

Discipleship: Children Grow in Relationship with Jesus Christ

Discipleship with children begins by building spiritual foundations that serve as the basis for a child's relationship with Jesus Christ. It involves helping children grow in their relationship with the Triune God by:

- Experiencing God's love and desiring to worship God
- Reading and learning about the Triune God in the Bible
- Developing habits of prayer, Bible study and quiet time
- Learning about using the earth's resources for God's purposes
- Serving others
- Connecting emotionally and spiritually with the community of believers.



As you spend time with children remember that:

- Children will model your attitude and behavior. As you are growing in your devotion and love for the Lord, share your joy with the children. Pray for them and with them. They will want to share their joys or concerns with you.
- Children will learn to talk to God through prayer at church, mealtime, and in conversations with you.
- Children learn foundational Bible stories at Sunday school and after school programs from you or at home.
- Spiritual development can happen during everyday circumstances as children experience God's love through you. Encourage children to thank God, seek the scriptures and ask God for help, ask for wisdom, guidance or forgiveness....
- Take time to listen to and get to know each child. Ask them how they have seen God working in their life.

A cornerstone of success includes evidence of transformation in lifestyle and attitude changes in you and in the children.

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – God's good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2