NOV 2026 VOL 2 | ISN 10

HAM LANE FLN

FAMILY LIFE NEWSLETTER

PULL BACK THE CURTAIN

Have you ever thought about the whys of what you do? Your kids have! They are naturally full of curiosity and shouldn't they be? It just makes sense that if you're going through the trouble to do something, that there must be a logical reason for it. And yet, when it comes to faith in Jesus and the way we express that faith in our actions, do we take the time to explain to them why our faith looks the way it does?
Why do we pray if God already knows what we need?
Why do we get together and sing?
Why do we baptize?
Why do we drink juice and call it the blood of Jesus?
In Acts 8, a follower of Jesus, named Philip, came up to a man on the road who was reading from God's Word. Philip, being curious, asked the man if he was understanding what he read, and the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" We are our children's guides. Let's point them to Jesus! Don't be afraid to pull back the curtain on faith, because what we do matters.

SERVING MATTERS

The immediate effects are obvious: people will get access to clean water, but serving also has a lasting effect on our kids! Compassion, kindness, and generosity are all being developed in them with every act of love. So bring them along, let them help, and show them how Jesus loved.



INTERACT WITH US!

We use the band app to get the word out to our group. If you still haven't joined the band app group, now's the time! Just search "Ham Lane Family Ministry" and request to join. It's the best place to get all the up-to-date info on events, classes, and family news. Hope to see you on there!

3 WAYS TO HELP FAITH MATTER MORE TO OUR KIDS

You've probably heard it by now...an alarming amount of church kids drop out of church when they become young adults.

"The latest report, 'Passing the Torch: How Faith Moves Across Generations', analyzed data from over 60,000 adult Americans who were raised in Christian households. The study finds that families are the "single most important factor in whether children adopt and maintain faith into adulthood", with parental example, communal religious practices and the strength of relationships between parents and their children emerging as key influences. Children whose parents attended church weekly were more than twice as likely to attend church weekly themselves as adults (26% compared with 12%)" (Mbah, Obianuju. "Parents play decisive role in passing faith to the next generation, study finds." Christiantoday.com, 2026).

So what can we, as parents, do? Here are three things that come to my (Greg's) mind:
(*continued on page 2*)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1) **Begin with Your Own Faith Journey.** You can't pass on what you don't already possess yourself. Do a quick self evaluation of your own relationship with Jesus. Where are you now versus where would you like to be in six months or a year from now? Keep growing. Keep building.
2) **Be Intentional.** If it's important to you, show it, don't assume your kids will pick up on it. They're not going to accidentally fall into a strong faith; it needs to be grown intentionally. Our children get info from so many other sources in life, we need to make sure they are clear on what their parents believe. If you do a morning Bible study, leave it out for them to see. Decorate your home with scripture that is meaningful to you. Small things can speak volumes to your kids.
3) **Make Space.** We need another thing to do like we need a hole in the head, so that's not what I'm suggesting. Instead, find small moments in between to reflect and ask questions. How was Bible class this morning? What was the story about? What did you like about it? Do you have any questions about what you read/heard? These aren't questions meant to pry or stress them out, but to help them process what took place. Likewise, when you ask about their day at school, don't just ask how their day was, instead, ask who they hung out with, where they saw God working, or their favorite part of the day, etc. The more your kids know you listen and care about the every day ordinary moments, the more they'll open up about the things that matter most. No matter what you're busy with, God is working in the details.






LAST MONTH IN PICS

October started out strong with our 8th annual Walk4Water and then kept chugging right along with a Teen Hangout, a Picnic at the Park, a fantastic Fall Festival, and we finished up with our 2nd annual Family Pumpkin Carving Contest! Thanks to all who came and participated. If you have a picture to share from any of these awesome events, please send them over to Greg!

FAITH CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What questions do you have about things we do in church?
- Why do you think its important to know the reason you do certain things?
- When you think about your time at church, what's the first thing that comes to mind?
- How can you contribute to serving at the church?
- How many things can you list that you're thankful for in 30 seconds?

COMING UP!



Families of kids and teens are invited to join us for a nice, relaxing evening of food and friendship on Saturday, Nov. 14th at 5pm. There'll be games and activities for the kids and plenty of good company. Bring a Thanksgiving-style dish to share and come hang out with us! Sign up with the following link to let us know you're coming and what food dish you'll share. https://tinyurl.com/2wwatct7



Look for our thankful tree in the church foyer this month and add to it things you're thankful for. Let's fill it up to let God know we're thankful for his blessings!!

MEMORY VERSE

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."
—Psalm 100:4