

Sticky Faith | Discussion Guide for Chapters 3-5

This discussion guide is meant to help you work through the ideas found in the book *Sticky Faith*. Use it as a starting point for your own thoughts, then set a time for an intentional conversation with your spouse or a Christian friend.

Sticky Identity

As your children grow up, who they are will evolve and take many different expressions. In that process, we as parents can help instill Sticky Faith by modeling for and reminding our children that their ultimate sense of themselves is best found in the Lord's answer to the pressing "Who am I?" question. (p51)

Why is it helpful to be aware of, and consider, your child's development from concrete thought patterns to abstract ones?

How have Henri Nouwen's three ways we seek to answer the identity question influenced your thoughts about your own identity?

What identity shaping rituals does your family have? What are new rituals you would like to adopt?

How can you model your relationship with God for your child to see?

Sticky Faith Conversations

- *Most parents don't talk about faith with their kids (p71)*
- *Students whose parents talk about faith have more sticky faith (p71)*
- *Christian parents tend to avoid tricky subjects (p72)*
- *Parents who talk about doubts help build sticky faith (p72)*
- *Students with sticky faith have parents who encourage individual thought (p74)*

Were there off-limits subjects in your home growing up? How has that influenced you as a parent?

What are the benefits of talking with your child about anything and everything?

Why is it challenging to have conversations with about faith your child?

Why is it challenging to have conversations about tricky subjects with your child?

Reflect on the “Sticky Faith Made Practical” suggestions and list the ones you need to work on.

A Sticky Web of Relationships

“The closest our research has come to that definitive silver bullet is this sticky finding: for high school and college students, there is a relationship between attendance at church-wide worship services and Sticky Faith.” (p97)

Why do you think it is beneficial for children to attend adult worship services?

What are ways you can prioritize having your child in worship services with you on a regular rhythm?

How can you create/grow a sticky web of relationships between Christ following adults and your child?

Next Step

Identify Christ following adults who you want to influence your child, and schedule a conversation with them.