

| <b>FAITH</b><br>Stage  | When It<br>Typically Occurs             | What Happens   | What You Can Do  |
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| <b>EXPERIENCED<br/>FAITH</b>                                   | Preschool to upper-<br>elementary years | Kids participate in family worship by<br>imitating   | Teach kids to say memorized<br>prayers and Bible verses and prac-<br>tice religious and holiday traditions.  |
| <b>AFFILIATIVE<br/>FAITH</b><br><i>(religion of the heart)</i> | Middle school or<br>junior high years   | Kids relate to the religious communi-<br>ty outside the family.  | Get kids involved in caring Christian<br>groups such as Sunday school or jun-<br>ior high youth groups.  |
| <b>SEARCHING<br/>FAITH</b><br><i>(religion of the head)</i>    | High school and col-<br>lege years      | Kids question and begin to sort out<br>whether to freely and personally ac-<br>cept the faith they first experienced.                            | Express your own convictions and<br>beliefs. Avoid proving kids wrong or<br>expecting them to have certain be-<br>liefs because you said to. Commend<br>kids for asking faith questions. |
| <b>OWNED FAITH</b>   | Adulthood                               | People freely choose to buy into a<br>religion's teachings and practices be-<br>cause they match their own visions<br>of what life is all about. | Establish a deeper relationship with<br>God through personal prayer and<br>study. Respect religions and tradi-<br>tions of others.   |