



## WALKING WITH YOUR TEENAGER SPIRITUALLY

Provided by Dan Luebcke, Pastor of Student Ministries, Southern Gables Church

### ✚ Develop a natural prayer culture in your home

- What word would describe the spiritual activity of your home?
- Pray Psalm 119:18 as your teens sit in their Sunday school classes and attend corporate worship services, “Open my eyes so they can see wonderful things from your Word.”
- Teach them to pray Scripture – Paul’s prayers – Ephesians 3:16-19

### ✚ Help your teenager understand what it means to be “saved”

- Many teens accepted the gospel of Jesus when they were 6 years old and have not grown in their faith since.
- Author and pastor, Tim Keller says, “The gospel is not the first ‘step’ in a ‘stairway’ of truths, rather, it is more like the ‘hub’ in a ‘wheel’ of truth. The gospel is not just the A-B-C’s but the A to Z of Christianity. The gospel is not just the minimum required doctrine necessary to enter the kingdom, but the way we make all progress in the kingdom.”

### ✚ Fellowship, Community and Church

- Church isn’t just a place we go or something we attend, it’s part of our relationship with God
- Don’t live life alone, we were meant to live in community – Genesis 1:18 and Acts 2:42-47
- Be a part of your teen’s fellowship, offer to help in youth groups and activities

### ✚ Understand the youth culture of today

- Spend time with your teens enjoying life
- John 3:22 -- “After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where **he spent some time with them ...**”
  - ❖ Go shopping for the day
  - ❖ Go to a Nuggets game
  - ❖ Go to a movie, Go out to dinner
  - ❖ Go for a hike
  - ❖ Watch their favorite TV show with them , Play a video game with them
- Remember that you used to sit down and play Legos with them when they were little
- Know their likes and dislikes, their emotional triggers, passions, etc.
- Understand and learn more about their friends

### ✚ Walk with them spiritually – It’s not a sprint – They don’t need to catch up with you

- In front of them – we can teach them what we know
- Alongside of them – we can learn together
- Behind them – they can teach us