



Starting School

Family Milestone 2

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Family Milestone 2: Starting School

In just a few short days, your preschooler begins Kindergarten. As parents, you have been counting down to this moment since your child was born: “Can you believe in three years he’ll go to school?” “Next year at this time he’ll be in school” “Only two more months until school.” But now, you’re buying markers, pencils, and scissors.

As you drop off your child for that first day of school, he’ll crowd your thoughts for the next hours: what he’s doing, what he’s thinking, if he’s ok, if he’s eating his lunch, if he misses me.

The hardest part about releasing them to Kindergarten may be realizing that a less-than-perfect world awaits your child. As parents:

- **Trust The Great Teacher**
 - *Psalm 91*
 - *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39*

- **Teach your child that *all* answers are found in the Bible**
 - *The instruction of his God is in his heart; his steps do not falter.*
- *Psalm 37:31*
 - *All scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness. – 2 Timothy 3:16*

- **Family Faith Talks – Family** Faith talks are an intentional time set aside at least once each week for conversation around the Scripture. Faith Talks take on different forms according to how you and your family are wired. But as different as they may look, Family Faith Talks should be:
 - Intentional: You place effort and energy into creating a good environment to teach God’s truth.
 - Each week: Faith Talks should happen at least once a week. Frequency and consistency open the door to spiritual conversation.
 - Conversation – According to their development, let the teaching time be a conversation and not simply a mini-sermon.
 - Scripture – God’s Word changes your child!

- **God Moments** – God moments are informal, unplanned moments where God shows up in your child’s life. The importance of parents capitalizing on these moments in their child’s life cannot be overstated. Intentional family faith talks will often stir these moments in your child. The rush and busyness of life challenges the ability to perceive and capitalize on these important moments. Taking time to answer questions or point our children to Jesus and the Bible are crucial.

- **The Church** – While you are the **primary faith trainer**, First Baptist Church partners with you to teach your child God’s truths through our First Friends ministry including:
 - Sunday School, Mission Friends, and Choir
 - Vacation Bible School and other special events

Celebrate Family Milestone 2

- X First Baptist will invite your family and future student to ***“Breakfast with the Pastor”*** planned for the 3rd Sunday of August.

- X At the breakfast, your student will receive a ***Holman Illustrated Study Bible for Kids*** and have their picture made with our Pastor.

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Family Milestone Champion: First Friends Preschool Coordinator

Church Campus Event: Breakfast with the Pastor – during the month of August, prior to school starting, your family will be invited to have breakfast with the pastor. During this time, he will present your new student with a Bible and have their picture made with him.

Core Competency: The parent as the **primary faith trainer**. This is a ceremony that occurs for the family as their child enters Kindergarten. Parents are the most important teachers, especially of God’s Word. Be faithful in having your family in Sunday school and church to reinforce the spiritual principles being taught at home.

RESOURCES

Spiritual Milestones: Celebrating your Children’s Spiritual Passages

by Jim Weidmann, Janet Weidmann

God and Me!: Devotions for Girls Ages 2-5

by Lynn-Marie Ittner Klammer

Gotta Have God: Devotions for Boys Ages 2-5

by Lynn-Marie Ittner Klammer

Bedtime Blessings Vol. 1 & 2: 100 Bedtime Stories and Activities for Blessing Your Child

by Trent, John T.

The Power of a Praying Parent

by Stormie Omartian

Holman Illustrated Study Bible for Kids

by Holman Bible Publishers

Sunday School Take-home Learner Guide

by Lifeway Resources