



If you're anything like me, you've come to the realization that this parenting thing is hard. These little ones that God has entrusted us with don't come with an instruction manual and they don't stay little forever. As parents, we're on this non-stop train of training that won't stop for a long time ... and we feel like we don't have a clue. The bottom line is this: I need help. Can you relate? Often, as parents, we know that we need some sort of support system, but we're not quite sure where to turn. We may seek advice from our parents or from the relatively small cluster of people we trust to know what's really going on in our homes. Possibly worse, we just try to suck it up and figure it out on our own. What in the world are we to do?

Over the past several years we have been thinking, dreaming, and praying about how we as a church can do a better job of actually "partnering with parents" as they seek to lead their kids in a relationship with God. We talk a lot about wanting to help parents, but many of us believe we can do it better. We've held a number of focus groups and we've had some great conversations about how we can practically do this. We've landed on starting something that is more than a program. What we feel like we need is a "parent network."

The PC3 Parent Network exists "to equip and encourage parents to help their family walk with God." We're seeking to do this in a variety of ways and we invite you to be a part of it all. You can sign up to be a part of the network at www.parents.portcitychurch.com and you'll start getting updates on what's going on and how you can get involved. Even though we've been at this for over a year, we feel like we're just getting started. We'd love to have you along for this wild ride we call parenting.

Have questions or need specific help?
E-mail us at parents@portcitychurch.org.

Follow us on Instagram and Twitter @pc3parents.

Like us on Facebook on the PC3 Parents Facebook Page.

A parent's guide to

MAKING THE JUMP

(from Middle School to High School)



TIPS TO HELP YOUR TEEN MAKE THE TRANSITION

Celebrate the Accomplishment!

Your 8th grader is coming out of one of the biggest and most important phases of his or her life. Over the last few years they have moved from being a kid to being a teen, and that's a big deal! They have been in a phase where they have been developing their identities, and they NEED your affirmation. Take some time in the next few weeks to really celebrate them and let them know that you are proud of them. They may not seem like they need this from you, but they do! They're still growing and learning about who they are and who they want to be. As a parent, you have a big part to play in it all. Make their favorite dinner, take them to their favorite restaurant, invite some family and/or friends ... just make a big deal out of them surviving middle school.



SMSN
June 14

SMSN
June 21

SMSN
June 28



FUSE '17
July 8th - 12th

SMSN
July 19

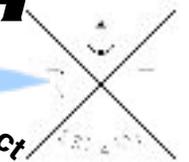
SMSN
July 26

SMSN
August 2

SMSN
August 9

9th Grade Welcome
August 13th

9TH
Ripple Effect
Fall Launch
September 10th



This Summer

This summer your rising 9th grader is invited to join us for our Student Ministry Summer Nights (SMSN). On these nights we'll spend time together building community, studying the Bible and just plain having fun. Grab an SMSN flyer and put the dates on the calendar!

FUSE

If your teen hasn't signed up for our summer camp yet, you should make that happen! FUSE is the biggest and best event we do all year long, and it's amazing opportunity for your rising 9th grader to get connected in several ways. They'll have a chance to meet some new leaders, hang out with other students who are making the jump into high school, and take more steps towards owning their faith.



Next Fall

Your child will be moving from Tsunami into our high school ministry called Ripple Effect.. Just as the life of a high schooler is different than that of a middle schooler, Ripple Effect is different than Tsunami. We often find that students coming to Ripple Effect are looking to have the same experience they had in Tsunami and the reality is that it's just different. Middle school students in Tsunami are wild and crazy and like to jump around. High school students in Ripple Effect are more "chill" and like to hang out. Tsunami is on Wednesday nights, and Ripple Effect is on Sunday nights. Instead of meeting each week at church, Ripple Effect has monthly big events at church and have REgroups in homes most Sundays. These "community groups" are organized by grade and area of town and are well suited to the high school culture. You'll get more info on REgroups as we approach the fall. It all starts on Sunday, September 10th at 6:30 pm.

Lead ... Spiritually!

As your teen moves into the next phase of his or her faith, don't underestimate the influence you still have. Your child is not only listening to what you say about God but now, more than ever, they are watching how you live. In short, be the adult you want your child to become. Show them an example of what it means for an adult to follow Jesus in every area of life. Talk about your own faith and share with them about the grace of God in your life. Love them unconditionally and make your walk with God a normal part of everyday life. If you do, they just might.

*"Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from it."*

Proverbs 22:6