



FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP - GUIDE -

BK PT MS HS

*"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. **You shall teach them diligently to your children,** and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."*

Deuteronomy 6:4-7



GOD'S DESIGN

Your family is part of God's perfect plan for creation. He formed it with the purpose of passing on the love, knowledge, understanding, and fear of God. The family is designed to be the primary evangelism and discipleship context for the next generation.

The responsibility for raising children with a firmly rooted, authentic faith, according to the Bible, belongs to the parents. You carry more weight in the life of your child than anyone else. Parents are to impress the commands of God on their children in everyday life as they walk along the road, as they sit at home, when they lie down, and when they get up.

But, while this primary responsibility is in your hands, God's intention is not that you go it alone. God has created the church to partner with families in the mission of reaching future generations with the message of the gospel. Together, the church and the home are to be partners in ministry to the next generation.

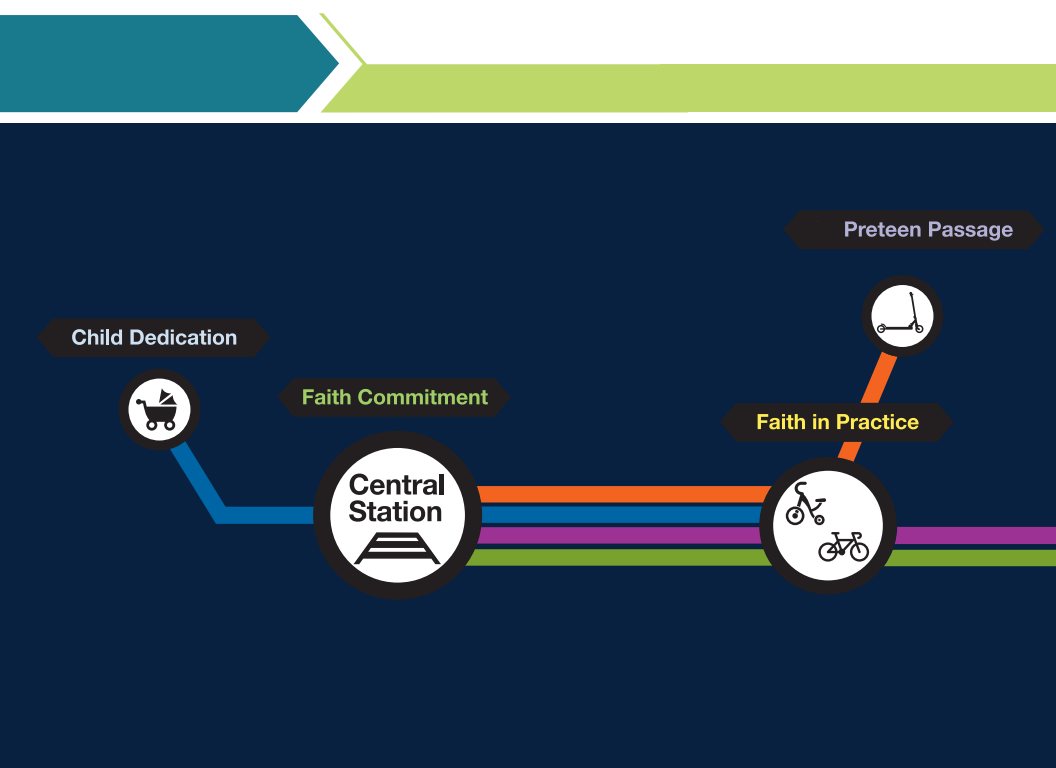
At Berean, we *train and equip parents* as the primary spiritual lead in their children's lives. We want to serve as "another voice" in the life of your child. Our goals are to come alongside your child, and to join hands with you as parents in this journey as you lead them toward an understanding of who God is, what He has done, and what He has promised He will do.



THE FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PLAN

We have created a strategy to partner with parents providing for maximum spiritual impact in the life of a child. The Family Discipleship Plan provides a map for parents to follow in the discipling process of their child and an avenue for the church to train and equip parents.

This strategy, together with participation in Berean’s educational programming for kids and youth, offers a framework of partnership influencing the life of your children and youth. We are unified with parents working toward the goal of launching young adults who are firmly rooted in an authentic faith and on-mission for the gospel.



NAVIGATING THE MAP



Berean's Family Ministry areas—Kids, Preteen, Middle School, High School—are our transit lines. These routes signify a family's journey toward increased knowledge, understanding, and faith in God. Parents and children follow a route until they gain core competencies and intersect with critical milestones.



Each milestone acts as a marker, and offers a celebration event to recognize spiritual development in a child's life. At each age level, families switch onto the next transit line and work toward the corresponding milestone. Families can hop on board any line to begin their journey with the Family Discipleship Plan.

TRANSIT LINE KEY

No matter your age, stage of life, or family status, you may hop on board at any point along this route.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|
| BK | — Berean Kids | MS | — Middle School |
| PT | — Preteen | HS | — High School |

Commitment to Purity



Transition to Adulthood



Life in Christ



BK

Child Dedication



Core Competencies: Parent as spiritual leader, trainer, evangelist, and discipler

Our first milestone is Child Dedication. During one of our FaithFamily Celebrations, typically by the time your child is 18 months old, you publicly commit your child to the Lord and devote yourself to taking the spiritual lead in your child's life. In turn, the church body promises to partner with you in guiding your child's faith development. At Berean we provide training and resources to prepare you as your child's primary faith trainer.

Family Celebration: Child Dedication Celebration

Transit Line: Berean Kids



TRANSIT LINES

- BK — Berean Kids
- PT — Preteen
- MS — Middle School
- HS — High School

Child Dedication



Faith Commitment



Faith in Practice



Preteen Passage



Commitment to Purity



Transition to Adulthood



Life in Christ



BK PT MS HS





Faith Commitment



Core Competencies: Jesus, faith/belief, sin, repentance/confession, forgiveness, salvation, eternity, and baptism



Your child's response to the gospel for salvation is the "Central Station" on our Family Discipleship map. We partner with and equip you to lead your child toward a personal relationship with Jesus Christ – to help your child understand repentance, receive God's gift of grace, and to follow through with obedience in baptism.

Family Celebration: Family Baptism Celebration

Transit Lines: Berean Kids 
 Preteen 
 Middle School 
 High School 



TRANSIT LINES

BK  Berean Kids
 PT  Preteen
 MS  Middle School
 HS  High School



BK PT MS HS

Faith in Practice



Core Competencies: Spiritual gifts, service, the Great Commission, humility/selflessness, the church, missions, prayer, Bible study, and evangelism

Now your child will learn how to put faith into action. A genuine faith commitment should influence every aspect of life – and we provide you with training and resources to help your child learn to live out this newfound faith and join the mission of the local church. We challenge families to regularly serve God and others together.

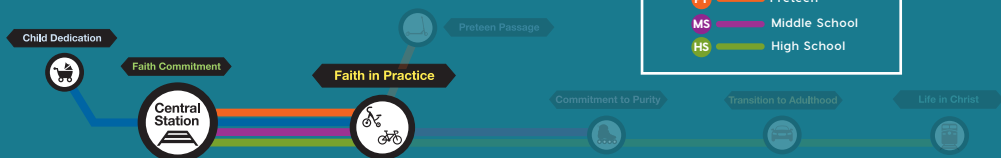
Family Celebration: Family Service Celebration

Transit Lines: Berean Kids
Preteen
Middle School
High School



TRANSIT LINES

BK — Berean Kids
PT — Preteen
MS — Middle School
HS — High School



PT

Preteen Passage



Core Competencies: Identity in Christ, spiritual growth, spiritual disciplines, theology, and navigating culture



Between 10 and 12 years old, kids undergo a lot of physical, emotional, and cognitive change. As a parent, your task is to prepare your child spiritually, emotionally, and physically for those changes. You'll teach your child to navigate new realities and thought processes in the context of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We will equip you to discuss topics related to current culture, personal identity, and a prevailing faith as you prepare your child for life as a teenager.

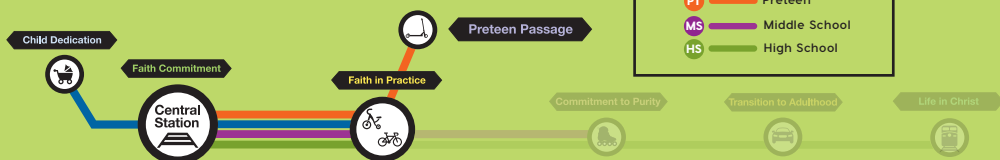
Family Celebration: Road Trip

Transit Line: Preteen 



TRANSIT LINES

-  Berean Kids
-  Preteen
-  Middle School
-  High School



MS HS

Commitment to Purity →

Core Competencies: Biblical purity, healthy relationships, identity in Christ, biblical sex, dating/marriage, and accountability

Today's culture influences teens to view sex, gender, and relationships in ways that are increasingly counter-biblical. Sexual purity is among the biggest battlefronts in the spiritual growth and maturity of the younger generation. At Berean, we equip you and provide resources to help you teach your child about accountability, healthy friendships, and biblical standards for purity. We are committed to supporting you in the all-important task of engaging in intentional conversations about these topics and maintaining ongoing dialog.

Family Celebration: Purity Commitment Celebration

Transit Lines: Middle School 
High School 



TRANSIT LINES

BK  Berean Kids
PT  Preteen
MS  Middle School
HS  High School



HS

Transition to Adulthood

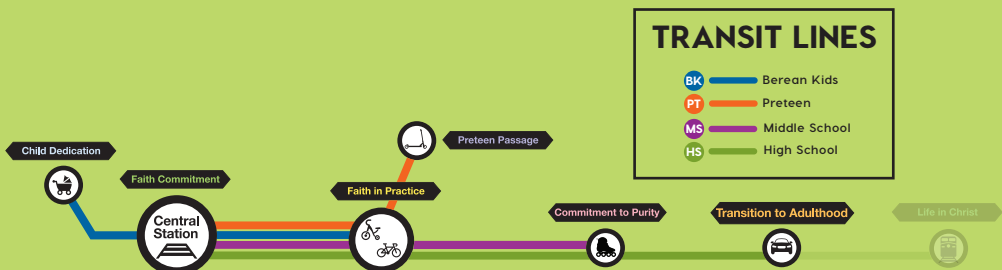


Core Competencies: Roles of men and women, Christian ethics and philosophy, being a person of influence, life skills, and spiritual leadership

The Bible commands us to disciple our children to become men and women of God. At Berean we equip you to prepare your freshman and sophomore students for adulthood through conversation and instruction on issues such as the roles of men and women, Christian ethics and philosophy, and so much more. Berean supports and reinforces the process through our educational ministry. At this milestone, you will lead your student to mentally and practically transition from being a child to a maturing young adult within the home.

Family Celebration: Rite of Passage Weekend

Transit Line: High School



HS

Life in Christ



Core Competencies: Authentic faith, apologetics, being an obedient follower, being a disciple maker, generous living, community, and autonomy

Following Jesus is a lifelong journey. Between the ages of 16 and 18, students must develop the practical and spiritual skills to live on their own. As a parent, one of your tasks is to keep the lines of communication open – basic apologetics, determining the will of God, dating and marriage, life skills, and other biblical issues become the topics for discussion and instruction. These critical years of discipleship are a chance for parents to shape the faith of their students and set the tone for offering valuable spiritual advice on into adulthood.

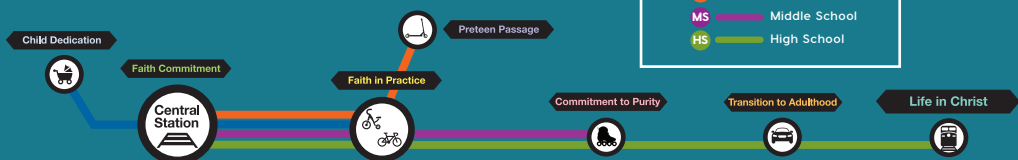
Family Celebration: Grad Banquet

Transit Line: High School 



TRANSIT LINES

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PARENTU

CONFERENCES

Twice a year Berean will host ParentU events to help equip and train parents to lead their children on this discipleship journey. A large group gathering will be followed by breakout sessions featuring specific training for each milestone. Each seminar will be led by experienced members of our church. Watch for more information as it is made available throughout the year.

PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

Supporting research and training materials will be offered at our Parent Resource Centers.

For your convenience, find books for purchase at the Berean Café, or borrow them from the Berean Library at our Burnsville Campus.

Find an expanded list of materials at the Online Parent Resource Center. Log on to bereanbaptist.com/family for access to books, articles, and blog recommendations.



A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

Psalms 78:4,6-7

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. ...that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments

2 Corinthians 5:18,20

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ...Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.

Ephesians 4:11-12,14

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Ephesians 6:4

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Genesis 18:19

For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2 Timothy 3:14-15

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Acts 2:38-39

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age..





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