

RHYTHMS & RESPONSES

Authentic Faith

This year you will **provoke discovery** so your child will trust God's character and experience God's family. In this phase where friendships matter more, so does your kid's faith community.

As your kid gets ready to move into your church's youth ministry, look for ways to prioritize their church connection, and continue having faith conversations at home.

Say things like...

Have you read anything in the Bible that means a lot to you right now?

Talk about the Bible.

Having faith isn't always easy, but we can trust God no matter what.

If you were them, how do you think you would want to be treated?

Parent Cue Times



Morning Time

Be a coach. Instill purpose by starting the day with encouraging words.



Drive Time

Be a friend. Interpret life during informal conversations as you travel.



Meal Time

Be a teacher. Establish values with intentional conversations while you eat together.



Bed Time

Be a counselor. Strengthen your relationship through heart conversations at the end of the day.

PHASE SUMMARY

Fifth Grade

 goodshepherdkc



The phase when friends are best friends, games are for competition, and your confident kid will insist, **“I’ve got this.”**

Friends matter more.

It's not that friends matter more than you. It's just that they matter more than you when it comes to advice on some things. If your fifth grader is doing, saying, or wearing something that confuses you, check out what their peers are doing, saying, or wearing.

Competition can be fun.

With a "lifetime" of experience under their belt and a "no fear" attitude, a fifth grader is virtually unstoppable. They are skilled, smart, and ready for the world to take notice. Fifth graders often thrive with competition because it's one more way to show you how smart and fast and strong they really are.

Natural confidence rules.

This is the top of the elementary school food chain. Fifth graders frequently demonstrate a clarity of mind that comes with knowing the ropes. Lean into that confidence and build it. Let them know you see their potential. They need to know you believe in them before they get to the next phase. There's no such thing as an overly confident middle schooler.

**It's just a phase,
so don't miss it.**



In the Fifth Grade phase, your role is to engage their interests.

Your fifth grader can understand different points of view, empathize with others, and negotiate like a champ. That means one thing: Your influence is shifting. Your kid still needs you, but they are beginning to need you in a different way. If you want to engage their interests, then include peers, coach relational skills, and help your kid develop healthy friendships.



Elementary schoolers think like a scientist.

You help them learn
when you...
give them a challenge.



Elementary schoolers want to know, "Do I have friends?"

You capture their heart
when you...
develop friendships.



Elementary schoolers are motivated by fun.

You coach them
when you...
invite others to join in.