

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 with my child.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ _____

The next step on the Faith Path is *Preparing for Adolescence*, recommended at age eleven. We will offer a free *Preparing for Adolescence* kit to guide you. Download the *Preparing for Adolescence* kit at fbcmel.org/faithpath

Recommended Resources

77 Ways Your Family Can Make a Difference by Penny A. Zeller
Your Kids Can Master Their Money by Ron and Judy Blue, Jeremy White
Financial Peace Junior by Dave Ramsey

FAITH PATH

Giving & Serving

Teach Your Child to Make a Difference

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, worshipping 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, showing that 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 or it can be 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.



Dear Parent:

One of our core beliefs at FBCMel is that God designed the family as the primary setting where discipleship takes place. 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 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 on the next Faith Path Foundations workshop, please contact the church office for information on the next workshop.

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, Pay stickers. We've 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 FBCMel, you will receive an email and/or postcard at select birthdays with information on how to get the free kit appropriate for his or her age. To confirm that we have birthday information on each child, please go to **fbcmel.org/faithpath** to fill out a Faith Path registration card to 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 **fbcmel.org/faithpath** to learn more or to determine if your child/children are ready for other Faith Path steps.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Wilson", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Wilson

Lead Pastor

FBC Melbourne



FAITH PATH

Assessing Your Child's
Spiritual Gifts

Your Child's Spiritual Gifts

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

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 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	SPIRITUAL GIFTS
1a.	6a.	11a.	14b.	20a.	25a.	32a.	33b.	34a.	A	A = Administration (Organizing people to do things well)
2a.	7a.	12a.	15b.	18a.	24b.	32c.	37a.	42a.	B	B = Discernment (Sensing good vs. bad influences/attitudes in others)
3a.	8a.	13a.	19c.	25b.	27b.	35c.	38c.	42c.	C	C = Encouragement (Giving emotional support to others)
9a.	15c.	22c.	26a.	29a.	31a.	33a.	37b.	38a.	D	D = Evangelism (Telling others the good news of Jesus)
5a.	9b.	10a.	18b.	23b.	30c.	34b.	38b.	41b.	E	E = Faith (Trusting God even in hard times)
1b.	5b.	15a.	18c.	24a.	25c.	27c.	28b.	30b.	F	F = Giving (Sacrificing to meet needs and support God's work)
2b.	6b.	8c.	16a.	23a.	26c.	28c.	36c.	39c.	G	G = Hospitality (Making people feel at home)
3b.	7b.	11b.	16b.	19b.	22b.	30a.	31c.	39a.	H	H = Knowledge (Being aware of God's truth)
4b.	8b.	10b.	12b.	16c.	20c.	24c.	29b.	35b.	I	I = Leadership (Setting a plan and getting others to follow)
1c.	12c.	13b.	17c.	21c.	31b.	33c.	34c.	36b.	J	J = Mercy (Caring for hurting/suffering people)
2c.	3c.	9c.	14a.	17b.	20b.	21b.	27a.	41a.	K	K = Pastor/Shepherd (Caring for another person's spiritual well-being)
7c.	17a.	23c.	28a.	29c.	32b.	35a.	39b.	40a.	L	L = Helping (Doing what needs to be done behind the scenes)
4c.	6c.	10c.	13c.	14c.	19a.	36a.	37c.	40c.	M	M = Teaching (Explaining God's truth in a way people can understand)
4a.	5c.	11c.	21a.	22a.	26b.	40b.	41c.	42b.	N	N = Wisdom (Applying God's principles to real-life situations)

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

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.



Rolling in Money

Best Use

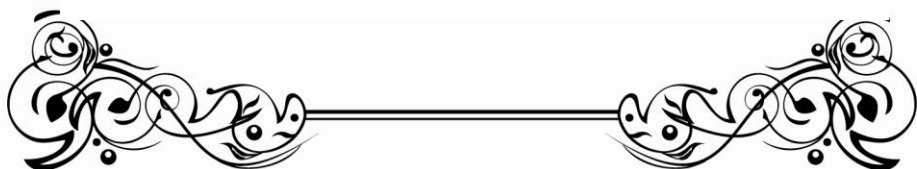
As a family night activity with younger kids

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. (Don't worry – you'll 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 and 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 go nuts!
- **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. But 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,”



SPEND

80% to pay



SAVE

10% for the future



GIVE
10% to God