



Helping Children Engage in Church

I. Do children belong in the worship service?

II. The biblical pattern for including children in corporate worship

- A. God commanded parents to celebrate Passover with their children
Ex. 12:21-28
- B. God commanded Israel to worship with their children in the Feast of Weeks
Deuteronomy 16:9-11
- C. God commanded Israel to worship with their children in the Feast of Booths
Deuteronomy 31:9-13
- D. Families worshipped together during the time of Joshua
Joshua 8:34-35
- E. God commended Israel to worship with their children during the time of Joel
Joel 2:15-16
- F. Jesus, as a 12 years old boy, celebrated the Passover with his parents
Luke 2:42-47
- G. Children were included in the church services in the book of Acts
Acts 20:7-12
- H. Children were included in the church services in Ephesus and Colossae
Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20

III. Thinking theologically

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IV. Possible “do’s” and “don’ts” to help children engage in the worship service

- A. Don’t have special “children/youth Sundays”
- B. Do have worship folders for children
- C. Do call everyone to “family worship” at home
- D. Do teach parents how to worship with their children
- E. Do intentionally call parents to bring their children to church
- F. Don’t be distracted if a parent and child need to step out
- G. Do preach to everyone
- H. Don’t water down the sermon

V. Discussion and Conclusion

Mark 10:13-16 and Matthew 21:12-16

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