



CENTRAL

Biblical Teaching | Passionate Worship | Authentic Ministry

Dear Parent:

One of the core values of Central is that God designed the family as the primary place for discipleship. The Faith Path initiative exists to partner with you as you guide your child's spiritual journey one step at a time. Age appropriate kits have been created to 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 link to a short video that explains this particular Faith Path step. 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 the best resources on the topic. If you would like additional coaching or information about Faith Path, please visit centralbcs.org/faithpath or contact Chris Gary, Minister to Children, at cgary@centralbcs.org.

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, and Pay* stickers. We have 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 Central, you will receive the next email on their tenth birthday explaining how to receive the Preparing for Adolescence kit. To confirm we have correct birthday information on your child, please log into our database at centralbcs.org/realms and update your family profile.

I hope you find this kit helpful in the process of forming the faith of your child at home. Feel free to visit centralbcs.org/faithpath to learn more or to determine if your child is ready for other Faith Path steps.

In Christ,

Phillip Bethancourt
Senior Pastor

PS: Additional resources may be found at centralbcs.org/faithpath/givingserving.

A decorative border with intricate floral and scrollwork patterns surrounds the central text. The border is composed of four corner pieces and four side pieces, all connected by thin lines.

FAITH PATH

GIVING & SERVING

*Teach Your Child to
Make a Difference*



CENTRAL

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 by showing 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 included with this kit 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. It can be as simple as baking cookies for a homebound neighbor, 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.

INTENTIONAL FAITH PATH PLAN

Child's Name: _____

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.
- Create a habit of worship with my child.
- Schedule a time to serve together as a family.
- _____

Preparing for Adolescence is the next step on the Faith Path and is recommended at age ten.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

77 Ways Your Family Can Make a Difference by

Penny A. Zeller

Financial Peace Junior by Dave Ramsey

FAITH @ Home

centralbcs.org
centralbcs.org/faithathome

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FAITH PATH

**ASSESSING YOUR CHILD'S
SPIRITUAL GIFTS**



CENTRAL

YOUR CHILD'S SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

You can help your child identify, develop and use the gifts God has given them from an early age.

You may choose to complete this assessment with your child or answer the questions knowing what is true about them. You can also invite other family members to assess the child since various people may perceive different gifts in action.

TO GET STARTED:

Pray: Ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance before you take the assessment.

Reassure: Tell your child this is just a tool, not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.

Observe: This assessment can help you begin the process of discovering gifts and guiding your child. You may find new gifts as your child matures and encounters new experiences and opportunities to serve others.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT

For each of the groups, mark one statement with a 1, another with a 2, and another with a 3 as follows:

1= Describes me/my child *LEAST*

2= Describes me/my child *SOMEWHAT*

3= Describes me/my child *MOST*

GROUP ONE

- ___1a. I like to be organized.
- ___1b. I enjoy sharing with others.
- ___1c. It makes me sad when others are sad or are having a hard time.

GROUP TWO

- ___2a. I can tell the best choice when I have options.
- ___2b. I like to help new people feel welcome.
- ___2c. I am a good listener and enjoy helping others when they have a need.

GROUP THREE

- ___3a. I like to encourage others.
- ___3b. I enjoy learning new things.
- ___3c. Others want to talk to me about their problems or struggles.

GROUP FOUR

- ___4a. When I need to make a decision, I ask for opinions of others and look at what God's Word says about it.
- ___4b. Others seem to follow my lead and my ideas.
- ___4c. I enjoy communicating with others verbally and in writing.

GROUP FIVE

- ___5a. I am confident that God hears and answers our prayers.
- ___5b. I enjoy seeing how God can use the money I give to help others.
- ___5c. People ask me for advice or what I think about certain things.

GROUP SIX

- ___6a. I am good at getting homework and other tasks done.
- ___6b. I enjoy making new friends.
- ___6c. I am good at talking in front of a group of people.

GROUP SEVEN

- ___7a. I clearly know if something is right or wrong.
- ___7b. I understand spiritual truths and can share those with others.
- ___7c. I enjoy helping others.

GROUP EIGHT

- ___8a. I like to help others when they are sad or having a hard time.
- ___8b. Others seem to follow my lead and my ideas.
- ___8c. I enjoy helping others feel accepted.

GROUP NINE

- ___9a. I enjoy inviting others to church to hear about Jesus.
- ___9b. I am confident that God's Word is truth.
- ___9c. I like to help others make good decisions.

GROUP TEN

- ___10a. I trust God's promises even when it seems like things aren't going my way.
- ___10b. I enjoy getting everyone to follow me or my ideas.
- ___10c. I am good at talking in front of a group of people.

GROUP ELEVEN

- ___11a. I like details.
- ___11b. I like to learn from my parents, teachers and pastors.
- ___11c. I make wise decisions.

GROUP TWELVE

- ___12a. I am a good judge of a person's character.
- ___12b. Others look to me when they don't know what to do.
- ___12c. I stick up for people when I see others not being nice.

GROUP THIRTEEN

- ___13a. I like to encourage others.
- ___13b. It makes me sad when others are sad or are having a hard time.
- ___13c. I enjoy communicating with others verbally and in writing.

GROUP FOURTEEN

- ___14a. I am a good listener and enjoy helping others when they have a need.
- ___14b. I like to be organized.
- ___14c. I am good at talking in front of a group of people.

GROUP FIFTEEN

- ___15a. I enjoy sharing with others.
- ___15b. I clearly know if something is right or wrong.
- ___15c. I enjoy telling others about Jesus.

GROUP SIXTEEN

- ___16a. I like to help new people feel welcome.
- ___16b. I enjoy learning new things.
- ___16c. Others look to me when they don't know what to do.

GROUP SEVENTEEN

- ___17a. I want to do something when I see that someone has a need.
- ___17b. Others want to talk to me about their problems or struggles.
- ___17c. I forgive others easily.

GROUP EIGHTEEN

- ___18a. I can tell the best choice when I have options.
- ___18b. I am confident that God's Word is truth.
- ___18c. I enjoy seeing how God can use the money I give to help others.

GROUP NINETEEN

- ___19a. I am good at explaining things to others.
- ___19b. I like to learn from my parents, teachers and pastors.
- ___19c. I like to find the good in others and cheer them on.

GROUP TWENTY

- ___20a. I am good at getting homework and other tasks done.
- ___20b. I like to help others make good decisions.
- ___20c. I enjoy getting everyone to follow me or my ideas.

GROUP TWENTY-ONE

- ___21a. When I need to make a decision, I ask for opinions of others and look at what God's Word says about it.
- ___21b. I like to help others make good decisions.
- ___21c. It makes me sad when others are sad or are having a hard time.

GROUP TWENTY-TWO

- ___22a. People ask me for advice or what I think about certain things.
- ___22b. I enjoy learning new things.
- ___22c. I enjoy inviting others to church to hear about Jesus.

GROUP TWENTY-THREE

- ___23a. I enjoy helping others feel accepted.
- ___23b. I am confident that God hears and answers our prayers.
- ___23c. I enjoy helping others.

GROUP TWENTY-FOUR

- ___24a. I know that God has blessed me and I want to bless others.
- ___24b. I clearly know if something is right or wrong.
- ___24c. Others seem to follow my lead and my ideas.

GROUP TWENTY-FIVE

- ___25a. I like details.
- ___25b. I like to help others when they are sad or having a hard time.
- ___25c. I know that God has blessed me and I want to bless others.

GROUP TWENTY-SIX

- ___26a. I enjoy telling others about Jesus.
- ___26b. I make wise decisions.
- ___26c. I like to help new people feel welcome.

GROUP TWENTY-SEVEN

- ___27a. I am a good listener and enjoy helping others when they have a need.
- ___27b. I like to find the good in others and cheer them on.
- ___27c. I know that God has blessed me and I want to give to others to bless them.

GROUP TWENTY-EIGHT

- ___28a. I want to do something when I see that someone has a need.
- ___28b. I enjoy seeing how God can use the money I give to help others.
- ___28c. I enjoy making new friends.

GROUP TWENTY-NINE

- ___29a. I enjoy telling others how they can become a Christian.
- ___29b. Others look to me when they don't know what to do.
- ___29c. I like to help others even when I don't get any credit for it.

GROUP THIRTY

- ___30a. I understand spiritual truths and can share those with others.
- ___30b. I enjoy sharing with others.
- ___30c. I trust God's promises even when it seems like things aren't going my way.

GROUP THIRTY-ONE

- ___31a. I enjoy telling others how they can become a Christian.
- ___31b. I forgive others easily.
- ___31c. I like to learn from my parents, teachers and pastors.

GROUP THIRTY-TWO

- ___32a. I am good at getting homework and other tasks done.
- ___32b. I want to do something when I see that someone has a need.
- ___32c. I am a good judge of character.

GROUP THIRTY-THREE

- ___33a. I enjoy telling others about Jesus.
- ___33b. I like to be organized.
- ___33c. I stick up for people when I see others not being nice.

GROUP THIRTY-FOUR

- ___34a. I like details.
- ___34b. I trust God's promises even when it seems like things aren't going my way.
- ___34c. I forgive others easily.

GROUP THIRTY-FIVE

- ___35a. I enjoy helping others.
- ___35b. I enjoy getting everyone to follow me or my ideas.
- ___35c. I like to encourage others.

GROUP THIRTY-SIX

- ___36a. I am good at explaining things to others.
- ___36b. I stick up for people when I see others not being nice.
- ___36c. I enjoy helping others feel accepted.

GROUP THIRTY-SEVEN

- ___37a. I can tell the best choice when I have options.
- ___37b. I enjoy inviting others to church to hear about Jesus.
- ___37c. I enjoy communicating with others verbally and in writing.

GROUP THIRTY-EIGHT

- ___38a. I enjoy telling others how they can become a Christian.
- ___38b. I am confident that God hears and answers our prayers.
- ___38c. I like to help others when they are sad or having a hard time.

GROUP THIRTY-NINE

- ___39a. I understand spiritual truths and can share those with others.
- ___39b. I like to help others even when I don't get any credit for it.
- ___39c. I enjoy making new friends.

GROUP FORTY

- ___40a. I like to help others even when I don't get any credit for it.
- ___40b. When I need to make a decision, I ask for opinions of others and look at what God's Word says about it.
- ___40c. I am good at explaining things to others.

GROUP FORTY-ONE

- ___41a. Others want to talk to me about their problems or struggles.
- ___41b. I am confident that God's Word is truth.
- ___41c. People ask me for advice or what I think about certain things.

GROUP FORTY-TWO

- ___42a. I am a good judge of character.
- ___42b. I make wise decisions.
- ___42c. I like to find the good in others and cheer them on.

SCORING THE ASSESSMENT

Fill in the blanks that correspond to the number below. After you have filled in all the numbers, add up the figures in each row, going across. Put each total in the blank provided. Circle your 4 highest scores. This is not an exhaustive list of all of the possible spiritual gifts but it will get you started as you begin the process of identifying and developing some of the gifts God has given.

									TOTAL
1a.	6a.	11a.	14b.	20a.	25a.	32a.	33b.	34a.	A
2a.	7a.	12a.	15b.	18a.	24b.	32c.	37a.	42a.	B
3a.	8a.	13a.	19c.	25b.	27b.	35c.	38c.	42c.	C
9a.	15c.	22c.	26a.	29a.	31a.	33a.	37b.	38a.	D
5a.	9b.	10a.	18b.	23b.	30c.	34b.	38b.	41b.	E
1b.	5b.	15a.	18c.	24a.	25c.	27c.	28b.	30b.	F
2b.	6b.	8c.	16a.	23a.	26c.	28c.	36c.	39c.	G
3b.	7b.	11b.	16b.	19b.	22b.	30a.	31c.	39a.	H
4b.	8b.	10b.	12b.	16c.	20c.	24c.	29b.	35b.	I
1c.	12c.	13b.	17c.	21c.	31b.	33c.	34c.	36b.	J
2c.	3c.	9c.	14a.	17b.	20b.	21b.	27a.	41a.	K
7c.	17a.	23c.	28a.	29c.	32b.	35a.	39b.	40a.	L
4c.	6c.	10c.	13c.	14c.	19a.	36a.	37c.	40c.	M
4a.	5c.	11c.	21a.	22a.	26b.	40b.	41c.	42b.	N

TOP FOUR SCORES = You probably have this gift

BOTTOM FOUR SCORES = You probably don't have this gift

MIDDLE SCORES = You might have this gift

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A = Administration (Organizing people to do things well)

B = Discernment (Sensing good vs. bad influences or attitudes in others)

C = Encouragement (Giving emotional support to others)

D = Evangelism (Telling others the good news of Jesus)

E = Faith (Trusting God even in hard times)

F = Giving (Sacrificing to meet needs and support God's work)

G = Hospitality (Making people feel at home)

H = Knowledge (Being aware of God's truth)

I = Leadership (Setting a plan and getting others to follow)

J = Mercy (Caring for hurting/suffering people)

K = Pastor/Shepherd (Caring for another person's spiritual well-being)

L = Helping (Doing what needs to be done behind the scenes)

M = Teaching (Explaining God's truth in a way people can understand)

N = Wisdom (Applying God's principles to real-life situations)

NOW WHAT?

1. Use the results to help your child find opportunities to honor the Lord by using his/her God-given gifts.
2. Come up with 2-3 ideas of how your child can serve others using his/her top gifts.
3. Pay attention and encourage your child when you see him/her living out specific spiritual gifts.
4. Continue to test the results as your child grows and matures in his or her faith adventure.

FAITH@Home

centralbcs.org
centralbcs.org/faithathome



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. Do not worry. You will 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 & 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 celebrate.

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. 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,"