

DEVELOPING LIFETIME FAITHFULNESS IN OUR KIDS

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Faithfulness takes many forms in our lives today. From loyalty programs to marriage commitments, church membership to sports teams, and even brand loyalty, all have aspects of faithfulness. Unfortunately, our lives are also filled with countless stories of unfaithfulness. Marriages struggle, friendships fade, jobs change, and favorite stores close before we even get used to them.



We live in a world where we can go wherever the wind takes us. We change loyalty all the time. When the going gets tough, we might leave and not look back. How do we model and instill faithfulness in our children and our community? Check out these tips on being one who holds steady and is faithful. And the best place to start is by looking at the One who has always been faithful.

God's unwavering faithfulness: In the gap of faithfulness in our world stands God—the model of faithfulness.

- God was faithful in creation and even in the fall (Genesis 1-3).
- He remained faithful to Abraham despite Abraham's own doubts.
- He was faithful to Israel in the Exodus, even as they complained and turned away from him.
- He kept his promises to David, Solomon, the prophets, and even Israel in exile.
- He fulfilled his greatest promise by sending Jesus to redeem the world.
- Jesus was faithful when he went to the cross and conquered the grave for us.
- God was faithful to the early church in Acts and its missionaries as they traveled the known world.
- God's Spirit faithfully continues to dwell with us, just as Jesus promised his disciples.

As we read the Bible with our children, we can show them amazing stories of God's faithfulness. When they see how God always keeps his promises in the Bible, they can learn to trust that he will always be there for them too.

Recognizing God's faithfulness today: Talk with your kids about when God has been faithful to you—answered prayers, unexpected blessings, and the ways God has provided through good times and hard times. Point to the beautiful sacrament of baptism, where God promises to always be with us. Reread scripture texts like [Matthew 28:16-20](#), in which Jesus promises to be with us forever.

Living out faithfulness: Beyond recognizing that God is faithful, we also model faithfulness to our kids as parents.

- Show commitment in our relationships with family members and friends.
- Encourage our kids to be faithful in their friendships and responsibilities.
- Teach them the value of keeping their school, sports, church, and work commitments.

Faithfulness in small things builds a foundation for faithfulness in big things. Children who learn to stick with their commitments, even when challenging, develop character that will serve them for a lifetime.

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