

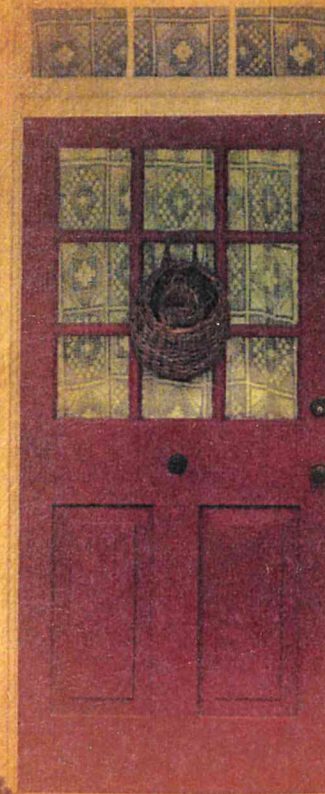
GOING FURTHER - Church Support

Bible Study Help: Any staff member or elder here at the Country Club Road Church of Christ would be glad to aid you in studying with your child on their way to becoming a Christian.

Counseling: The Country Club Road Church of Christ offers counseling on a various number of life stages and issues. Please contact the church office for more information @ 575-622-1350.

Life Groups: This ministry exists to help you further your knowledge of God and continue to grow in fellowship with the church family. Contact the church office if you are not already involved in a Life Group.

Introducing Your Child to Christ



HomePointe
Pointers

Introducing Your Child to Christ

One of the greatest privileges you have as a parent is to help your child come to faith in Christ. As you care for your child's daily needs and work to prepare him or her for success in life, there's nothing more important than caring for their spiritual needs and helping them prepare for eternity. Like many parents, you may not quite know how or when to approach one of the most exciting yet intimidating moments of parenthood.

That's understandable, but God has given you the most important and most influential role when it comes to nurturing your child's faith. All it takes is a little training for you to feel more comfortable about the when and how of introducing them to Christ.

Step One: Lay a Foundation

A child's decision to follow Jesus is rarely a one-stop process. Your son or daughter grows in their understanding of God by developing a foundation; hearing the stories of the Bible, learning scriptures, singing about Jesus, and so forth. Your child also learns by experiencing life in your home; watching your example, feeling your love, learning right from wrong. These two ways of learning work best when they are connected in your home and integrated into your family life. We see this in Deuteronomy 6:6-7 that says, "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Don't worry if your child hasn't grown up in church because your family is new to the faith. It is never too late to start.

Step Two: Discern Readiness

Do your best to discern when your child is mature enough to put the pieces together. Avoid the temptation to push him or her too fast, making sure they are ready in both heart and head and can truly understand the gospel. Your child may intellectually understand before being socially or spiritually mature enough to make a commitment.

Step Three: Ask Questions

When you feel they are ready, ask a few questions to help gauge your child's level of understanding. Read Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." Then ask questions like, "What is sin?" "How does your sin affect your relationship to God?" and "How can you be right with God?" How they respond can help you sense whether your child is ready to understand two important concepts:

- **JESUS AS SAVIOR:** The need for forgiveness and cleansing from sin which was made possible through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
- **JESUS AS LORD:** The need to submit to God as "the boss" by making Jesus Christ the Lord of one's life.

If after reading through this information, you would like additional assistance feel free to request an appointment for you and your child to meet with a minister or elder here at the Country Club Road Church of Christ. More discussion can be helpful in your child's decision to become a follower of Christ

Step Four: Baptism

After study and discussion with your child, if you are confident of their understanding of sin and the need for salvation, then baptism is the next step. This can be done with just your family or in front of the church family. It can take place here at the building or anywhere there is water. As dad you may wish to do the baptism yourself. Just let a staff member or elder know your child's desire to be baptized into Christ. We are glad assist in this most wonderful moment.

Step Five: The Journey

Be practive in your child's faith journey. As a church we are thankful for the opportunity to partner with you and your child to help develop the faith of your child. Utilize the recources of the Home Pointe center and the staff here at the Country Club Road Church of Christ.