



# BEGINNING YEAR 12

## INTRODUCTION

At the heart of equipping people for their lifelong faith formation are the Four Key Faith Practices: **Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals and Traditions.**

As you share in this exciting final stage of a young person's schooling, take time to reflect on the past years and share in the joy of the final stage of their school journey. Let this Beginning Year 12 **Growing Faith Moment** be a time to prepare for the year ahead. This moment can take place in a small group or around the family table.



## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Invite the young person to share their answers to one or more of the following questions.

- What have been some of your favourite memories of the past 12 years?
- What are you most excited about in year 12?
- Are you concerned about anything?
- What is your favourite subject?



## DEVOTIONS

**You will learn what is right and honest and fair. From these, an ordinary person can learn to be smart, and young people can gain knowledge and good sense. If you are already wise, you will become even wiser. And if you are smart, you will learn to understand.** Proverbs 1: 3-5

Everyone present can share stories about their Year 12 experience. What were some of the things you enjoyed learning? What were some of the tougher parts of school? Share how much your knowledge has grown over the past twelve years. Talk about how much education has changed over the years. How can you make the most of all the opportunities Year 12 has to offer without becoming overwhelmed? Discuss some strategies for the year ahead, and things the whole family can do to support the Year 12 student.



## SERVICE

Family members could offer to do some extra chores around the house to allow the year 12 student to focus on their studies. Provide an environment that will support their study. Help them to organise their time so all aspects of their growth will flourish – schoolwork, exercise, diet, and sleep.



## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Gather those present closely around the young person. Invite everyone to place their hands on the young person's head or shoulders for the following prayer and blessing.

**PRAY:** Dear Lord Jesus, Fill (name) with your peace and joy as he/she enters into his/her final year of high school. Bless his/her studies, friendships, and extra-curricular activities so that he/she can make the most of this year. Fill him/her with your wisdom to make excellent choices for his/her year ahead. Give him/her the strength to maintain the pace he/she will need. Help us (family) to support him/her in his/her final year of school. Give us all peace and patience for the busyness ahead. Amen.

**BLESS:** May you be filled with peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control.

**GIFTING:** Give the young person a gift that will help them remember the marking of this milestone in their lives. Here are some suggestions:

- A journal.
- A calendar or planner with all the important dates marked on it. Include the routine work commitments as well as the exciting days ahead, e.g. exams and formal.

For more information about the Growing Faith Moments and other resources for ministry to children, youth and their families, please contact:

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