



GROWING-UP THE NEXT GENERATION

Emerging Movements in Youth and Children's Ministry



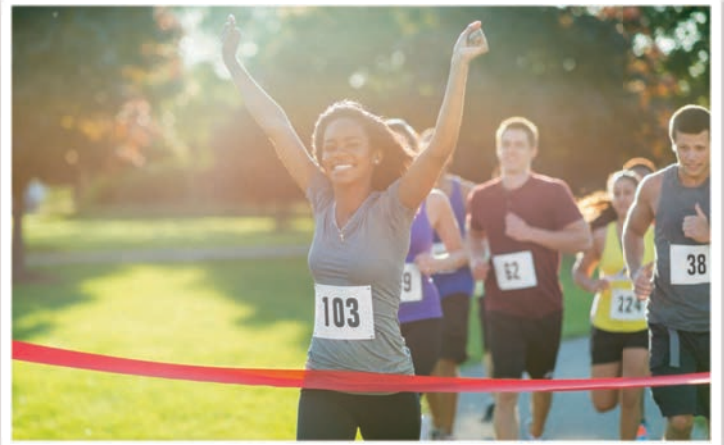




- *Conversation around family ministry*
- *Conversation around relational ministry*

SHARED GOALS

- *peak your interest*
- *not provide answers*
- *conversation*





FAMILY MINISTRY



FAMILY

Findings from Pew Research Center- Parenting in America

- In 2014: No longer one dominant family form¹
 - 46% Two parents in first marriage
 - 15% Two parents in remarriage
 - 7% Cohabiting parents
 - 26% Single parent
 - 5% No parent
- Diversity is growing
 - 2044 whites will be a numeric minority²

PEW RESEARCH CENTER– PARENTING IN AMERICA ³

➤ Tired

- 29% of fathers said being a parent is tiring all or most of the time
- 37% of mothers said being a parent is tiring all or most of the time

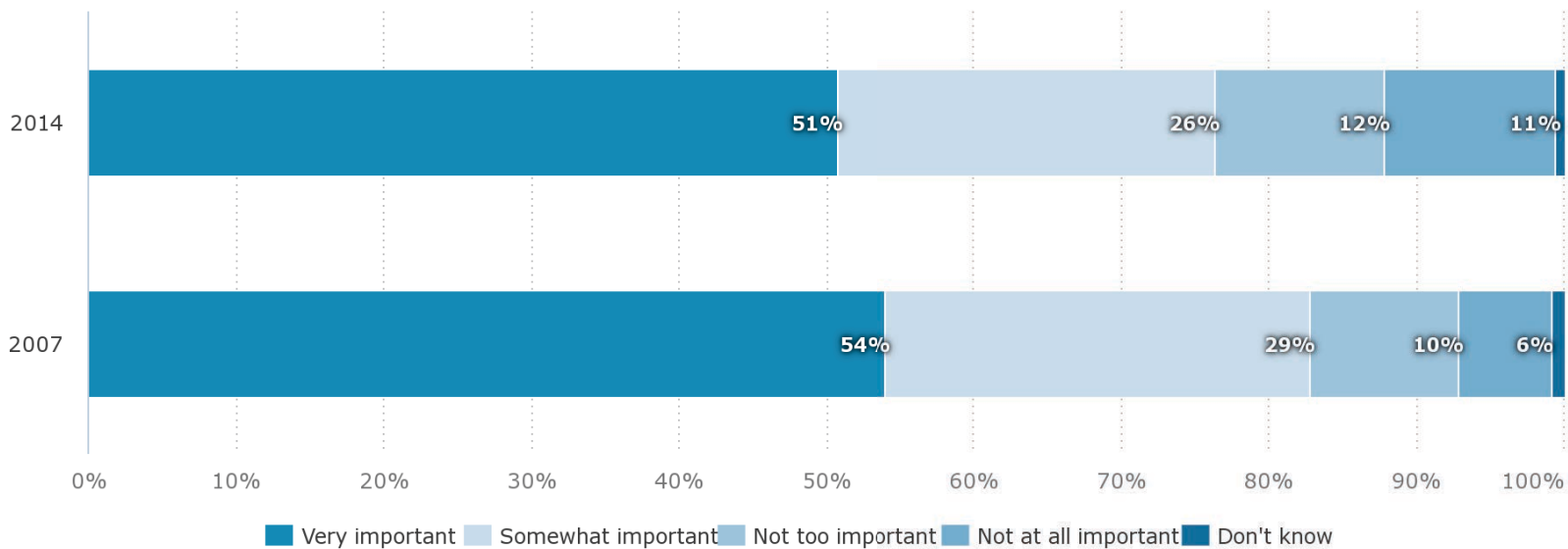
➤ Rushed

- 31% of parents said they always feel rushed
- 53% sometimes feel rushed
- 15% never feel rushed

RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE- TRENDS

Importance of religion in one's life among adults in Pennsylvania

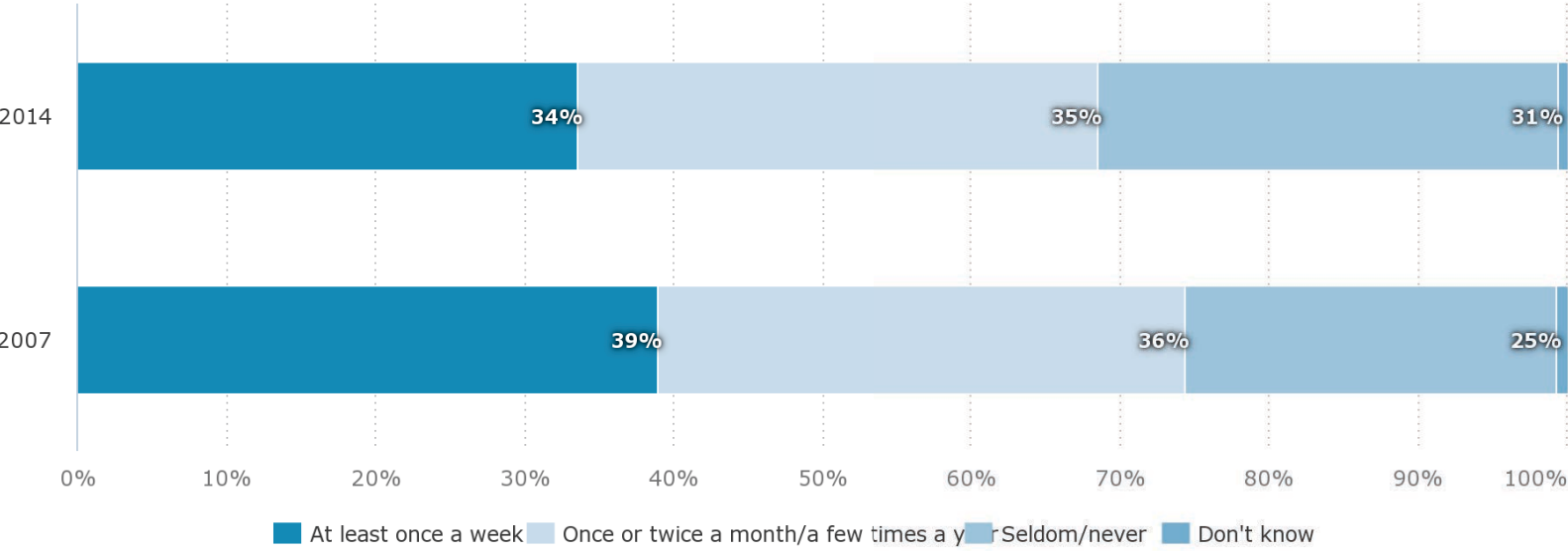
% of adults in Pennsylvania who say religion is...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Attendance at religious services among adults in Pennsylvania

% of adults in Pennsylvania who attend religious services...



WHAT WE KNOW FROM NSYR

- Teens who consider themselves to be the most religious come from homes in which faith is important to the parents.⁴

Insights from Confirmation Project

“those who reported stronger faith in the home also reported far more frequent family prayers at mealtimes and reading the Bible with their parents,... The faith practice that correlated most strongly with increased faith in the home was family prayer at bedtime.”⁵

It's as true for children as it is for adults: faith must be practiced. We can teach, certainly, and instruct and inform. But what will be remembered are those tangible, in-the-flesh actions that get God out of our heads and into our hands. What will be remembered is the scent of a bubbling hot casserole for a family in need, the whoosh of a "Pentecost kite" whipping through the air, the feeling of prayer beads pressed against fingers, the dance of flame atop Advent candles.

-Rachel Held Evans

Picture Stories from THE BIBLE

The New Testament in full-color comic-strip form.





DAILY EXAMINE FOR CHILDREN 6

1. Review your day with gratitude:

*Draw one moment where you
experienced gratitude, joy, beauty.
You will need to prompt...*

2. How was God present today?

*Draw a moment or symbol
where you experience God
that day...*

3. How did you respond to God's
presence?

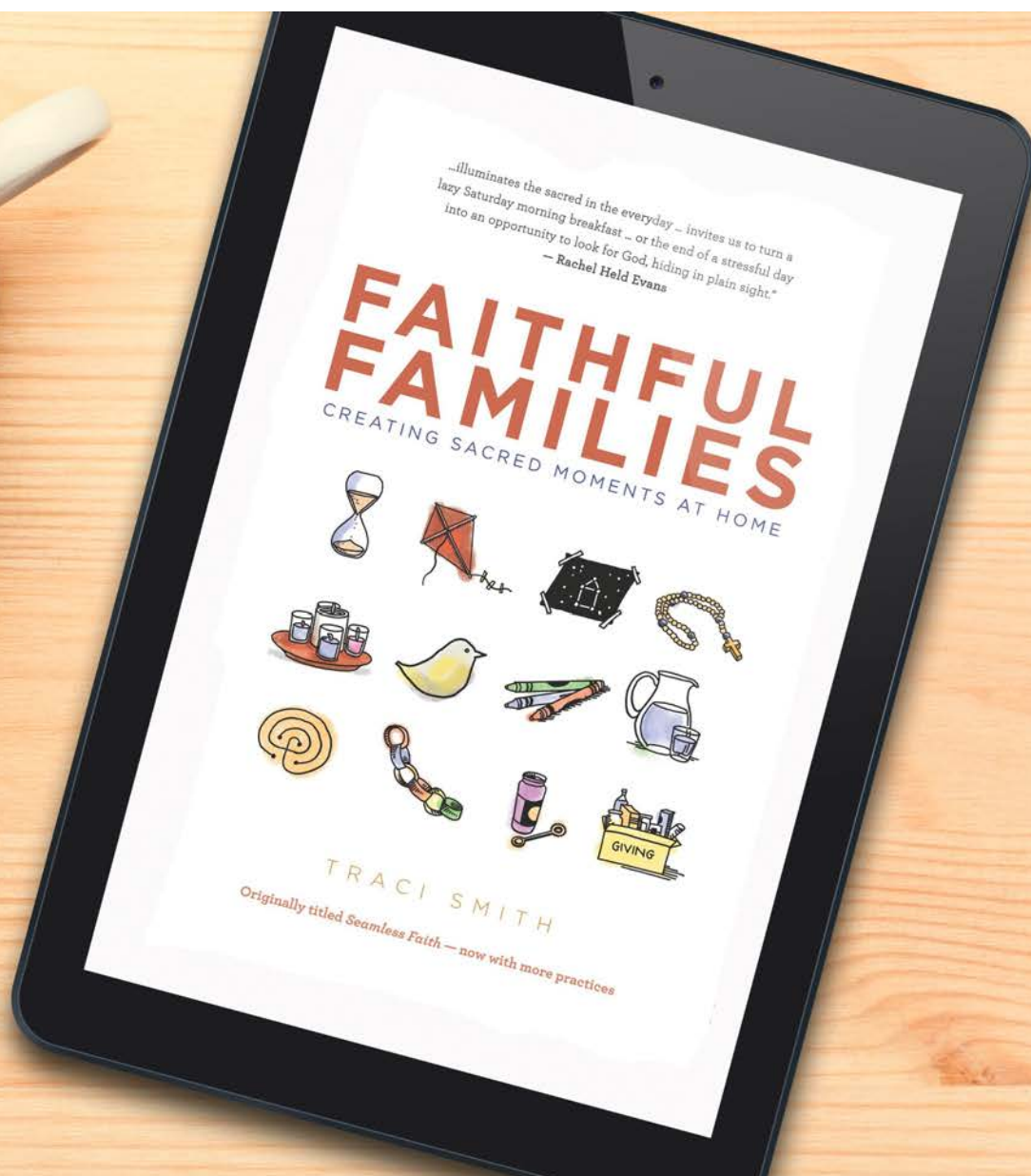
Draw a moment or a symbol

When were we loving?

When weren't we loving?

4. Pray the day, the moment, the image.

Draw a word of praise, thankfulness





.....

1. At bedtime, after the child has finished his or her usual bedtime routine (teeth brushed, pajamas on, story read, etc.) say to your child, “Daddy (or Mommy) is going to say a night time blessing now!” 2. Place your hand on the child’s head or shoulder and say a short blessing. Use one of the examples or write your own.

i. [Child’s name], may God bless you and keep you. May God be kind and gracious to you. May God give you peace tonight and every night. Amen.

ii. [Child’s name], may the peace of God, which is bigger than anything we understand, fill your heart and your mind, and may you know God’s love always. Amen.

iii. [Child’s name], may the God of hope fill you with joy and peace, not only tonight, but tomorrow and the next day and all the days of your life. Amen.³ iv. God Bless [child’s name]. Amen.

3. At the end of the blessing, say, “Amen,” give the child a hug or kiss, and leave the room.

Smith, Traci. Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home (pp. 14-15). Chalice Press. Kindle Edition.

Jared Patrick Boyd

imaginative prayer



A YEARLONG GUIDE FOR YOUR
CHILD'S SPIRITUAL FORMATION

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US

- What does family ministry look like your context?
- What practices are you encouraging your families to discover?
- How is your congregation embracing the changing family dynamics?



REFORMING RELATIONAL MINISTRY

Youth Ministry as an alternative community



IT SEEMS LIKE....

- youth ministry is moving in a direction of decentralization
- the program model of youth ministry is failing....
- youth ministry needs to prove itself relevant in the midst of a crowded marketplace
- youth ministry needs to find its place in the midst of a lonely and heavily networked culture.



Life isn't about surviving the storm,
it's about learning to drive in the
rain...

Also learning to dance in the rain...
but you wouldn't want to see this
presenter dance....

-Bumper Sticker



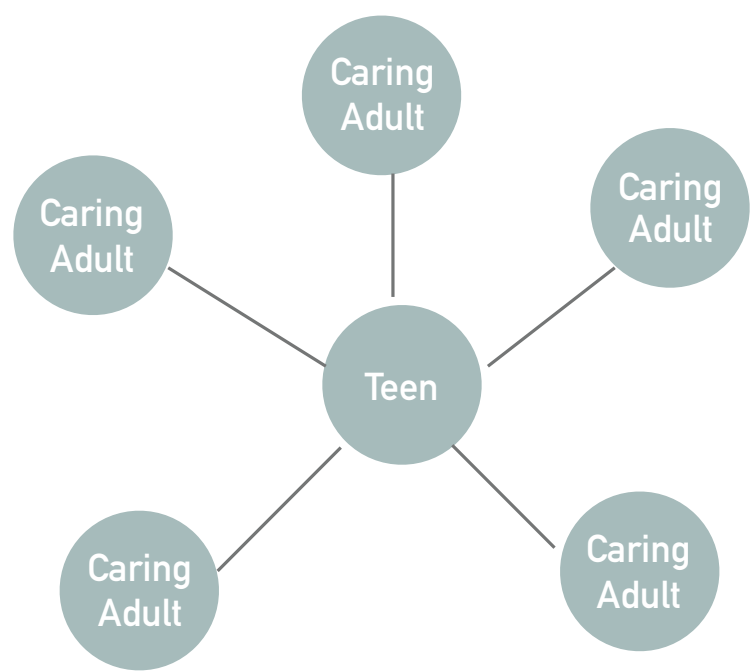
WE ARE BUILT FOR THIS



“It has been shown that, in the absence of strong parental faith, the most common factor maintaining faith into emerging adulthood is that the teen has many adults in a congregation to turn for help and support.”⁷

-Cultivating Teen Faith pg. 98

CREATING A WEB OF CARE



“ and whoever desires to be an educator today must...stand in principle upon the side of our younger people

-Karl Barth, The Word of God and the Word of Man, p. 292

AS YOUTH VOLUNTEERS, YOUTH DIRECTORS, YOUTH PASTORS

- We need to trust the spirit more...
- We need to be brave...
- We need to listen more....
- We need to have more authentic healthy relationships with our youth
- When we “stand upon the side of younger people”
 - It will lead to discomfort, stress
 - It will place young people in positions of leadership
 - It ultimately lead back to the church

- What does youth ministry look like in your context?
- Are you seeing a trend toward decentralized youth ministry?
- How is your congregation standing upon the side of young people?

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1. <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2015/12/17/1-the-american-family-today/>
 2. <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bs-ed-op-0809-minority-majority-20170808-story.html>
 3. <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2015/12/17/1-the-american-family-today/>
 4. <https://www.acsi.org/assets/Documents/Resources/CSE/CSE%20Magazine/11559.pdf>
 5. Osmer, Richarde ed. Cultivating Teen Faith: insights from the confirmation project. 2018. Pg 97.
 6. <https://www.pbgrace.com/a-daily-examen-for-children-and-teens/>
 7. Osmer, Richarde ed. Cultivating Teen Faith: insights from the confirmation project. 2018. Pg 98.

QUESTIONS?

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