



The "5Ps" of Lifelong Faith Formation

1 | PRINCIPLES Matter

What assumptions do you hold about how faith is formed? At Vibrant Faith, we believe that:

- Faith is formed by the Holy Spirit, through personal, trusted relationships.
- Faith is caught more than it's taught. People need see it being lived and practiced in daily life.
- Faith formation is about transformation, not just information. It's about learning to follow in the way of Jesus.
- Faith formation is a lifelong process. It doesn't end at confirmation or high school. Everyone has a next step in faith.

We believe that people are called to gather in faith communities to:

- Connect **with God**, growing in AWARENESS of God's grace and presence in their lives.
- Connect and care **for each other**, creating an atmosphere of BELONGING that fosters living-giving relationships.
- Connect with **people in our community**, where they befriend, serve, and bless their neighbors and co-workers.

2 | PEOPLE Matter

Life-giving relationships play a critical role in the faith forming process. The term "familying" is used to describe the relational process the Spirit uses to create and sustain people in life and faith. Many churches strive to create a web of support where individuals are cared for, encouraged, and challenged in their faith.

3 | PRACTICES Matter

Faith is a verb. Faith is something we live, not just like. Thriving churches seek to equip people of all ages to be mindful of God's presence in their lives by modeling ways to:

- **Pray** daily
- **Read** and reflect on scripture, and relate it to their daily lives.
- **Serve** at and beyond the church and to financially support God's mission.
- **Celebrate** who God is and God's active engagement in the world through worship and milestones moments.

4 | PLACES Matter

Faith is formed everyday, everywhere, with everyone. It's to be practiced in all facets of life, including:

- **Our congregation:** During worship and large group experiences, people are introduced to Jesus, interpret the Christian life, learn Bible stories and biblical concepts, and celebrate milestones.
- **Our households:** Understanding that the home can also be church too, spiritual practices are taught in the congregation that can be replicated at home. Homes are learning laboratories for faith formation.
- **Online:** Online platforms serve as connecting points to share life and faith stories, learn spiritual practices, pray for and encourage one another. They provide opportunities for independent study, reflection and dialogue. They allow people to learn what they want, and when they want.
- **On the go:** Churches find ways to partner and dialogue with community organizations, local congregations and other learning institutions to help people grow and serve.

5 | PLAYLISTS Matter

How people choose to practice faith and grow spiritually will vary from person to person. Playlists are often organized around large group settings, small group settings, things people can do on their own, and immersion experiences. Thriving churches strive to create a playlist for people that honor their time-constraints, learning styles, and spiritual types. Typical "playlists" include offering immersion experiences, small group gatherings, Bible reading plans, podcasts to listen to, spiritual direction opportunities, classes, retreats and books to read.



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