



## HELP YOUR FAMILIES BELONG

Discipleship happens best in relationship. This is why Hyfi has so many opportunities for leaders to build relationships with kids. We also want to provide many suggestions for how to create a culture of investment and belonging with your volunteers. And this is why we think it is so important that you help your families find a place to belong at your church as well.

### **Discipling Family Disciplers**

For kids that come every week to our ministries, we get between one and three hours to disciple them. For kids that aren't consistent, it's even less. The primary spiritual influencer in any child's life will be the caring adult in their home. This means, to be the most effective ministry leaders we can be, we need to prioritize discipling families as much as we prioritize discipling kids.

This begins with helping parents, grandparents, and other caring adults feel supported, encouraged, and equipped to be this influence in their kids' lives. That means helping them feel like your ministry is a place that they belong.

### **First Impressions**

While your tendency may be to make sure that kids feel welcomed and known as soon as they walk through your doors, it is important to make sure that their whole family feels that way. That means being intentional about connecting with the person dropping them off. Check in with them. Chat with them. Show them that you care about them—not just their kids in your ministry.

### **Consistent Communication**

Families are busier than ever! That means that if we want discipleship to stay at the forefronts of their minds and hearts, we have to help get it there. In this resource, we give you everything you need for monthly and weekly communication with your families. Both emails and social media are ways that you can help your families feel connected and supported in their discipleship journeys.

### **Relationship Building**

One of the best ways for families to feel like they belong is not just being connected to you and the church but to one another. This happens with an intentional focus on outreach, togetherness, and fun! We will curate four fully planned Family Events for you to host each year. These events are more than just things to do—they are strategic relationship builders. As families connect with one another at church, they will more and more see that we are part of God's family and on mission together to help the next generation know and grow in Him.

### **Showing Up**

Face to face connections, consistent communication, and relationship building will help your families know that you care and that your church is a place they belong. As you get to know them, show up for them. Encourage your team to support your families by showing up outside of your church walls and events. Be a network of care when they are in need. Be their biggest cheerleader and a trusted leader they can turn to in difficult times. By showing up, you will help both kids and their families know they are seen, known, and loved.