
Graphics and Audio Notes

- There **will** be a sermon starter video.
- There **will** be notes and / or scripture to show on screen during the sermon.

Text highlighted in this way have a slide prepared to be on screen.

Text highlighted in this way are a reminder for Andrew during delivery.

Text highlighted in this way are direction for Andrew during delivery.



Key Questions

What is this sermon about?

This sermon is about family ministry and how being the family of faith matters.

Why is this sermon important?

It is important because parents have a critical role in nurturing the faith life of children and the church has a critical role in supporting and equipping parents

What is the good news?

The good news is that all are welcome in God's family.

What are the next action steps?

You are invited to pick up family ministry phase cards and look forward to how to connect with children and students in the life of the church.

What is the context of this sermon?

This sermon is the first of the Family Matters series. It introduces the idea of family ministry at First United Methodist Church on Vacation Bible School Sunday.

Metadata

Topics

- Develop Leaders
- Grow
- Make Disciples

Sermon Books of the Bible

- Luke

Tags

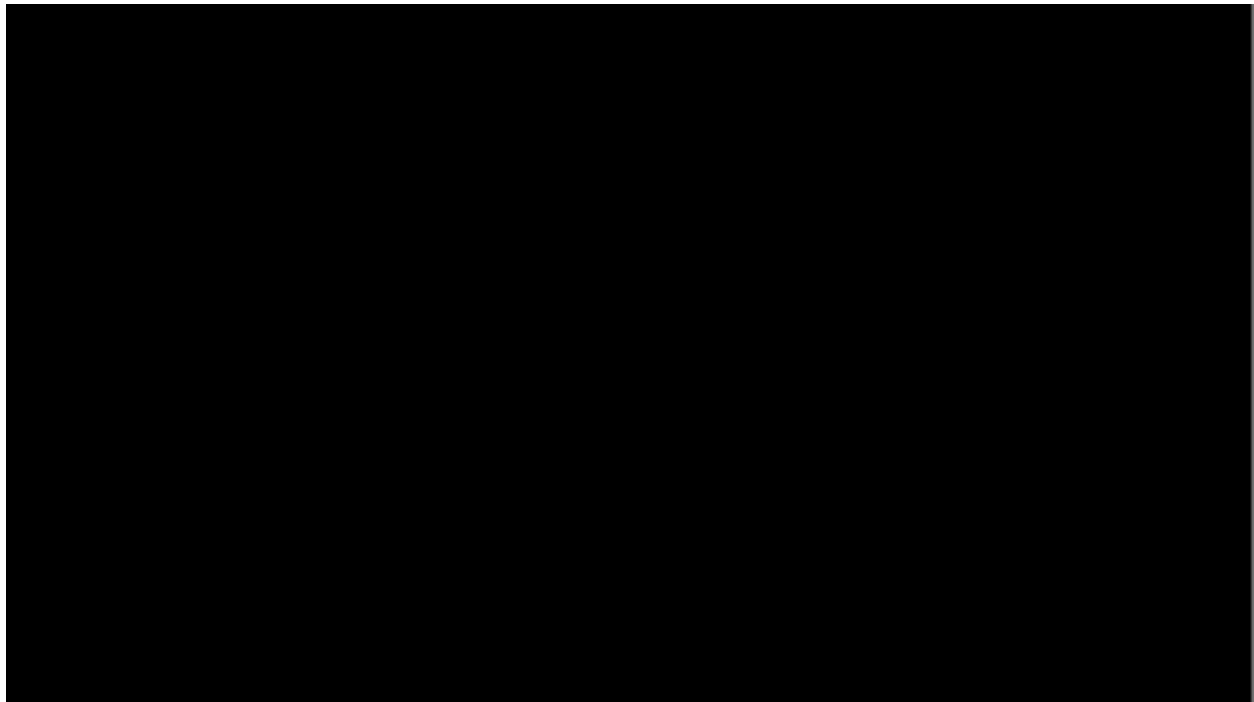
sermon, worship, church, Methodist, UnitedMethodist, UnitedMethodistChurch, FirstUnitedMethodistChurch, ElDorado, Kansas, GreatPlains, AnnualConference, GreatPlainsAnnualConference, family, familyministry, children, youth, adults, phase, discipleship, grow

Sermon Audio

9 a.m. Worship

11 a.m. Worship

Sermon Video



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Upper Elementary

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Good News

Call to Action

Invitation

Closing Prayer

Introduction

Luke 2:41-52, CEB

⁴¹Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When he was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to their custom. ⁴³After the festival was over, they were returning home, but the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't know it. ⁴⁴Supposing that he was among their band of travelers, they journeyed on for a full day while looking for him among their family and friends. ⁴⁵When they didn't find Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple. He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and putting questions to them. ⁴⁷Everyone who heard him was amazed by his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were shocked.

His mother said, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Listen! Your father and I have been worried. We've been looking for you!"

⁴⁹Jesus replied, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they didn't understand what he said to them.

⁵¹Jesus went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. His mother cherished every word in her heart. ⁵²Jesus matured in wisdom and years, and in favor with God and with people.

Response to Scripture

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**



Sermon Starter Video

Play sermon starter video.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is one of the best weeks of the year.
Five days of faith, fun, and community.

Songs

The chance to learn new songs that teach us about God.
Show Picture



Skits

The opportunity to watch some goofy skits.
Show Picture



Blessing Box and Special Olympics

Joining together to support our community through the Blessing Box and Special Olympics.

Show Picture



Vacation Bible Games

And, this year, ending the week at Gordy Park for Vacation Bible Games.

Show Picture

Generations Together



This is one of my favorite pictures from Vacation Bible School, as it captures something that is so essential to making this week great. There are people of different ages – different generations – in the same picture, working on the same thing and growing together.

Reciprocal Transformation

I have heard from volunteers who serve during the week that they hope to make a difference in the lives of children, yet in the midst of that experience they find their own lives are changed as well.

Transition

Our hope is to have more of this happen, more often throughout the year.
We are calling this family ministry

Family Ministry

Why - Outcomes

How to raise a child to grow in their faith, even as an adult
Abiders - raised in the church and continue
Affirmation of people in the congregation who have been abiders - can't think of a time of not being a Christian

How - Strategies

How are we going to make progress on this?
We have two strategies. They are:

- 1) Partner with families to help raise children in the faith
- 2) Increase connections between children, youth, and adults

Generativity

Definition

These connections between generations is what is called spiritual generativity.
"The term generativity was coined by the psychoanalyst Erik Erikson in 1950 to denote "a concern for establishing and guiding the next generation."¹

Example

If I focus on myself, there is certainly an opportunity to grow.
However, if I can focus on the growth of others, particularly that of the next generation, the growth and life can go from person to person. The good news of God's love is not to be kept to ourselves, it is to be shared with others.

Transition

We find these ideas in the scripture passage before us today.

¹ Wikipedia contributors, "Generativity," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Generativity&oldid=782033687> (accessed July 23, 2017).

Scripture

Like Usual

Key Scripture: Luke 2:41-42

⁴¹Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When he was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to their custom.

Invitation for Reflection

What do you do every year?

What is according to your custom?

Parents and Community

Key Scripture: Luke 2:43

⁴³After the festival was over, they were returning home, but the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't know it.

Are you kidding me?

Something is going on here...

⁴⁴Supposing that he was among their band of travelers, they journeyed on for a full day while looking for him among their family and friends.

The community has a role in taking care of children.

The Search

⁴⁵When they didn't find Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple. He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and putting questions to them.

Response to Finding Jesus

⁴⁷Everyone who heard him was amazed by his understanding and his answers.
Jesus at the temple - Where else would I be?

Necessary to Be

⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were shocked.

His mother said, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Listen! Your father and I have been worried. We've been looking for you!"

⁴⁹Jesus replied, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they didn't understand what he said to them.

Our goal for 13th Graders

⁵¹Jesus went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. His mother cherished every word in her heart. ⁵²Jesus matured in wisdom and years, and in favor with God and with people.

Parents take Jesus to the temple "as usual"

Family / Community is caring for the child

Phase Cards

Our church wants to partner with you in raising your children in the faith; this is how we plan to do it.

Show this image on screen as I mention each age group



Nursery

[Share information on card]

Lower Elementary

[Share information on card]

Upper Elementary

[Share information on card]

Middle and High School

[Share information on card]

Conclusion

Good News

Call to Action

Invitation

Closing Prayer

Jesus, I am sorry for all the times in my life when I mess up.

And if anything comes to mind, ask God's forgiveness.

Forgive me of my sin and all that I know is wrong.
Thank you that you died on the cross and rose for me.
I trust you with my life.
Help me receive your forgiveness.
Please fill me with your Spirit and help me to follow you.
In your holy name, Amen.