

# CTY FAMILY FIELD GUIDE

**May 2026 Edition**

Your curated guide to events, curriculum insights, and at-home conversations for the Children and Youth ministry.

Kids (K-3)

Middle School  
(4-7)

High School (8-12)

# Don't Give Up, Keep Going!

This May, our entire CTY ministry, from kindergarten to high school, is focused on a single, powerful idea: resilience. We are partnering with your family to teach our students that God is always at work, even when things get hard.



**THE FAMILY MANTRA:**  
**Don't stop.**  
**Don't give up.**  
**God is at work.**



**KIDS (K-3)**

**Recognizing What God Has Done**  
Resilience starts simply by looking at God's track record (Acts 3-4).

**MIDDLE SCHOOL (4-7)**

**Internalizing Struggle as Training**  
As brains develop, early teens learn that challenges (James 1) are a "Level Up" for their internal muscles, not proof of failure.

**HIGH SCHOOL (8-12)**

**Finding the Gift on the Other Side**

Older teens are equipped to view deep circumstantial or internal hardships as battles where God forms their character (1 Samuel 17).

# Kids (K-5): Leaping for Joy

Peter and John heal a man, and even when arrested, they refuse to stop preaching! 5,000 people believe because they kept going.

## DINNER TABLE CONVOS:

- If you could heal any sickness like Peter and John did, what would it be?
- Why do you think Peter and John were so brave when the leaders told them to stop?

## The Memory Verse Motions! (Galatians 6:9)

1

Yawn (tired of doing good)

2

Thumbs Up (at the right time)

3

Pick Fruit (gather a crop)

**LIVING ROOM CHALLENGE:** Host a "Praise Jump-Off" to see who can jump the highest for joy!

# Middle School: The Training Ground

We are teaching students that struggle is not proof they are failing. Just like a muscle, their brains and faith grow through challenge.

## ACTIONABLE PARENT TIP

Shift the question from "Why is this happening?" to 'God, what are you growing in my student right now?'

### CAR RIDE CONVOS:

- If life were a video game right now, what difficulty level are you on? (Easy, Medium, Hard, or Boss Fight?)
- What's something you thought you'd be good at immediately, but actually had to practice?
- When something gets hard, what's your default move: try harder, shut down, or pretend you didn't care?

# HIGH SCHOOL: FACING THE BATTLE

David defeated Goliath, but still fought for years. Hardship doesn't cancel God's plan; He uses it to refine our faith. The battle is the LORD's.

## ACTIONABLE PARENT TIP

Remind your teen this week that God doesn't waste their battles; He forms their character through them.

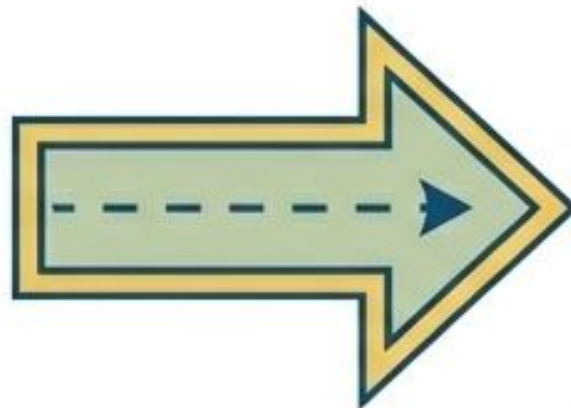
### COFFEE SHOP CONVOS:

- On a scale of 1-10, how "battle mode" does your life feel right now?
- David said "the battle is the LORD's." What actually changes when we believe that instead of fighting on our own?
- What is one gift or skill (like empathy, endurance, or wisdom) that might be waiting on the other side of your current battle?

# The Family Goal: Building Lasting Character

## Galatians 6:9 (Kids & MS)

"Let us not become tired of doing good... we will gather a crop if we don't give up."



## Romans 5:3-5 (HS)

"Suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."

The journey begins by simply deciding not to give up doing good (Galatians). But the ultimate destination for your children is profound, unshakable Hope (Romans). We are partnering with you to build deep, lasting internal character across your entire family.



## **MAY 4: ONLINE GIVING SWITCH**

Emmanuel switches to Pushpay.



## **MAY 10: MUFFINS WITH MOM**

Mother's Day alignment with Sunday service flow.



## **MAY 24 @ 3 PM: PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Theme: Carrying the Fire. Special joint service with Christ Community Church, Cosecha Iglesia, and Oakland Worship Center.



## **MAY 31: CTY CHOIR MINISTERS**

Details coming soon for students and families!

# Celebrate Mother's Day With Us

**THE WHAT:** Enjoy Muffins, Take Photos, Write Letters together!

**THE WHY:**  
A designated moment to pause, align with our Sunday service flow, and celebrate the women who keep our families going.

MUFFINS WITH MOM

SUNDAY, MAY 10

MOTHER'S DAY

ENJOY MUFFINS TAKE PHOTOS WRITE LETTERS

TIME  
8:30AM - 10AM  
12PM - 1PM

LOCATION  
AGAPE HALL

**THE WHEN:**  
Sunday, May 10th.  
Two sessions to fit your morning:  
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM  
or 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM.

**THE WHERE:**  
Join us in Agape Hall!

# THE MINISTRY NOTICEBOARD

## **DAILY DEVOTIONS:**

Keep growing at home! Search for our church directly in the YouVersion Bible App for daily devotionals.

## **STAY CONNECTED:**

Emmanuel Text Alerts are launching. *Note:* You must manually opt-in through the email sent this week!

## **GIVING UPDATE:**

On Monday, May 4, Emmanuel switches to Pushpay. Keep an eye on your inbox for setup instructions.

Hats off...  
Preschool may be  
coming soon!  
Stay tuned!

