BEST READS RELATED TO FAMILY MINISTRY

- **Theological**: God, Marriage and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundations by Andreas Kostenberger.
- **Evaluation of Different Strategies**: Perspectives on Family Ministry: Three Views by Timothy Paul Jones.
- **Pastoral Leadership Perspective**: Church + Home: The Proven Formula for Building Lifelong Faith by Mark Holmen.
- **Church Strategy**:
  2. Take it Home: Inspiration and Events to Help Parents Spiritually Transform Their Children by Mark Holmen.
- **Practical Ideas**: Collaboration: Family + Church by Michael Chanley.
- **Give Away to Parents**: Growing a Spiritually Strong Family by Dennis Rainey.

FAMILY MINISTRY CONFERENCES

- **D6 Conference**: [www.d6family.com/d6-conference](http://www.d6family.com/d6-conference)
- **Fam Conference**: [www.famconference.com](http://www.famconference.com)
- **Orange Conference**: [www.theorangeconference.com](http://www.theorangeconference.com)
- **The Gathering**: [www.dccgathering.com](http://www.dccgathering.com)

Anderson, Ray: *Something Old, Something New: Marriage and Family Ministry in a Postmodern Culture*.

**Anderson provides an overview of contemporary marriage and family ministry from a theological perspective and a pragmatic perspective.**

Anthony, Michelle: *Dreaming of More for the Next Generation: Lifetime Faith Ignited by Family Ministry*.

**Anthony provides an approach to evaluate and envision your effectiveness in the spiritual formation of children in home and church.**

Anthony, Michael and Michelle Anthony, eds: *A Theology for Family Ministry*.

**Michael and Michelle Anthony provide a succinct overview of family ministry with the bulk of the book focuses on developing a theology of family ministry and how this shapes family ministry in the context of the church. [www.rockharbor.org/ministries/families/](http://www.rockharbor.org/ministries/families/)  [www.biola.edu](http://www.biola.edu)**

Anthony, Michelle: *Spiritual Parenting: An Awakening for Today’s Families*.


Barna, George: *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions: Why Children Should Be Your Church’s #1 Priority*.

**Barna gives many challenging statistics as he always does. His research conclusions in this book point to how important it is to teach and emphasize spiritual truth for children. It is normally too late to wait until they become teens. This read will challenge parents and church leaders to become more intentional and strategic in what they do with their children’s ministry. [www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org)**

Barna, George: *Revolutionary Parenting*.

**This resource rose out of his research on children. He interviewed young adults who have a vibrant growing relationship with Christ and their parents to discover some common denominators from their families (what they did and didn’t do while their children were at home) that led their children to not reject the Christian faith in their young adult years. [www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org)**


**He approaches this book from an apologetic perspective and is well grounded theologically in challenging parents to step up to fulfill their God-given role to nurture their children’s faith at home and not abdicate responsibility to the church. He approaches church from a family integrated perspective where there are no age graded classes. His approach would be difficult to implement in most established churches but he still make one think hard about family and church. [www.gracefamilybaptist.net](http://www.gracefamilybaptist.net)  [www.voddiebaucham.org](http://www.voddiebaucham.org)**
Burrer, Kurt: *It Starts at Home: A Practical Guide to Nurturing Lifelong Faith*
Kurt Burrer served at Focus on the Family for several years and now serves at Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall, Texas. This book focuses on strengthening the family as the solution to curb the number of young adults who turn away from the faith. He has also been instrumental in the innovation alliance working with several churches around the country to develop creative strategies to impact families through the church. www.drivefaithhome.com www.homepointe.org www.strongfamilies.com www.heritagebuilders.com www.kurtbruner.com

Burns, Jim: *Confident Parenting & Faith Conversations for Families* www.homeword.com/

Chanley, Michael: *Collaborate: Family + Church*
Practical ideas from a variety of authors on helping churches and families make connections that help families build up the faith of their children at home. www.cmconnect.org

Courtney, Vickey: *5 Conversations You Must Have with Your Daughter* www.vickicourtney.com/

Courtney, Vickey: *5 Conversations You Must Have with Your Son* www.vickicourtney.com/

Elmore, Tim: *Generation Y: Our Last Chance to Save Their Future* www.growingleaders.com/

Elmore, Tim: *Artificial Maturity: Helping Kids Meet the Challenge of Becoming Authentic Adults*

Erwin, Pamela: *The Family Powered Church*
Provides plenty of practical ideas on how to involve families and minister to families through the context of the church.

Freudenburg, Ben: *The Family Friendly Church*
Churches need to make a paradigm shift from being church-centered, home-supported in their education approach to becoming home-centered, church-supported in their education approach. He provides many ideas, illustrations, and several appendices to give one plenty of tools to philosophically and practically move churches to become more family friendly. www.familyfriendlynpc.com/

This really is a comprehensive guide. She is a professor at Baylor University and this work addresses family ministry from a variety of angles. It’s not a book that most people would probably pick up and read through its entirety but it has a wealth of information related to family ministry. www.baylor.edu/social_work/cfcm/

*Haynes, Brian: SHIFT: What it Takes to Finally Reach Families Today*
This book provides a strategy that one church uses to help parents to become the spiritual leaders in their homes. Haynes provides some practical ideas to equip churches and families to partner together in guiding children along in their spiritual journey. www.legacymilestones.com/ www.kingsland.org www.legacyblog.org www.bafbc.org

Hebbard, Don: *The Complete Handbook of Family Life Ministry*
Hebbard provides several ideas and models for doing family ministry in a church context. He provides ideas for developing family ministry in a church from inception to fully developed ministries inside and outside the church. This provides many more conceptual details than Waugh’s book on leading family ministry in the church.

Hellerman, Joseph: *When the Church was a Family: Recapturing Jesus’ Vision for Authentic Christian Community*
This book draws upon the family metaphor and actions of the early church challenging the contemporary church to embrace authentic community and resist contemporary cultures radical individualism. This book will help the church to function like a family in nurturing closer relationships.

*Holmen, Mark: Church + Home: The Proven Formula for Building Lifelong Faith*
Holmen wrote this book to target pastors. He challenges churches to look at everything they do through the lens of building families faith at home constantly asking the question, “How does this help families build up the faith of their children at home.” This book is very practical for pastors in helping to begin strategically thinking about implementing family ministry without creating additional structures or programs. www.faithbeginsathome.com/ www.faithathome.com

Holmen, Mark: *Faith Begins at Home: The Family Makeover with Christ at the Center*
This is a resource for parents to help them think through a strategy to build the faith of their families at home. Many practical ideas and activities are shared as well as some small group discussion questions. www.faithbeginsathome.com/ www.faithathome.com

Ben Phillips ■ Church Health Team ■ Arkansas Baptist State Convention 2
Holmen, Mark: *Take it Home: Inspiration and Events to Help Parents Spiritually Transform Their Children*
This resource provides several ideas for churches to initiate events at church that will equip and stimulate families to build their faith at home.

Holmen, Mark: *Faith Begins @ Home Prayer; Faith Begins @ Home Dad; Faith Begins @ Home Mom; Faith Begins @ Home Devotions*
These are great short books for parents to help them catch and put into practice Faith @ Home principles. They also make great give-aways.

Joiner, Reggie: *Parenting Beyond Your Capacity: Connect Your Family to a Wider Community*
Practical book to help parents and the church engage together to make an impact on the next generation.

Joiner, Reggie: *Play for Keeps/Losing Your Marbles*  www.rethinkgroup.org  www.theorangeconference.com

*Joiner, Reggie: Think Orange*
This book provides a practical strategy for churches and parents to work together to build up the faith of children. Much of the strategy here was practically developed through Northpoint Church in Atlanta. www.rethinkgroup.org

Jones, Stan and Brenna: *God's Design for Sex Series* (Book 1: The Story of Me (ages 3-5), Book 2: Before I was Born (ages 5-8), Book 3: What's the Big Deal? Why God Cares about Sex (ages 8-11), Book 4: Facing the Facts: The Truth about Sex and You (ages 11-14), How and When to Tell Your Kids about Sex: A Lifelong Approach to Shaping Your Child's Sexual Character). This series of books give practical age appropriate ways to communicate a healthy biblical view of sexuality to children.

*Jones, Timothy Paul: Perspectives on Family Ministry: 3 Views*
This resource discusses why every church needs family ministry and then evaluates three models of family ministry (Family-Integrated, Family Based, and Family Equipping). A different writer presents their view and the other writers critique the view. This book can help pastors and staffs make wise decisions regarding the family ministry approach best suited for their church context. www.familyministrytoday.com

*Jones, Timothy Paul: Family Ministry Field Guide: How Your Church Can Equip Parents to Make Disciples*
Scripture calls parents to train their children in the faith and to nurture their children's souls. Yet few parents actively engage in their children's spiritual development. How can churches best equip families to engage in their divine calling to disciple their children? Guides church leaders to develop a ministry system that equips parents to be the primary faith-trainers in their children's lives, moving beyond mere programming into a deeper spiritual life at home, within the church, and beyond. www.familyministrytoday.com  www.timothypauljones.com/blog/


Kimmel, Tim: *Connecting Church and Home: A Grace-Based Partnership*  www.familymatters.net

Kimmel, Tim: *Grace Based Parenting*  www.familymatters.net

Kimmel, Tim: *When Christian Kids Rebel*  www.familymatters.net

*Kostenberger, Andreas: God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundations*
He is a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. This book is a solid theological work that examines different issues related to family. It is one of the best comprehensive theological works on family in recent decades. www.sebts.edu  www.biblicalfoundations.org/

Kostenberger, Andreas: *Marriage and Family: Biblical Essentials*  This is a condensed work of his book, God, Marriage, and Family.


Moore, Walker: *Rite of Passage Parenting: Four Essential Experiences to Equip Your Kids for Life*  www.ropparenting.com/


Rainey, Dennis: *Growing a Spiritually Strong Family*
This small book packs a powerful message. It makes a great giveaway book for families. It provides several practical ideas to equip families to grow spiritually in their homes. One will also find many additional resources at the Family Life website: www.familylife.com
Rainey, Dennis: Ministering to the 21st Century Family: Eight Big Ideas for Church Leaders
Written for church leaders (It’s a part of the Swindoll Leadership Library). This book highlights the lifecycle of families and then provides ideas and resources for addressing family needs at each different stage. This book is very practical and seems to have an emphasis on mentoring as a key part in the family ministry strategy. www.familylife.com

Rainey, Dennis: One Home at a Time
This is one of the first books that I read which propelled me along the family ministry journey in my own home. Dennis calls for a family reformation and draws some parallels to the protestant reformation. He challenges families to make some radical changes to reform their home for the sake of the kingdom. The appendix includes “The Family Manifesto” a summary of theological positions to be held if families are to survive in today’s culture. www.familylife.com

Rice, Wayne: Generation to Generation: Practical and Creative Ideas for Raising Kids to Know and Love God
Wayne Rice provides some practical suggestions for parents to discover practical ways to build up the faith of their children at home. www.waynerice.com

Rienow, Rob: Visionary Parenting: Capture a God-sized Vision for Your Family
This book will challenge your vision of parenting to think how your influence on your children has the opportunity to impact multiple generations. It will provide a variety of ideas to encourage parents in multigenerational faithfulness. www.visionaryfam.com

Rienow, Rob: Limited Church: Unlimited Kingdom: Uniting Church and Family in the Great Commission www.visionaryfam.com
This is Rob’s newest book and he does a great job helping churches and families better engage in the Great Commission.

Rienow, Rob: When They Turn Away: Drawing Your Adult Child Back to Christ www.visionaryfam.com

Roehlkepartain, Jolene: Nurturing Faith in Families: 425 Creative Ideas for Family Ministry
425 ideas are presented throughout this book will provide plenty of ideas for family ministry in your church. www.booksbyjolene.com/

Stinson, Randy and Timothy Jones, eds. Trained in the Fear of God: Family Ministry in Theological, Historical, and Practical Perspective
This resource presents a good overview of the idea of family ministry originating from a biblical perspective with glimpses of how it was applied throughout various points of history with some practical application for family ministry in today’s church. www.familyministrytoday.com


Tripp, Paul David: Age of Opportunity www.paultripp.com/

Tripp, Tedd: Shepherding a Child’s Heart www.shepherdingtheheart.org/


Waugh, Phillip: Leading Family Ministry in a Church
A Lifeway product that gives some practical ideas on developing a family ministry committee and how to begin, start, and sustain a family ministry. He approaches family ministry from a more programmatic perspective and gives some different ideas on how to structure family ministry within the church. www.covenantmarriage.com www.lifeway.com

Whitney, Donald: Family Worship in the Bible, in History, and in Your Home
A short book that can make for a good giveaway. He basically encourages families to read Scriptures, sing a song, and pray together. One check out some more practical stuff from his site: www.biblicalspirituality.org

*A these are key books that I would suggest pastors and church leaders read to gain a theological foundation and discover some different philosophical approaches to family ministry to help one develop a specific family ministry strategy that will fit the context of your church and community.

I have also found the other books and websites listed to be very practical and present the urgent need for churches to equip families to build faith at home. I don’t necessarily agree with all the ideas presented in this resource list. Evaluate each idea and resource and then make wise decisions on how to implement them in your specific context. Please contact me if I can be of help in the area of family ministry in your church.
SPECIFICALLY FOR STUDENT MINISTERS

Berry, Brian: As for Me and My Crazy House: Learning to Protect Your Heart, Marriage, and Family from the Demands of Youth Ministry.

Burns, Jim: Partnering with Parents in Youth Ministry
Burns provides some helpful ideas for student ministers to utilize and equip parents to fulfill their role in discipling their own children. This along with the DeVries book will provide several ideas to help youth ministers focus on families. www.homeword.com/

DeVries, Mark: Family Based Youth Ministry
This book challenges student ministers to actively involve parents in the ministry to teens in the church. Parents are valuable and influential assets that must be utilized to develop long-term impact in youth ministry. A primary key for youth ministers is to equip parents to be better ministers in their homes. www.familybasedym.com/index.php

Hemphill, Ken & Richard Ross: Parenting with Kingdom Purpose
This will challenge parents to invest in their children for the sake of furthering God’s kingdom. This book will challenge those faithful families in your ministry to broaden their vision of how their family fits in God’s kingdom. It will propel them outward beyond the walls of the church and around the world to share the gospel. www.richardaross.com


Rice, Wayne: Engaging Parents as Allies in Ministry www.waynerice.com

Ross, Richard: 30 Days: Turning the Hearts of Parents and Teenagers Towards Each Other www.richardaross.com


Ross, Richard: Heart Connex (Free Devotionals for Parents of Teens) www.heartconnex.org

www.visionaryfam.com

Ross, Richard: Parent Checkup (Brochure) www.richardaross.com

Ross, Richard: Parenting Teens: Essentials for the Journey (Brochure)
This is a great resource to give away to parents. Dr. Ross provides ideas and directions for parents enabling them to engage the heart of their teenager. www.richardaross.com

Ross, Richard: Student Ministry and the Supremacy of Christ
Dr. Ross challenges student ministers to magnify Christ through their ministry to students. He provides a variety of creative ideas and strategies to engage parents in discipling their children. www.richardaross.com


Wright, Steve: ApParent Privilege
Steve challenges parents to recognize their responsibility for discipling their kids at home. They will be equipped to pass their faith to their kids at home. www.inquest.org/

Wright, Steve: reThink: Decide for Yourself, Is Student Ministry Working
Wright provides readers with plenty of research and biblical insight to help one rethink the way student ministry has been done and he then provides some solutions. He does a good job emphasizing the discipleship role of parents and the importance of biblically based youth ministry that equips and supports parents in their role but without completely abolishing all age graded ministry in the church. www.inquest.org/
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<td>14. 12th Grade: Commissioning</td>
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# TEACH Faith @ Home

## D6 Parenting Challenge

Develop a biblical view of parenting by reading, reflecting, and applying 31 different key passages related to parenting.

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<th>Read the Key Passage (Read and understand the context)</th>
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