

UNDERSTANDING VARIOUS FAMILY INTEGRATION CHURCH MODELS

MODERN CHURCH

FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH

FAMILY FOCUSED CHURCH

Rationale for the Biblical Mandate of Family Discipleship: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Approach to following the Biblical Mandate:	Approach to following the Biblical Mandate:	Approach to following the Biblical Mandate:
Generational segregation through age based programs	No generational segregation	Both generational segregation and generational inclusion
The larger the church the more age segregated programs are available from Nursery to Golden Oldies	No Youth Group, Children's S.S., Nursery, Jr. Church, etc. on the grounds that there is no biblical rationale for these programs	Youth Group, Children's S.S., Nursery, Jr. Church, etc. on the grounds that others share in the charge to "spur one another on in love and good deeds." (Heb. 10:24-25)
The task of the church is to provide biblical education and spiritual nourishment with the assumption that people, youth especially, won't get it at home	The task of the church is to train and equip parents (especially fathers) to raise their children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4)	The task of the church is to train and equip parents (and especially fathers) to raise their children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4) While providing a setting for supplementary nourishment and care.
The church has taken on the primary responsibility for discipling children; often, with very little emphasis on training parents to do so.	The sole responsibility to train children rests upon parents (primarily on fathers)	The primary responsibility to train children rests upon parents (and especially fathers) but the church assumes a secondary and supportive role as collective resources of wisdom

Varies in regards to its biblical understanding of headship within the household	Mandates the Biblical principle of headship with regard to fathers within the household	Acknowledges the biblical principle of Headship with regard to fathers
Often sees programs as the way to grow the church through reaching various age/gender segments	Sees "programs" as ways families are divided and an infringement on family unity	Recognizes the need for various groups to meet for fellowship, training, and edification
Extremes: When teens graduate from youth program, they graduate from Church	Extremes: Isolationism, Patriarchy, misogyny	Extremes: Outsourcing training and instruction to "professional" Christians