

# FAITH PATH

*Make the most of your moments*

Dear Parent,

One of the core values of Grace Point Fellowship is family. We honor God's design of the family being the primary place for discipleship. The Faith Path exists to partner with you as you guide your child's spiritual journey one step at a time. Age-appropriate kits help you leverage the best faith formation strategy for your child's stage of development. In this *Giving & Serving Kit* you will find practical ideas and suggested resources to help you teach your child to make a difference. I urge you to start today by taking the following simple steps.

## **STEP ONE: LEARN**

We have provided a video and information for this particular Faith Path step at [gpf-tx.org/faithpath/givingandserving](http://gpf-tx.org/faithpath/givingandserving). You will hear from both experts and ordinary families as they share practical suggestions from their experiences. You will also find a guide that offers practical tips and what we consider to be some of the best resources on the topic. If you would like additional coaching or information on upcoming Faith Path classes or events, please visit [gpf-tx.org/faithpath](http://gpf-tx.org/faithpath).

## **STEP TWO: START**

To help your child learn about giving, this kit includes a fun activity about stewardship called *Rolling in Money* with corresponding *Give, Save, Pay* stickers. We've also included an *Assessing Your Child's Spiritual Gifts* tool that you will enjoy completing with your son or daughter to begin coaching them toward serving in their area of strength.

If your child is registered with Grace Point Fellowship, you will receive an email at select birthdays with information on how to get the free kit appropriate for his or her age. To confirm that we have birthday information on each child, please go to [gpf-tx.org/faithpath](http://gpf-tx.org/faithpath) and update your family profile.

We hope you find this kit helpful in the process of forming the faith of your child at home. Know that we are grateful to play a role in your family's growing relationship with Jesus and are honored to help you make the most of your moments.

Joyfully Partnering With You,

*Danny & Lorena Rodriguez*

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# Your Intentional Plan

## How will you be intentional this next year?

- Pray daily for and with my child.
- Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- Bless my child daily.
- Schedule and have regular family times
- Attend church regularly.
- Create a habit of worship with my child.
- Schedule a time to serve together as a family

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The next step on the Faith Path is Preparing for Adolescence, recommended at age eleven. We offer a free Preparing for Adolescence kit to guide you. Obtain the Preparing for Adolescence kit at [gpf-tx.org/faithpath](http://gpf-tx.org/faithpath) or stop by the Home Point Center.

## Recommended Resources

- ▶ *Teaching Kids Authentic Worship* by Kathleen Chapman
- ▶ *77 Ways Your Family Can Make a Difference* by Penny A. Zeller
- ▶ *Your Kids Can Master Their Money* by Ron and Judy Blue, Jeremy White
- ▶ *Financial Peace Junior* by Dave Ramsey  
[seeds.churchonthemove.com/resources/kids](http://seeds.churchonthemove.com/resources/kids)

**HomePoint™**  
*Building Strong Families*



Teach Your Child To Make A Difference

*"...BUT AS FOR ME AND MY FAMILY  
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD."*

— JOSHUA 24:15



**FAITH PATH**

*Make the most of your moments*



God blesses and entrusts each of us with gifts, talents and resources. Look for opportunities to teach your child to be a good steward of these blessings from the Lord in a way that will honor and glorify Him.

### ***Giving:***

Followers of Jesus give a portion of their income to meet the needs of God's work and other people as an act of obedience and worship. In Genesis 28:10- 22 we see Jacob making a vow to the Lord, worshiping Him and giving ten percent (also called a tithe) back to God.

In reality, teaching children about money through tithes and offerings is not about giving to God. It is about reminding ourselves that we are dependent upon the One who gives all good gifts and that we are mere stewards rather than owners. Giving reflects obedience, showing that we love a God who is worthy to be obeyed in all areas of life. It is also an opportunity to participate in something bigger than ourselves with eternal value.

**Model It:** Start by putting into practice the disciplines you want your child to learn. This may mean taking steps to become a better steward of your family's finances. Let your child see that you first give money toward tithing, then savings and so on. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 the Bible says "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

**Teach It:** If your child receives money from an allowance, jobs or gifts, take the time to help him or her divide the money wisely. A good place to start is to set aside 10% for giving, 10% for savings and 80% for spending on other activities and items. Use the Rolling in Money activity card and stickers included with this kit to make your own boxes to help them start the habit of good stewardship.

### ***Serving:***

In addition to financial resources, God has also entrusted us with gifts, talents and time. As believers we have the great opportunity to worship and glorify God through the spiritual discipline of service. Help your child discover their unique gifts and explore how they might use those gifts to glorify Him. Use the Assessing Your Child's Spiritual Gifts tool available on our website to get started and then find ways to experience serving together. A few simple suggestions include...

- **Shared Passion:** Spend some time talking with your child about the things that interest and concern him or her. It will be more meaningful if you share a passion for the specific area of service.
- **Good Fit:** Help your child find good serving options. This can be anything from serving on Sunday in a ministry, simply baking cookies for a homebound neighbor, or an extended serving time such as a mission trip or meeting a particular need on a regular basis.
- **Set Expectations:** Put your child more at ease by explaining what to expect. If visiting a nursing home, for example, explain he or she may encounter odd sights, sounds and smells.
- **Build Your Relationships:** Take note of what your child does well while serving. Intentionally encourage him or her by saying you are proud of how they demonstrated a great attitude or area of strength.
- **Be Safe:** Keep a close eye on one another, especially children/teens if serving in unfamiliar settings.
- **Talk About It:** Ask questions when you finish serving together such as "What kind of difference did you/we make?" "Why was it important to do this project?" "How did it impact those you served?" and "How did it impact you/your family?"
- **Pray:** Take a few minutes to pray, asking God to bless those you served.

# Rolling In Money

## Best Use

As a family night activity with younger kids

## Nutritional Value

Teaches the value of money and good stewardship

## Advance Preparation

1. Go to the bank and withdraw as many one-dollar bills as you can up to \$1000. (Don't worry – you'll return most of it the next day.)
2. Three boxes and GIVE, SAVE and PAY labels for each child. Specially designed labels are included in the *Giving and Serving Faith Path* kit.
3. Create an envelope titled "God's Instructions for Money" with several notes containing Bible passages with instructions on how to use the money.
  - Malachi 3:10 = Give 10% to God
  - Proverbs 30:24-25 = Save 10% for the future
  - Romans 13:8 = Pay your bills (List several pretend bills such as \$500 for the house payment, \$150 for food, \$150 for the car, etc. Make sure the mock bills add up to almost the entire cash pile – leaving only a few dollars free.)

## Rolling In Money Family Night

- **Step One:** Hide the pile of cash someplace in the house and invite the kids to find the secret treasure. When they find the money allow time for them to go nuts!
- **Step Two:** Invite the kids to count the treasure promising them they will be able to spend it on anything they want **AFTER** following God's instructions for money.
- **Step Three:** Have the children count out enough one-dollar bills to meet each financial obligation described on the three notes – 10% for tithe, 10% for savings and enough for each of the "bills."
- **Step Four:** Give each child the remaining cash to spend as they please. Needless to say, they will be a bit disappointed. But they will also better understand real-world expenses and our responsibilities as stewards of the money God gives.
- **Step Five:** End your time creating "Stewardship Boxes" or "Stewardship Jars" with three labels for the categories GIVE, SAVE and PAY. Have the kids use the three categories whenever they earn money or receive their allowance.
- **Step Six:** Memorize the following jingle together...

*"Before you spend away – give, save and pay."*

