

Grandparenting Matters



Hello Grandparents

Welcome to the second edition of "Grandparenting Matters", a dedicated newsletter exclusively for you. As we progress on the remarkable journey of grandparenting, our aim is to uplift your spirits and provide biblical and practical insights that resonate with the unique joys and challenges of this role.

Our "Inspiring Grandparents" event last October brought together a wonderful community of grandparents that welcomed others from neighbouring churches. Filled with inspiring stories and helpful teaching, it was an amazing time of encouragement, laughter and a deep sense of connection.

During this event, we collectively experienced moments of inspiration fuelling our commitment to pray for and share God's boundless love with our precious grandchildren. The exchange of wisdom, the strengthening of bonds, and times of prayer and blessing were powerful reminders of the significance of the grandparenting journey. As we navigate the path of grandparenting, we understand the profound impact we can have on the lives of our grandchildren.

Join us for our 2024
Grandparenting Events at
Moulton Parish Church from
10 am to 12:30 pm on:
Saturday, 9th March 2024
Saturday, 12th October 2024

Inside this Issue

In this newsletter we focus on the Christian grandparent's journey through the lens of the Four S's.

1. Seeing God's Blueprint
2. Sharing God's Greatness
3. Strengthening Relationships
4. Soaking in Prayer.

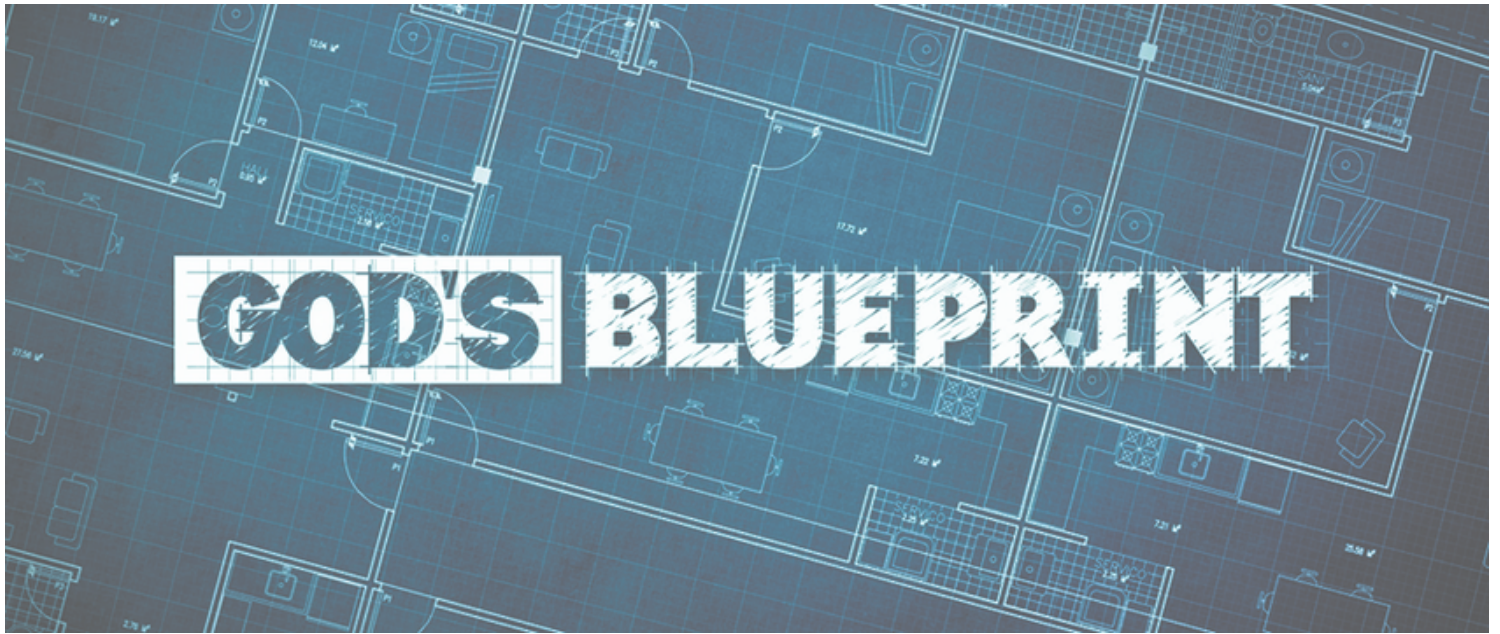
Let's explore these themes and draw inspiration for our Christian grandparenting journey.

STOP PRESS!!



This newsletter serves as a beacon of support, offering articles, reflections, and shared experiences to enrich your grandparenting adventure. May it be a source of inspiration and encouragement, reminding you of the meaningful role you play in the lives of your grandchildren and the broader community.

Thank you for being an essential part of the "Grandparenting Matters" community. Your love, wisdom, and dedication contribute immeasurably to the rich tapestry of grandparenting. Wishing you joy, love, and abundant blessings on this extraordinary journey.



The Bible has much to say about the importance of generational influence and is a solid foundation for our role as Christian grandparents. Here are two verses that help us understand more of the importance of our role.

Psalm 145:4

'One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.'

Psalm 145:4 serves as a powerful encouragement and source of guidance for Christian grandparents. This verse underscores the importance of passing down the faith and sharing the stories of God's mighty acts from one generation to another.

Genesis 1:27

'So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them'

Genesis 1:27 teaches Christian grandparents about the profound significance of our grandchildren. It guides us to approach our role with a deep sense of responsibility, recognizing the inherent value, uniqueness, and potential of each grandchild as a creation in the image of God.

Sharing God's Greatness

Before we can effectively share God's greatness with our grandchildren we need to be able to see and savour God's greatness for ourselves. How does this work? We can see God's greatness all around us in creation. The greatness of his character and works can be seen all around us. His wonders are endless. However, it is through the Bible that we can see all of God's wonderful characteristics. Secondly we need to savour God. Taste and see that God is good. Savouring the greatness of God is about enjoying and delighting in God and his greatness. It moves us away from just head knowledge about God to being captivated by His love. Savouring takes time delighting and treasuring.



Sharing God's greatness with our grandchildren is the natural overflow of seeing and savouring God's greatness. When we see something incredible, we want to begin looking for someone to share it with. We naturally talk about what we love and enjoy.

Here are 4 ways of sharing God's greatness with our grandchildren:

- 1.Through Stories:** Share Bible stories and your own faith journey. Make God's word come alive that resonate with your grandchildren
- 2.Through Prayer:** Pray with and for your grandchildren. Let them see your faith in action trusting that God hears and answers our prayers
- 3.Through Time Together:** Spend quality time with your grandchildren, engaging in activities that allow you to chat about God.
- 4.Through Your Example:** Be a living example of God's greatness through your actions , kindness, and love for others.

Let's make this our prayer:

"Father, open our eyes so that we might see You more clearly, savour you more fully, and share You more freely. Amen"



Ha Ha Ha Ha!

On a Lighter Note!



1. You are definitely a grandparent if your phone is filled with more grandchild photos than anything else!
2. You know you're at your Grandparent's house when the laughter is endless, the hugs are plentiful, and the love is unconditional.
3. Grandma's don't just say 'that's nice' – they reel back and roll their eyes and throw up their hands and smile! You get your money's worth out of Grandmas.
4. Grandmas are like Mary Poppins – whenever you need something, she can find it in her handbag!
5. A Grandad remembers all your accomplishments and forgets all your mistakes!



Strengthening Relationships

How do we strengthen and build our family relationships to help us share God's love with our family?

Strengthening relationships as Christian grandparents involves reflecting Christ-like virtues. Love is the cornerstone, expressed through intentional acts of kindness and genuine care. Humility opens doors for mutual understanding and growth, fostering an environment where both grandparents and grandchildren can learn from one another. Patience, a fruit of the Spirit, is essential in navigating generational differences and challenges. Embracing forgiveness ensures that grace abounds, allowing relationships to flourish despite inevitable imperfections. Pursuing peace-making actively resolves conflicts, promoting harmony within the family. In weaving these qualities into our interactions, we not only reflect the teachings of Christ but also create a nurturing space where the love of God is tangibly felt, strengthening the bonds between Christian grandparents, their grandchildren and their grandchildren's parents.



Agreeing clear boundaries as grandparents, in agreement with parents, is important for creating consistent and harmonious relationships.

Regarding **food**, maintaining agreed-upon dietary guidelines ensures a unified approach to promoting health.

Consistent **bedtime routines** support healthy sleep patterns and align with the parents' structure.

Coordinating on **screen time and content** choices emphasizes shared values, guiding grandchildren towards wholesome entertainment.

Respecting and adhering to these boundaries not only contributes to a cohesive family environment but also reinforces shared parenting goals.

This **collaborative** approach strengthens family bonds and provides a unified foundation for the grandchildren's upbringing.

Soaking in Prayer

One of the greatest things we can do for our grandchildren is to pray for them. Praying scriptures or turning scriptures into prayers for our grandchildren (and ourselves as Grandparents) is one of the most powerful and effective ways to pray. There are two passages from the bible in particular that help know what we should be praying for ourselves and our grandchildren.

Luke 2:52 "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and people." If it was important for Jesus to grow in wisdom and favour then it is important that we pray for these for our grandchildren.

1 Timothy 4:12 "Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity"

Over time we need to be praying for these 7 essential characteristics / qualities into the lives of our grandchildren.

Praying for our Grandchildren

Luke 2:52
1 Timothy 4:12



There are many resources to guide your prayers, including our specially crafted booklet, "Prayers for Grandchildren," that provides a monthly framework to intercede for essential qualities in their lives. Here's how it works:

- a) **Praying Scripture:** Immerse yourself in relevant scriptures, savouring the words that relate to the characteristic you seek. Reflect on God's greatness, then, individually or with your spouse, share your prayers with God.
- b) **Praying for Ourselves as Grandparents:** Dedicate time to pray for your own spiritual journey as a grandparent.
- c) **Praying for Our Grandchildren:** Lift up heartfelt prayers for the well-being and growth of your grandchildren.
- d) **Praying for Our Children:** Extend your prayers to cover the lives and journeys of your own children.

Let this structured approach enrich your prayer life and deepen the spiritual connections within your family.

Everyday
Prayers



A Prayer for your Grandchildren

Heavenly Father, I lift up my grandchildren before you, speaking their names with love and intention, knowing that You have woven the tapestry of their lives with purpose and promise.



I pray that (name your grandchildren) may walk in Your light, guided by Your wisdom and grace. May they know the gift of your salvation personally. May they grow in strength, character, and faith, becoming beacons of Your love in this world.

Lord, bless my grandchildren with good health, joy, and a heart filled with compassion. May they always feel the warmth of our love and support as they navigate life's journey.

I ask that You surround them with a community of your people, teachers, and friends who will encourage and nurture their spiritual growth and faith.

In times of joy, may they celebrate Your blessings with hearts full of gratitude. In times of challenge, may they find solace in Your presence and draw strength from Your unfailing love.

May they come to know You intimately, embracing Your love and grace with open hearts. May their lives be a testament to Your goodness, and may they, in turn, be a source of joy and inspiration to all they encounter.

I entrust my precious grandchildren into Your loving care, knowing that Your plans for them are filled with hope and purpose. May they walk in the path of righteousness, guided by Your loving hand.

As a Christian grandparent, I commit to continue praying for, supporting, and loving my grandchildren with all my heart. May my legacy of faith and love be a blessing for generations to come.

In the name of Jesus, I pray. Amen.

This newsletter was produced by the Grandparenting Ministry Team at Moulton Parish Church, Northamptonshire NN3 7SW.

You can find more information on the Grandparenting Ministry on our website:
website : <https://www.moultonchurch.co.uk>

Or contact Martyn and Angela Thompson by:
email : christiangrandparents@btinternet.com
Phone: 07986 042553

Grandparenting

Saturday 9th March 2024
10am - 12.30pm
Moulton Parish Church, NN3 7SW



LIGHT THE WAY

*You are invited to join with us to
be encouraged & inspired as
Christian grandparents*

For more information
or to register please email
christiangrandparents@btinternet.com
or contact on
07986 042553

Grandparenting Matters

We look forward to seeing you on 9th March!
Please feel free to invite other Christian grandparents you
know from churches near and far as we
join together in this growing community of Christian
grandparents!

See you there!

Grandparenting Matters!

