



BRUSHY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

SECTION 1: Parenting by Stage

Early Childhood (0–5)

Focus: Teaching kids to pray, building routines of faith, discipline with grace.

- **Book:** *Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp (Classic on addressing the heart, not just behavior).
- **Book:** *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones (Connecting every story to Christ). [RightNow Media Link](#).
- **Book:** *Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer* by Laura Wifler (Teaching young kids the theology of prayer).
- **Podcast:** Risen Motherhood (Emily Jensen & Laura Wifler) – <https://www.risenmotherhood.com/podcast>

Elementary (6–10)

Focus: Teaching Scripture at home, handling behavior + heart issues, media and technology foundations.

- **Book:** *The Ology: Ancient Truths, Ever New* by Marty Machowski (A beautifully illustrated systematic theology for kids).
- **Book:** *The Tech-Wise Family* by Andy Crouch (Putting technology in its proper place). [RightNow Media Link](#).
- **Podcast:** *The Family Discipleship Podcast* (The Village Church network) – <https://www.familydiscipleship.com/podcast>
- **Devotional App/PDF:** *The New City Catechism* (TGC) –Free!! <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism/>

Middle School (11–13)

Focus: Identity and belonging, navigating friendships, beginning hard conversations, anxiety + emotions.

- **Book:** *Age of Opportunity: A Biblical Guide to Parenting Teens* by Paul Tripp.
- **Book:** *Who Are You? Answering Questions about Identity, Sexuality, and Gender* by Chris Morphew (Written directly for pre-teens).
- **Podcast:** *Rooted Parent Podcast (Rooted Ministry)*
<https://rootedministry.com/podcast-series/rooted-parent/>
- **Short Video/Audio:** Teenagers and depression -
<https://www.ccef.org/podcast/teenagers-and-depression/>

High School (14–18)

Focus: Sexuality & purity, doubt and faith ownership, mental health, college readiness spiritually, letting go.

- **Book (For Parents):** *Holy Sexuality and the Gospel* by Christopher Yuan (Excellent biblical framework for sexuality and identity).
- **Book (For the Teen/Grad):** *Surviving Religion 101: Letters to a Christian Student on Keeping the Faith in College* by Michael J. Kruger.
- **Book (Apologetics):** *10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) about Christianity* by Rebecca McLaughlin.
- **Articles:** Help on how to disciple your teen -
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/truths-tips-discipling-teens/>

Focus: Supporting adult children spiritually, healthy boundaries, continuing discipleship without control.

- **Book:** *Doing Life with Your Adult Children: Keep Your Mouth Shut and the Welcome Mat Out* by Jim Burns. [RightNow Media Link.](#)
- **Book:** *Praying the Scriptures for Your Adult Children* by Jodie Berndt.
- **Article:** Mother Yourself Out of a Job Nurturing Children Toward Independence -
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/mother-yourself-out-of-a-job>
- **Podcast Episode:** *Focus on the Family Broadcast* episodes on "Setting Boundaries with Adult Children." Find on YouTube- time is 27:03

SECTION 2: Topics Parents Actually Face

Faith at Home

- Short Article: Worthy of Family Worship - <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/worthy-of-family-worship>
- Downloadable PDF: *Family Worship Bible Guide*- <https://heritagebooks.org/content/FamilyWorshipBibleguidesample.pdf?srsltid=AfmBOorCCFRiLtRvqYc5sbBaY5cmYsArjrCvgz0kNS1upzdNKvSavGvA>
- Recommended Book: *Family Worship* by Donald Whitney.
- Short Video: "[What is Family Worship?](#)" Voddie Baucham (every time I try and copy a link from YouTube it is showing a thumb nail instead of a hyper link)

Technology & Media

- Short Article: 12 tips for parenting in the digital age - https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/twelve-tips-for-parenting-in-the-digital-age?utm_medium=feed&utm_source=feedpress.me&utm_campaign=Feed:dg-articles
- Downloadable PDF: *A Parent's Guide to Smartphones* (Free PDF guide from Axis.org). https://axis.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Everything-Smartphone-Charter.pdf?utm_source=google
- Recommended Book: *12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You* by Tony Reinke.
- Short Video: How we should use social media - <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/one-voice-on-christian-social-media>

Mental & Emotional Health

- Short PodCast: Teenagers and depression - <https://www.ccef.org/podcast/teenagers-and-depression/>
- Downloadable PDF: Responding to Self Harm - <https://wearefamiliesrising.org/resource/silent-suffering-responding-to-self-harm/>
- Recommended Book: *A Still and Quiet Mind: Twelve Strategies for Changing Unwanted Thoughts* by Esther Smith.
- Short Video: Hope for the depressed - <https://www.ccef.org/hope-depressed/>

Identity & Culture

- Short Article: How to talk to your kids about gender - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-gender/>
- Downloadable PDF: *A Parent's Guide to LGBTQ+ and Your Teen* - <https://axis.org/resource/a-parent-guide-to-lgbtq-your-teen/>
- Recommended Book: *God and the Transgender Debate* by Andrew Walker.
- Short Video: "[Christopher Yuan's Testimony](#)" – A powerful, gospel-centered look at identity found only in Christ. (Please use the YouTube video that is 24 min and 36 sec)

Discipline & Character

- Short Article: Grace in discipline - <https://www.paultripp.com/wednesdays-word/posts/common-restraining-grace>
- Downloadable PDF: foundations for Biblical Parenting - <https://twelvestones.org/12-tips-from-twelve-stones-foundations-for-biblical-parenting-tip-5/>
- Recommended Book: *Don't Make Me Count to Three* by Ginger Hubbard (A very practical, Scripture-based guide to discipline).
- Short Video: Discipline with grace - <https://www.truthforlife.org/resources/sermon/discipline-father/>

Parenting Under Pressure

- Short Article: What is “Success” - <https://www.ccef.org/what-success-parenting-teens/>
- Downloadable PDF: Single Parenting - <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/are-you-a-single-parent/>
- Recommended Book: *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul Tripp.
- Short Article: When Parenting get hard - <https://christianparentingbasics.com/parenting-through-adversity-keeping-jesus-at-the-center/>

SECTION 3: Quick Help

“My child just told me...” Guides

- They don’t believe in God: * *Breathe, listen, and do not panic.* Their doubt does not threaten God's sovereignty.
 - *Resource Link:* <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/when-the-one-you-love-is-wayward/>
- They’re questioning identity: * *Respond with grace and truth.* Affirm your unconditional love for them while holding fast to a biblical view of the body and design.
 - *Resource Link:* <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/respond-child-comes-out/>
- They’re struggling emotionally: * *Validate the pain, point to the Comforter.* Don't rush to "fix" it with a Bible verse; mourn with them first.
 - *Resource Link:* Encourage connection with an ACBC-certified (Association of Certified Biblical Counselors) biblical counselor. <https://biblicalcounseling.com/find-a-counselor/>
- They’re hiding things: * *Address the heart, not just the lie.* Deception is born out of fear or pride. Foster an environment where confessing sin is met with the gospel, not just consequences. <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/7-steps-down-the-staircase-of-dishonesty/>

Prayer Prompts for Parents

- *For their salvation:* "Lord, take out their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26)."
- *For their protection:* "Father, keep them from the evil one and sanctify them in your truth (John 17:15-17)."
- *For your parenting:* "God, give me the wisdom I lack, and let me parent out of your grace, not my anxiety (James 1:5)."

Scripture-Based Encouragement

- **Isaiah 40:11:** "He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young." (*A reminder that God gently leads YOU as you parent*).
- **Romans 8:38-39:** Nothing can separate us—or our children—from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Crisis Hotlines (Clearly Marked)

- **Immediate Medical/Safety Emergency:** Call 911.
- **Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** Call or text **988** (Available 24/7, free, and confidential).
- **Focus on the Family Christian Counseling Consultation:** 1-855-771-HELP (4357) (Free consultation with a licensed Christian counselor for next steps).