



family sit together

Why do we do family sit-together Sundays?

grace
KIDS

Reason #1 • Togetherness

Worshiping together means being together.

The hectic American life leaves little time for significant togetherness. It is hard to overestimate the good influence of families doing valuable things together week in and week out, year in and year out. Sometimes parents struggle to fully embrace the powerful impact and wonderful opportunity that God has set before them to practice worshipping together as a family. Sit-together Sundays provide that time and opportunity.

Reason #2 • Lead by example

Parents have the responsibility to teach their children the meaning and value of worship. There's no better way to teach this than modeling it. Kids are always watching. Children should see how Mom and Dad bow their heads in earnest prayer. They should see how Mom and Dad sing praise to God with joy in their faces, and how they listen hungrily to His Word.

We have great programs for kids during church, but the persons primarily responsible for discipling kids are parents, not Sunday school teachers. Parents should be jealous to model for their children the tremendous value they put on reverence in the presence of Almighty God.

Reason #3 • It's not *too* far over their heads

Children absorb a tremendous amount that is of value.

Music and words become familiar. The message of the music starts to sink in. The form of the service begins to feel natural. Even if the highly intellectual parts of the sermon go over their heads, we know that children hear and remember remarkable things.

The content of the prayers and songs and sermon gives parents unparalleled opportunities to teach their children the great truths of our faith. If parents would only learn to query their children after the service and then explain things, the children's capacity to participate would soar.

"Sunday worship service is not useless to children just because much of it goes over their heads. They can and will grow into this new language faster than we think—if positive and happy attitudes are fostered by the parents." ~Together in God's Presence by John Piper

This is not an excessive expectation, kids can be taught in the first five years of life to obey their father and mother when they say, "Sit still and be quiet."

There are exceptions: sometimes parents have children with special needs and it is very difficult if not impossible for that child to be a part of the family worship service. In that case we work with those families to assist them however we can.

the schedule

Nursery through 2-year-olds always have class offered for all services.

3-year-old and Pre-K

- Memorial Day weekend
 - Labor Day Weekend
 - Sunday Following Thanksgiving
 - Sunday following Christmas

Kindergarten through 6th Grade

- Memorial Day Weekend until Labor day:
Summer Sit-Together
 - Sunday following Thanksgiving
 - Sunday following Christmas

7th - 12th Grades

- Memorial Day weekend
 - Labor Day Weekend
 - Sunday Following Thanksgiving
 - Sunday following Christmas