Video: “Baby Meets His Grandparents for the First Time”

<https://youtu.be/9w3YWGgm-hU>

Personal Reflections:

1. In which ways can feelings for a grandchild influence a grandparent-grandchild relationship?

2. What is an example of a grandparent building on a relationship and making a difference in the life of a grandchild?
3. Can grandparents make a difference in the faith of grandchildren? What are your thoughts on these research findings?

“We see strong evidence of the transmission of religious orientations of grandparents in the lives of their young adult grandchildren.” (Bengston, Vern. *Families and Faith: How Religion is Passed Down Across Generations*. Oxford University Press, 2013, 104).

“Moms and grandparents are quite often the ones initiating spiritual practices in the home.” (Everts, Don. *The Spiritually Vibrant Home: The Power of Messy Prayers, Loud Tables, and Open Doors*, InterVarsity Press, 2020, 94).

In a list of fourteen possible spiritual coaches in households, the same study found that the most frequently named spiritual coach is a GRANDPARENT! (95)

“Why is this?.Perhaps grandparents have the time and perspective that give them ease in initiating spiritual practices.” (94)

Bible Connection: Please read 2 Timothy 1:5

Reflections:

1. In a day when many Christians did not have a personal copy of a Bible, why was passing on the faith to Timothy by grandmother and mother important?
2. Why does the focus of passing on the faith, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, excite the Apostle Paul? See 2 Timothy 1:9-10.
3. Why does a grandparent want to pass on the faith to grandchildren?
4. How important to you is looking for ways to engage your grandchildren in faith activities?

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Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
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5. The reason for placing my X marking the importance of passing on the faith to my grandchildren is...?

Prayer: Thoughts for prayer to take advantage of opportunities to pass on the faith to grandchildren.: