

Roadmap

Middle School (11-14)

Goals

- **Faith commitment & baptism.** This is one of the biggest callings as a Christian parent.
- **Biblical sexual worldview.** Your child should believe that Jesus is better than sexual immorality.
- **Growing identity in Christ.** If your child has placed faith in Jesus, they can start to see faith in Jesus as the most important aspect of his or her life.

Know

- **Who am I?** Your children will start wrestling with identity questions: “Who am I?”, “What/who do I like?”, “Who do I want to be?”, etc. Now is the time to start applying the gospel to questions like this as they are discovering who they are becoming.
- **Peer influence.** Kids naturally start giving more authority to the voices of their peers in this stage. Become a student of what beliefs they are forming so that you can wisely help them apply gospel truth to their lives.
- **Sex and sexuality.** Over the next few years, the majority of their peers will already be [looking at pornography](#), and some of their peers will already start exploring their sexuality. They need a biblical worldview of sex to prepare for the sexual content and temptation they will encounter.

Do

- **Regular family discipleship moments.** This continues in the home, but now your kids get to take an even more active role. You also can start encouraging them to create their own space for personal quiet times.
- **Parent/Child getaway.** ([hyperlink this to explanation page](#)).
- **Teach biblical sexuality.** This is not purity culture. This [article](#) gives a helpful framework for how you should talk about sex. You need to train them to view sex Biblically and to depend upon the power of God to honor him in this area.

- **Take them to Student Nights.** This is an opportunity for your child to grow alongside other students in our church family, and it allows us to continue to partner with you as you are the chief discipler of your child.
- **Teach foundational beliefs**
 - Jesus is better than everything else.
 - Jesus > Idols
 - Functional Saviors
 - Creation-Fall-Redemption-Restoration
 - Justification-Sanctification-Glorification
 - Jesus is the only way.
 - Saved by grace & created for good works.
 - The person of the Holy Spirit and his active role in the life of a Christian.
 - The whole Bible is about Jesus.
 - Introduction to biblical sexuality.

Resources

- [Family Discipleship Moments Guide](#)
- [Canopy](#)
- [Covenant Eyes](#)
- [Mama Bear Apologetics: Empowering Your Kids to Challenge Cultural Lies](#)
- [The Heart of Middle School Meanness \(Article\)](#)
- [Raising Teens Requires Listening Well \(Article\)](#)
- [Twelve Tips for Parenting in the Digital Age](#)
- [Rebecca McLaughlin on Teens and Apologetics \(Podcast\)](#)
- [10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask \(And Answer\) About Christianity](#)
- [CCEF Parenting Page \(Website\)](#)