



BUILDING FAMILY TRADITIONS

AS YOUR CHILD TURNS

11 YEARS

PUBERTY

Parents, you must have open communication about sexuality and puberty now, or your child won't talk with you about it later.



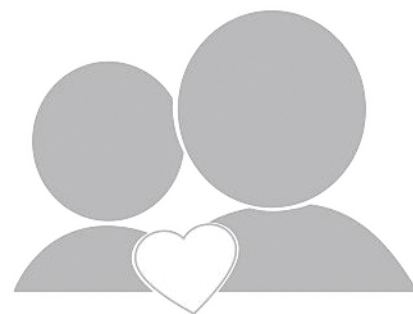
IDENTITY

Kids may be identified by an activity they do, but make sure their primary identity is in Christ. Make God and church a higher priority than your activity schedule.

FRIENDS

Friendships commonly change at this age. Be prepared for some relationships to end, some to get stronger and don't be surprised when your relationship with your child changes as well.

Be sure to encourage godly friendships as these relationships can become one of the most significant influences for your child. This means making church attendance and church activities a priority. Proverbs 27:17



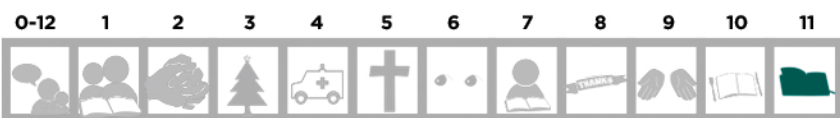
AFFIRMATION

Eleven years old is considered the "age of withdrawal". Many children at this age begin to withdraw from relationships with you, friends, siblings and activities. These are usually the result of a deep questioning of their own worth.



- During this time you need to continue to reach toward your child—even when they push you away or don't reciprocate.
- Make sure to include your child in family activities even when they try to refuse.
- Find ways to compliment your child on their personal value and self-worth.
- Push them toward activities where they can develop friendships with peers in a safe environment.

SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS



To learn more about spiritual traditions, visit church-redeemer.org/traditions



Continue to invest in spiritual traditions and habits that will last throughout your child's life. One way to do this is to memorize Scripture as a family. Another is to teach your child how to journal about God's Word and pray daily. Buy them a new journal and participate in the process with them.

RESOURCES

"The Genesis Code" is an interesting movie about science and God. The conclusion is that both of these can co-exist.

Passport to Purity is a book from Focus on the Family that is an excellent resource as you continue to talk to your student about puberty and purity.

Serving: Kids can "grow in love" by giving of themselves in serving. In 6th grade, kids can begin serving on their own in early childhood areas.