

FAMILY ACTIVITIES



IN YOUR HOME...

Create a New Family Tradition.

Start a new family tradition to do together. It will be a good touch point for your child as they leave the nest and a excuse to get together around the holidays.



IN YOUR TOWN...

Take some time to say goodbye.

As a family, friend group, or give them time to go solo, have them take some time to write or say thank you to people who have impacted their life for the better.



OUT OF TOWN...

Capitalize on college tours or your last family vacations together.

In every spot you travel, have a similar experiences-go to a baseball game, go get ice cream or a goofy family picture in front of the school sign.

Celebrate an achievement.

Don't wait till graduation day to make your child's hard work and accomplishments a big celebrate. Be intentional to make it to their last away game, concert, or show a celebration. Go out for ice cream after, surprise them with a special guest, or bring the cow bells for the final bow. This year is going to feel like a lot of "lasts", so bringing an element of fun will help with the finality of the moment.

Mark 4:39

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be Still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

Prayer

God, as _____ faces trials and challenges, reassure them that you have their back. Remind them that you have the power to calm the storms. With our faith in Christ, we can overcome the hard times. Amen.

"EVERY YEAR MATTERS"



MOUNTAINPARK
CHURCH

PARENTING MATTERS

A GUIDE TO TWELFTH GRADE

"THE YEARS OF GIANT LIFE ALTERING QUESTIONS,
SO MANY DECISIONS, AND WANTING TO HIT THE
PAUSE BUTTON ON IT ALL."



HOW THEY ARE CHANGING



MIND

- High initiative to develop personal interests
- Becoming more emotionally stable, able to compromise, and have ownership over their decision making
- Able to discuss social justice and news topics well

BODY

- Challenging to fall asleep before midnight
- Wisdom teeth have grown in or will soon!
- Puberty is still in play for guys, while girls have reached their adult height and body development

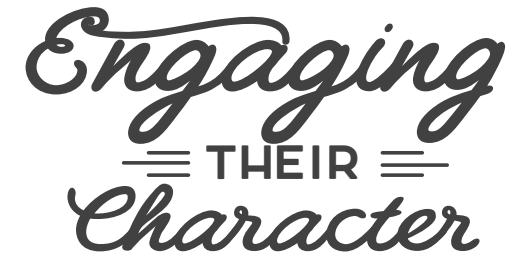
FAITH

- Taking ownership over developing their own spiritual practices

FRIENDS

- Life circumstances refines their close friendships to a small circle of people as family, academic and work demands take up their schedules

HOW CAN YOU PARENT THEM WELL



CELEBRATE EVERY VICTORY.

This is the big year in your student's life. This will be the last home football game, the last key club bake sale, or debate team competition. Be your child's loudest cheerleader. It will be hard for them to say goodbye to activities, people, and experiences that have formed their childhood. Now is your time to affirm the hard work and dedication you've seen from them over the year that have helped get them to this point. Celebrate together by going to get ice cream, be the person in the stands with the cowbell, and take lots of pictures!

EQUIP THEM WITH CONFIDENCE.

This is the year where it feels like everything you've worked for is being put to the test and they forgot a pencil. Intense moments of doubts when applying for a scholarship, college, or going out for a sports is normal. Coach your child thru understanding that yes, there will be other kids all vying for the same spot, but did they do their best? Did they prep for that interaction with excellence or leave it all on the field? Affirm their abilities and their hard work.

ENCOURAGE THEM TO BE REAL.

Huge seasons of transitions are ahead for your child. Schools, friends, jobs, and life trajectories feel like they are going to change in fundamental ways. Everything in their life will feel like it's gotten shaken up. Give them space to process and grieve thru this transitional season. Be present with them and talk about those fears.

HELP THEM ESTABLISH AUTHENTIC FAITH

*Help your
12th Grader*

TRUST JESUS
WORSHIP THE LORD
STUDY GOD'S WORD
HAVE AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY
PLAY AN ESSENTIAL ROLE

FAITH AT HOME:

AFTER SCHOOL

Shoot them a text message with an encouraging Scripture verse to let them know you're thinking of them.

DINNER

Leave a encouraging note under their plate or on top of the leftovers if they've missed the meal to let them know you and God care about them even if they're busy.

NIGHT

Check in with them before they turn in for the night about how they saw God work in their day.

FAITH AT CHURCH:

Offer to host a hangout with their small group.

Senior year will send all their friends in all different directions, so help to create a time outside of regular group time for them to meet.

Stay engaged with events.

Their lives seem to be moving fast and deadlines seem to creep up unexpectedly, so help them to remember dates and deadlines for ministry areas they are involved in.

Discuss the weekly message together.

Soon they will be attending church without you, so model for them how they can engage and apply the weekly message.