

Training Youth to Follow the Lord in a Changing World

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Key Stats:

70% of youth stop attending church and start leaving when they graduate from high school.

A light orange downward-pointing arrow connects the top box to the middle box.

Only 10% of Gen Z (born between 1997-2012) attend church at least once a month.

A light gray downward-pointing arrow connects the middle box to the bottom box.

Gen Z is the least churched generation in American history.

What do
they
need?

An anchor in Scripture
Engagement.

Wherewithal shall a young man
cleanse his way? by taking heed
thereto according to thy word

Psalm 119:9

What do
they
need?

Intergenerational Mentorship

One generation shall praise thy
works to another, and shall
declare thy mighty acts.

Psalm 145:4

What do
they
need?

Apologetics in Conversation

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts:
and be ready always to give an answer to
every man that asketh you a reason of the
hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1 Peter 3:15

What do
they
need?

Digital stewardship training

See then that ye walk circumspectly,
not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming
the time, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5:15-16

Who will I
REACH
with the gospel?
Acts 1:8

Who will I
TRAIN
in the faith?
Matthew 28:19-20

What time, talent &
treasure do I
GIVE
to the Lord?
Matthew 25



ACCEPT THE
MISSION

Who will I **REACH**
with the gospel?

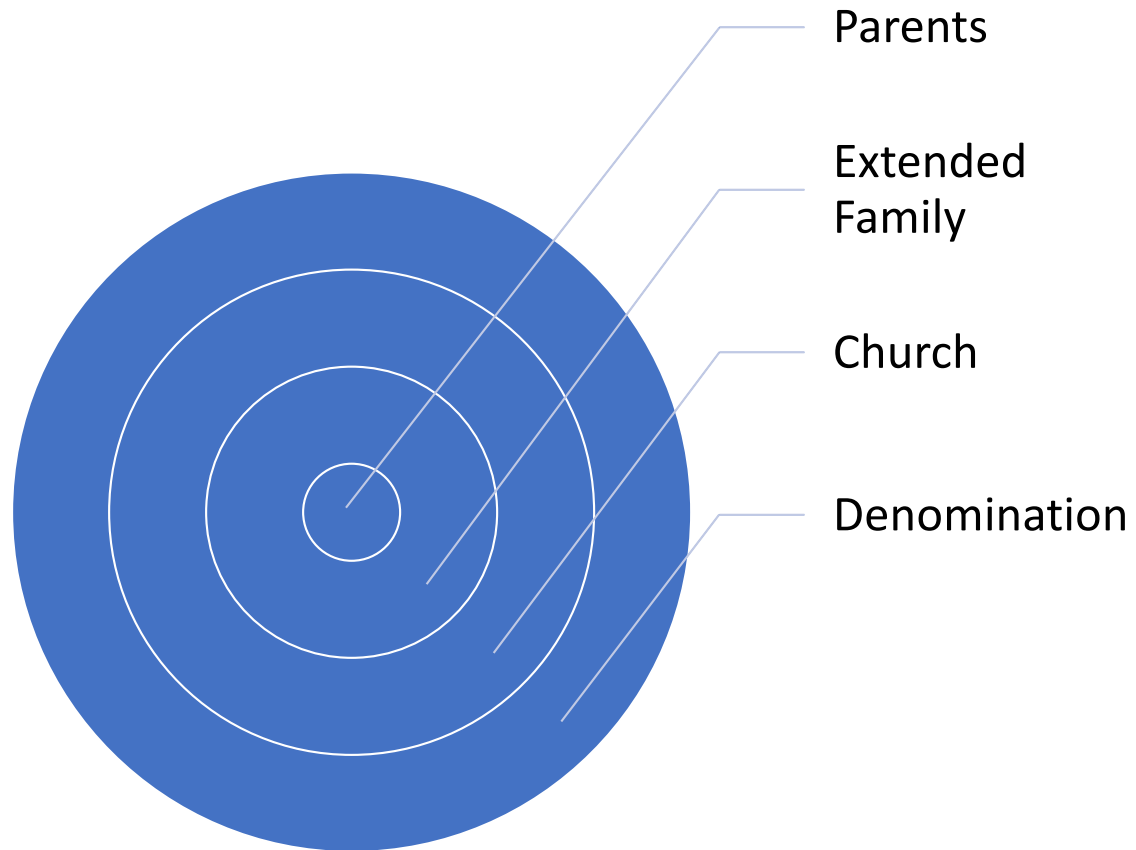
Who will I **TRAIN**
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ACCEPT THE
MISSION

How do we train them?



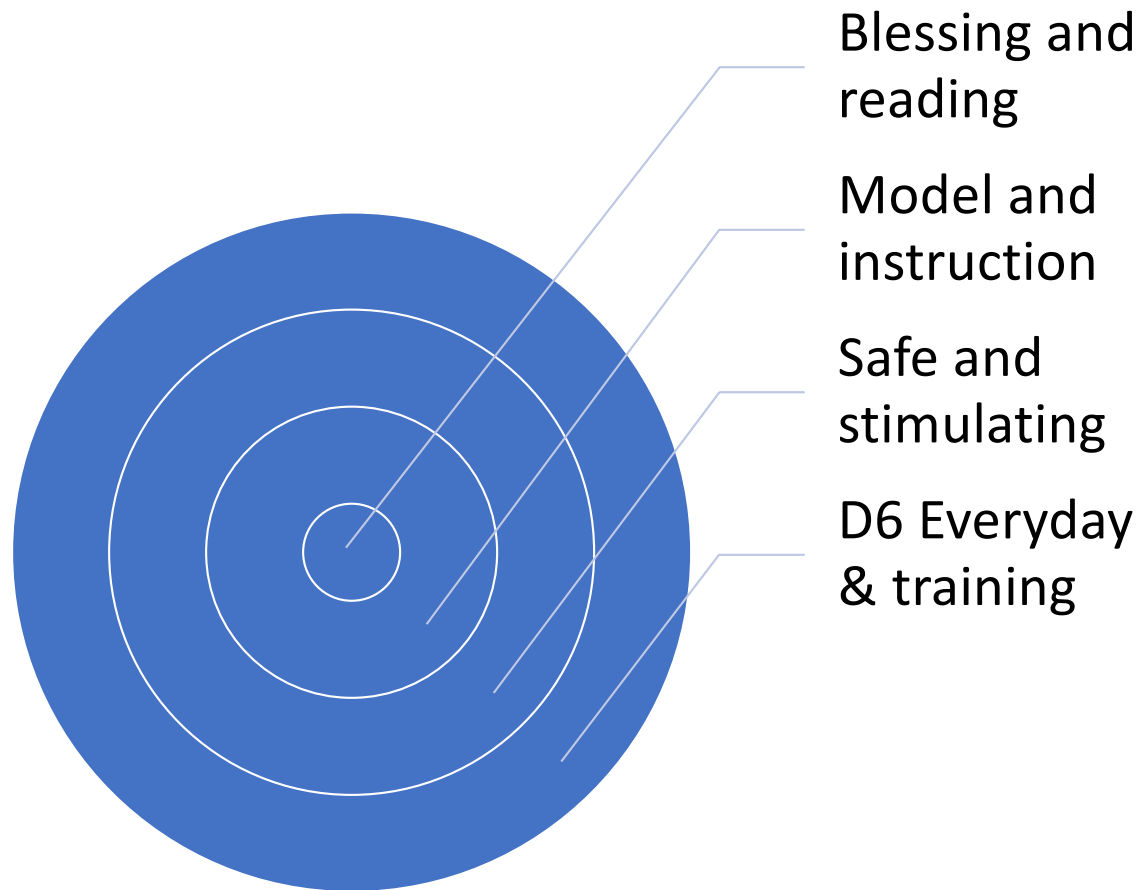


Infants & Toddlers (Birth – Age 2)

But thou art he that
took me out of the
womb: thou didst
make me hope
when I was upon
my mother's
breasts.

Psalm 22:9

How do we train them?



How? Older Women Teach the Younger Women


The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

Titus 2:3

Who will I **REACH** with the gospel?
Acts 1:8

Who will I **TRAIN** in the faith?
Matthew 28:19-20

What time, talent & treasure do I **GIVE** to the Lord?
Matthew 25



ACCEPT THE **MISSION**

Who will I **REACH** with the gospel?

Who will I **TRAIN** in the faith?

What time, talent & treasure do I **GIVE** to the Lord?



ACCEPT THE **MISSION**





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Preschoolers (Ages 3–5)

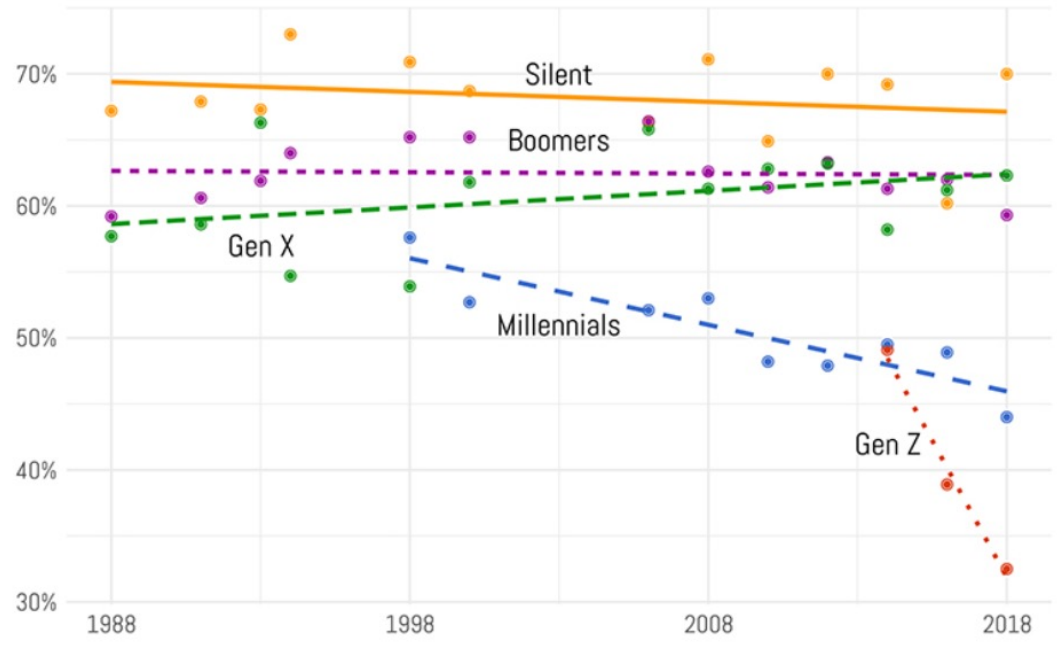
Out of the mouth of babes
and sucklings hast thou
ordained strength because
of thine enemies, that thou
mightest still the enemy
and the avenger.

Psalm 8:2

How do we train them?



Share Believing in God Without a Doubt



@ryanburge
Data: GSS 1988-2018

“Share Believing in God Without a Doubt” Graphic by Ryan Burge



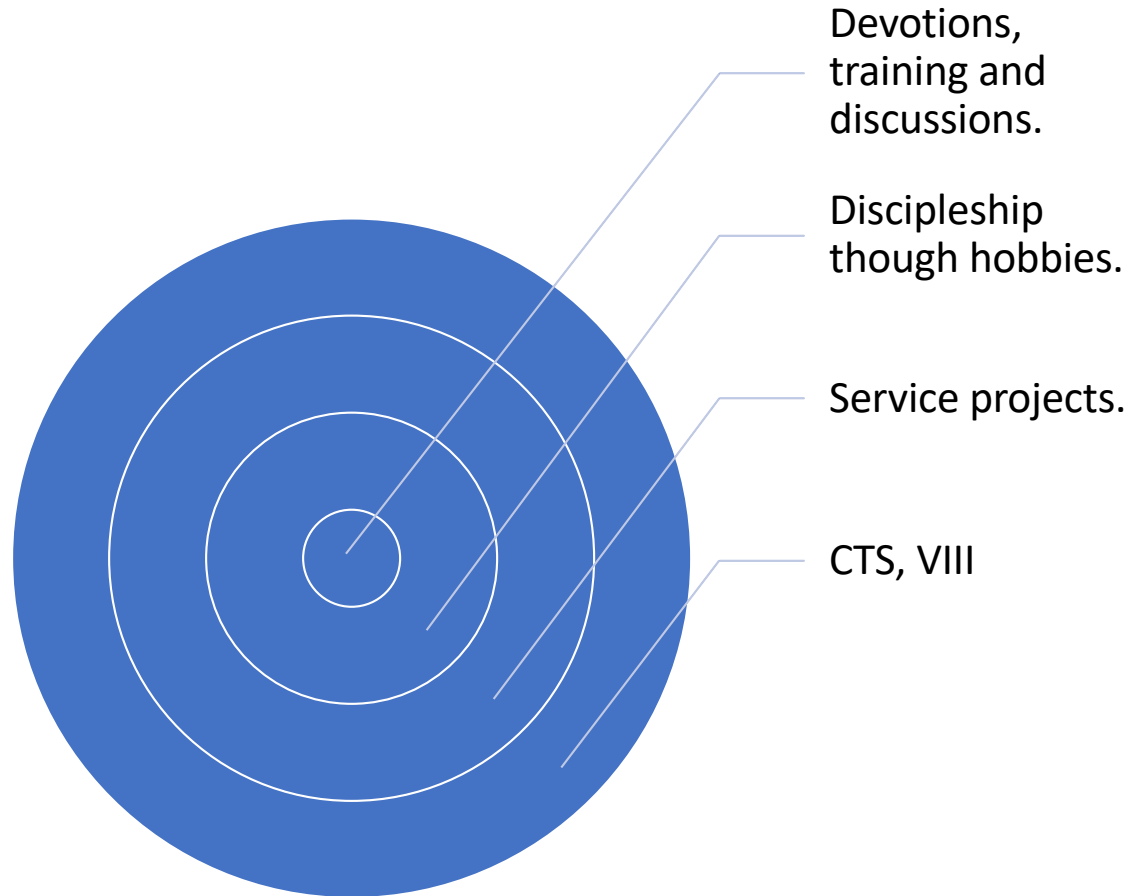
Why Use a Curriculum for Sunday School and Life Groups - Katie Greenwood

Elementary
(Ages 6–10)

We will not hide them
from their children,
shewing to the
generation to come
the praises of the
Lord, and his strength,
and his wonderful
works that he hath
done.

Psalm 78:4

How do we train them?





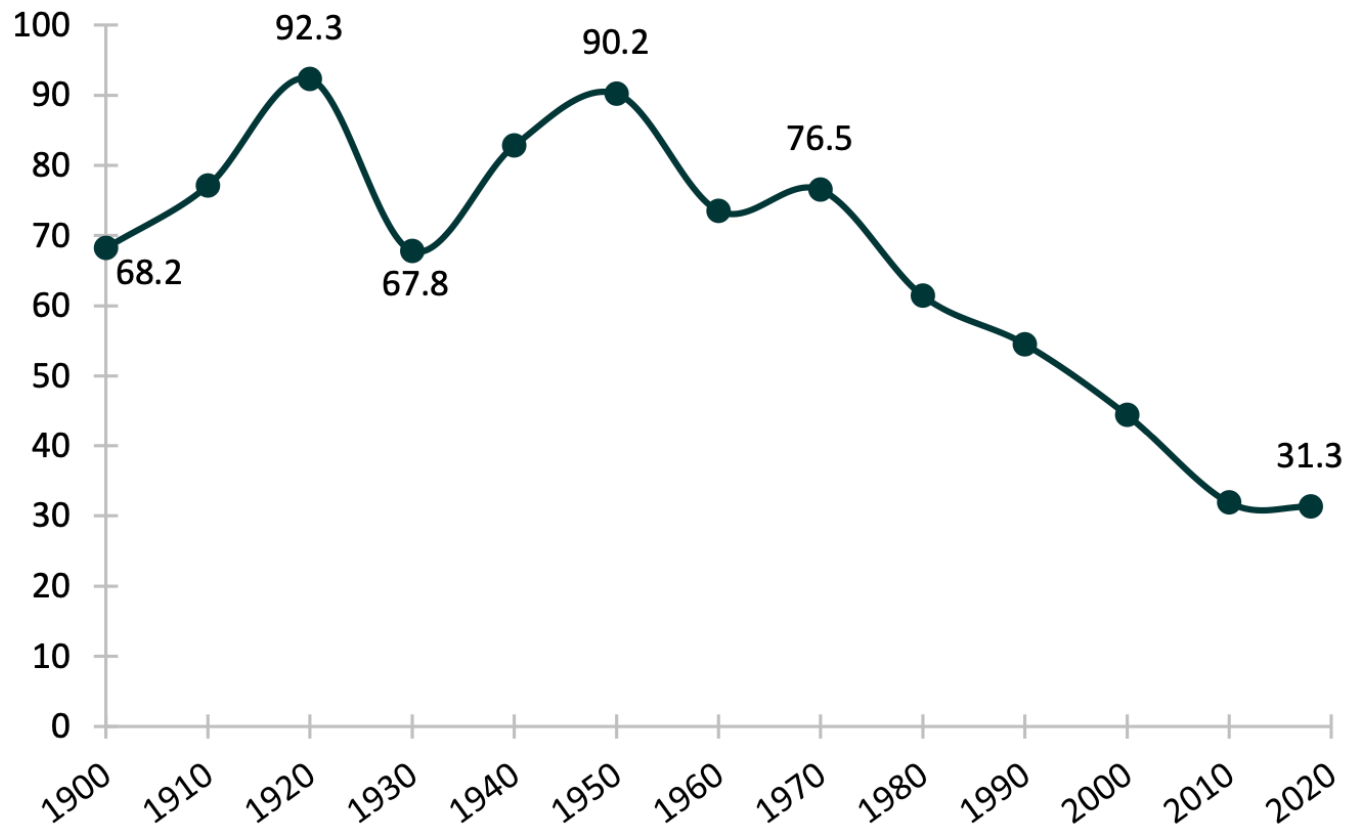
SANDY ATWOOD
AUTHOR, *FAMILY FAITH TALKS*

Sandy Atwood - Faith Family Talks

Marriage: More than a Century of Change, 1900-2018

Author: Valerie Schweizer

Figure 1. Women's Marriage Rate, 1900-2018

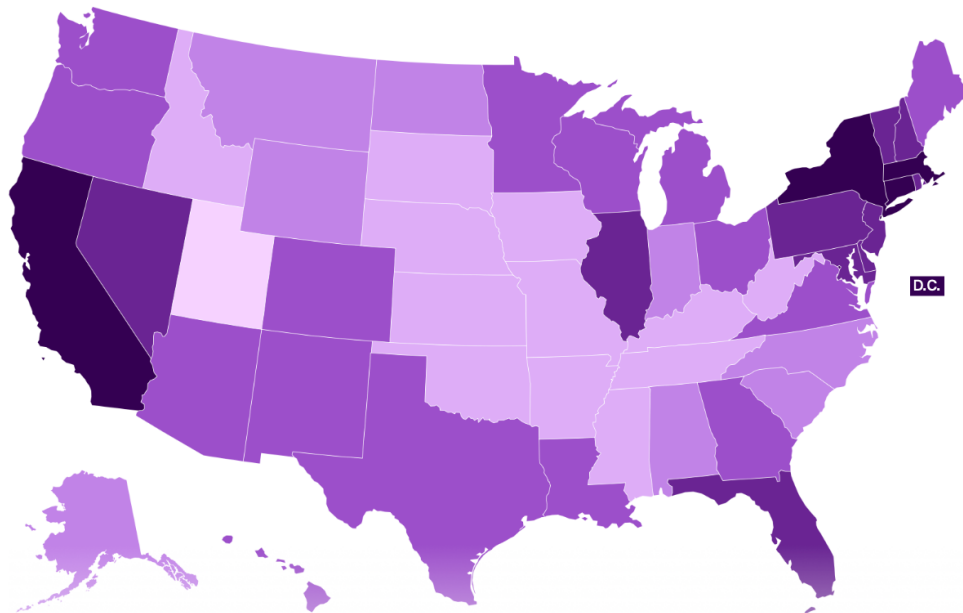
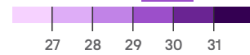




Median age at first marriage, 2023

Among adults ages 15 to 54

National **29.7**



Data: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); Chart: Axios Visuals

Alabama = 28.1
Georgia = 29.5
Florida = 30.1

Science proves kids are bad for Earth. Morality suggests we stop having them.

We need to stop pretending kids don't have environmental and ethical consequences.



— Double trouble. Matt Nighswander / NBC News

Why the U.S. Fertility Rate Has Hit a Record Low

As childbearing shifts toward women 30 and older, U.S. moves further below level needed to keep growing

By [Anthony DeBarros](#) [Follow](#), [Paul Overberg](#) [Follow](#) and [Andrea Petersen](#) [Follow](#)

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U.S. general fertility rate



Note: The general fertility rate measures births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 44. Data for 2025 is provisional. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

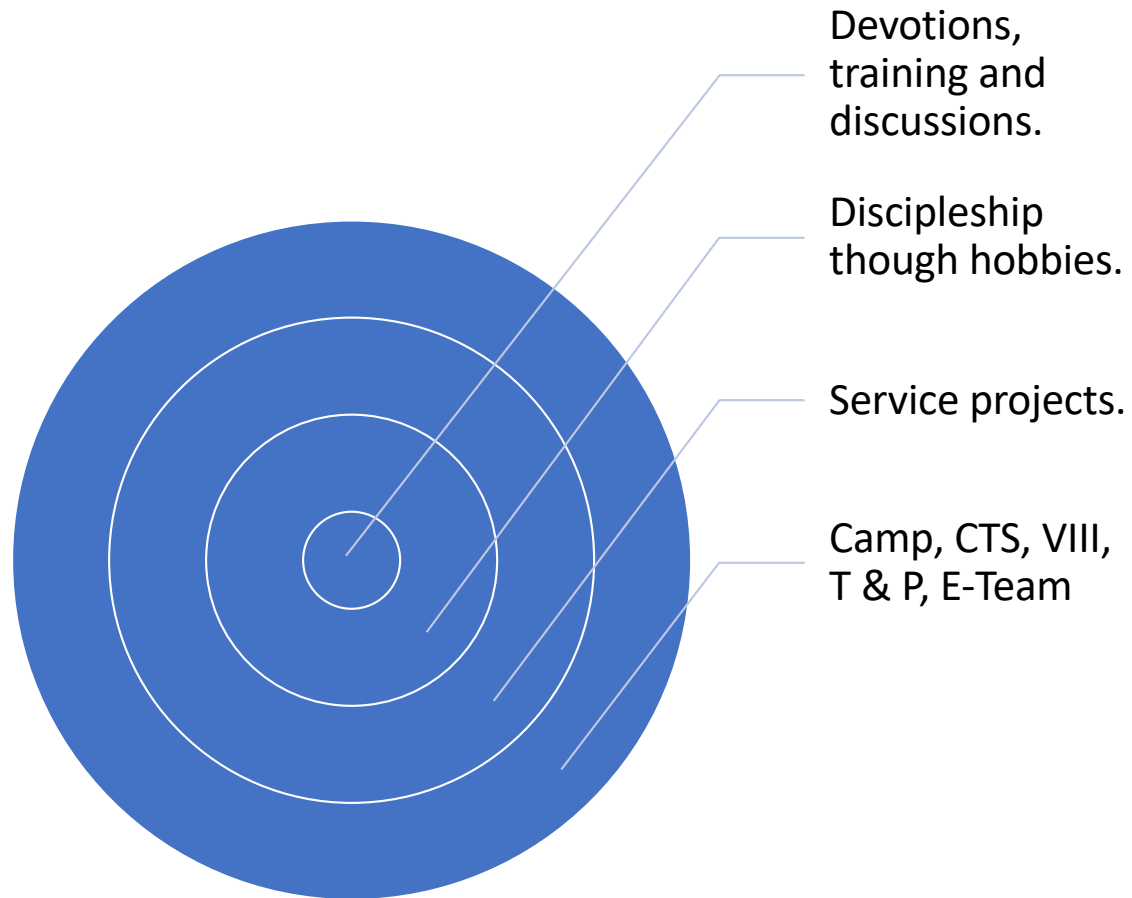


Preteens & Teens (Ages 11–18)

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Deuteronomy 6:7

How do we train them?



Key Findings

99.25% report regular church attendance.

87% report being involved in church ministry, most of which involved multiple ministries.

85% attend a Free Will Baptist church.



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The Magazine for Free Will Baptists

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