



PRESCHOOL GRADUATION

INTRODUCTION

At the heart of equipping people for their lifelong faith formation are the Four Key Faith Practices: **Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals and Traditions.**

As you celebrate this exciting time, let your child reflect on how much they have grown this year. Let this Preschool Graduation Growing Faith Moment be a time to get excited for the next stage of their schooling. This moment can take place in a small group or around the family table.



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Invite the child to share their answers to one or a number of the following questions.

- What was the best thing about preschool?
- What do you think primary school will be like?
- What would you like to ask your teacher when you start school?



DEVOTIONS

The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. Deuteronomy 31:8a

Share with your child how Jesus will be beside them and walking with them. Remind them that they can pray to God any time and he will hear them. Help them understand that school is a new adventure – it's okay to be scared, new experiences can be scary sometimes. It's also good to remember that there's lots of exciting opportunities to learn and discover new things.



SERVICE

Find a local charity to link in with to help young children with basic care needs. Consider charities like The Smith Family (equipping disadvantaged children with basic supports for education). You may choose as a family to donate items for the cause, or organise a group fundraiser.



RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Gather the people present around the child. Invite them to place their hands on the child's head or shoulders as you pray:

PRAY: Dear God, Thank you for the blessing of education and for the wonderful learning and memories we have from preschool. Please go with (name) as she/he starts her/his new adventure at primary school. Please bless her/him with good teachers and friends. Amen.

BLESS: As you say the blessing, encourage those present to follow with actions: May the God of love guard your thoughts (tap hands on head), guide your walk (walk on the spot), bring peace to your heart (tap hands on heart) and shower you with blessings (use fingers to indicate rain falling down). Amen.

GIFTING: Choose a piece of artwork your child has done during the year. You might like to frame it and display in your home as a memory of their year at preschool.

For more information about the Growing Faith Moments and other resources for ministry to children, youth and their families, please contact:

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