

## Chapter Six: Launching the Faith Journey Well

### How are we developing intergenerational experiences?

If you are a **parent** share views with your church leadership on how the church can best minister to your family and what resources you need to be the spiritual leader to your children.

If you are the **senior pastor**, examine the structures and vision of the church to see if they are family-friendly and engaging. Organize a “think tank” of key ministry area leaders and parents to discuss how the life of the church can become more family friendly.

If you are a **church member**, be reminded that gathering as a faith community is not just about your own experience and what you like—that is just consumerism. As a member of a faith community, begin to say:

- i. How can I support a better engagement of youth and children as part of the larger expression of what we do in the Church?
- ii. What do I need to lay down that is of my own preference for the sake of giving youth opportunities to lead and for the church to be more effective at supporting intergenerational gatherings?

If you are a **youth worker**:

- i. Be intentional in bringing in family experts to support the parents as the spiritual leaders of their children.
- ii. It is important that youth still have their own space and experiences. However, do what you can to avoid taking away from intergenerational gathering opportunities.
- iii. You can also meet with other and parents to determine how to better improve or remove programs that would lead to a greater benefit to the family.
- iv. Remember to communicate, communicate, communicate to parents: they can be your greatest ally in seeing young people walk a lifetime in the faith.

**The point youth workers and a member of the senior church leadership need to address how the youth ministry can better engage with families and the rest of the church family and vice versa in the following areas:**

- a. Service and volunteer
- b. Church services/ programs
- c. Community involvement
- d. Resourcing
- e. Leadership roles in the Church