

How to talk to your kids about our church

1. **Share details accurately (don't make up stories, give age appropriate truth)**

Talk honestly with your kids about the change. Give age appropriate details without making up other reasons to soften the news. Kids will talk to each other about it. We want our kids to be informed with the right information from us so they know what the truth is.

2. **Be a safe space for them to talk and feel**

Allow your kids time to process and grieve. They won't experience all of their emotions at one time, but start the dialogue letting them know that they can talk to you about it whenever feelings come. Make sure they know that you are there for them.

3. **Acknowledge emotions**

Validate their feelings. It's ok to be sad, angry, confused. Let them know that it is ok to feel that way as they are processing.

4. **Share your emotions in a healthy way**

Let your kids know your feelings as well. Don't dump all of your feelings on them, but share with them some of the feelings you are having. It's healthy for them to know that you are going through this with them.

5. **Remember to pray**

Encourage them to take their feelings to God, talk to Him about them. Do this as a family at the beginning or end of conversations. Ask God for comfort, clarity, His will, and to help you process.

6. **Remind them of Biblical truths about church**

a. **Why do we go to church?**

We attend church to be part of the family of God; to plug into His community to experience God, serve Him, and to grow relationally with His people.

b. **Big 'C' church**

God has placed many churches on Earth. The church we attend is just one church that is on mission for God

c. **God does not change**

God has a good plan for us. No matter which church building we attend and which local church family we are part of, we will worship the same good God who loves us