

## RESOURCES for The Intersection of Human Development and Faith Development

**Building Faith.** A web site: <http://www.buildfaith.org/> Center for Ministry and Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary (Episcopal). *A wealth of useful, up-to-date, well curated information.*

**Building Faith One Child at a Time.** Becky S. Peters. CPH. St Louis. 1997. *A down-to-earth resource to help teachers build strategies for their student's faith development. Offers suggestions for preparing age-appropriate lessons and activities.*

**Children Matter.** Scottie May, B. Posterski, C. Stonehouse, & L. Cannell. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, MI. 2005. *Offers a full discussion of children's spirituality and shows how the faith community can better nurture its youngest members.*

**Children's Spirituality: What it is and Why it Matters.** Rebecca Nye. Church House Publications. 2014. *This concise guide is an ideal introduction to the increasingly popular topic of children's spirituality. Mixing theory with tips on 'good practice', leading expert Rebecca Nye shows how choices made in churches and homes can stimulate or stifle a child's spiritual development.*

**Development Through the Lifespan Chart.** United Methodist Church. Discipleship Ministries. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/development-through-the-life-span> *A very helpful, specific, easy to read graph listing all areas of development through the lifespan*

**Faith Development and Faith Formation: More Than Just Ages and Stages.** A book and an article in the Journal of Lifelong Faith. Robert J. Keeley. *Robert Keeley presents a synthesis of James Fowler's stages of faith and their application to the faith formation of children and adults.*

**Faith Development Theories.** A summary of 14 experts in Faith Development: Bruce Powers / John Westerhoff / Temp Sparkman / Mary Wilcox / James Fowler Larry Stephens / Von Hugel / Steve Venable / M. Scott Peck / Paula Rienhart R. Ben Marshall / Gordon Allport / David Elkind / Iris M. You <https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/indexablecontent/uuid:b324809f-9202-4922-a77e-fb3836fb6867>

**Godly Play.** <https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/godly-play-resources/going-deeper-into-childrens-spirituality/> *A Godly Play approach helps children explore their faith through story, gain religious language and enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles.*

**Listening to Children on the Spiritual Journey: Guidance for Those Who Teach and Nurture.** Catherine Stonehouse and Scottie May. Baker Academic. 2010. *Two experts in children's spirituality draw on over a decade of field research to show how adults can effectively work with children to nurture their faith.*

**Ministry Links** <https://www.ministrylinks.online/> A curated web resource for living a life of faith. Thank you to Janelle Hooper, the Program Director for Children's Ministry, ELCA.

**Nurturing Faith Through the Stages of Life.** Augsburg Fortress. 1998.

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6001/Nurturing-Faith-Through-the-Stages-of-Life>

*This reproducible resource book provides a glimpse into what it means to nurture faith through the stages of life. Combines the understanding of age-level characteristics with some of the cultural influences affecting faith development of people in all stages of life. \$2*

**Older Readings** that give a historical context for previous understandings and discussion

- Teaching Children the Bible. Marion Parady. 1988. Harper & Row. San Francisco.
- The Bible A Child's Playground. A. Roger Gobbel & G. Gobbel. Fortress Press. 1986. Philadelphia.

**Real Kids. Real Faith.** Karen Marie Yust. Jossey-Bass Press. San Francisco. 2004. Practices for nurturing the spiritual lives of children, based on sound theology and child development.

**The Religious Potential of the Child: Experiencing Scripture and Liturgy with Young Children.**

Sofia Cavalletti, Patricia M. Coulter (Translator). Liturgy Training Publications; 2nd Edition.

1992. *This book is the cornerstone of a program called the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. It offers insight into the relationship that children have with God. This book is translated from Italian and requires careful reading. It describes the experience of children ages three to six.*

**Right from the Start.** A New Parent's Guide for Child Faith Development. Shirley R.

Morgenthaler. CPH. St Louis. 1989. *Describes how young children learn and the countless ways your interactions teach about God and His love.*

**SPLASH!** Faith formation resources for families with young children. Augsburg Fortress.

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286237/Splash-> Series of packs covers three age ranges: 1-12 months, 13-24 months, and 25-36 months. Each Splash! Pack contains explanation of developmental stages, including faith development. Useful for teachers of young children!

**Will Our Children Have Faith?** John Westerhoff. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Moorhouse. 2012. *Originally written in 1976, this is a classic critique of Christian education. How can we be communities that nourish and nurture the faith of children, instead of only teaching them facts? A new Afterword explores the context in which we currently live with implications for ministry.*

**Worshiping With Children** <http://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/> Carolyn C. Brown.

*This site offers age appropriate ways to engage children in Biblical Story or lessons for every Sunday and festival of the church year. The writer is a Certified Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) with more than thirty years' experience.*