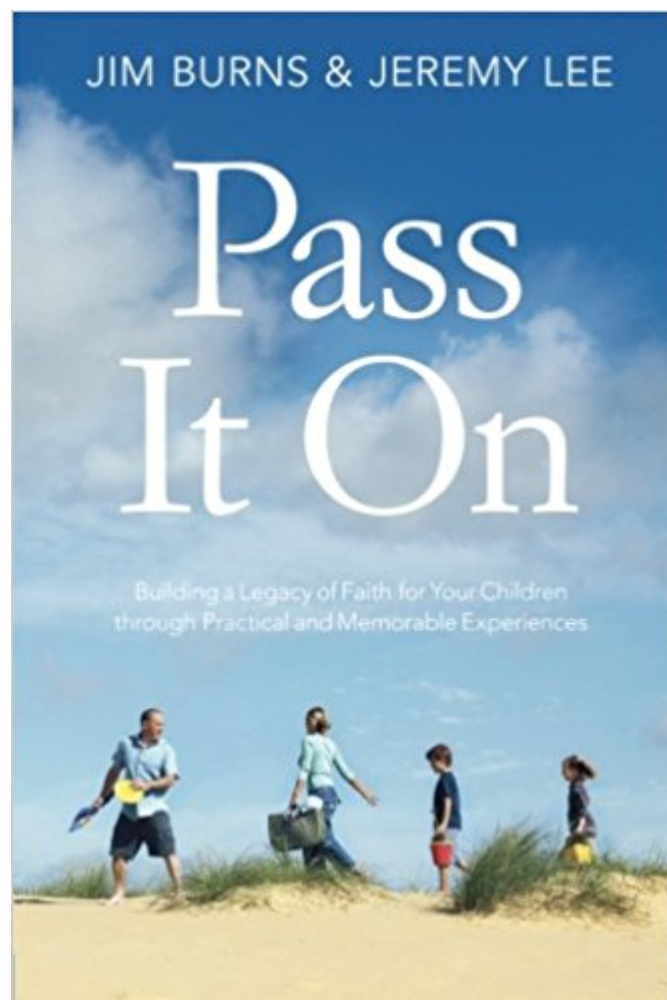




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# Pass It On: Building A Legacy Of Faith For Your Children Through Practical And Memorable Experiences



## Synopsis

Parents often experience a “freak out” moment when they realize their children’s view of God will primarily come from what they learn at home. Most parents spend more time helping their kids succeed at academics or athletics than infusing shared spiritual experiences into the rhythm of everyday family life. While the idea of strategically passing down our faith can seem intimidating, the annual Rites of Passage Experiences contained in Pass It On make it easy for your family to celebrate milestones from kindergarten through high school graduation. Forever change the direction of your family’s spiritual legacy ... starting now!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jim Burns is president of HomeWord and executive director of the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University. He has more than 1.5 million resources in print and a radio broadcast heard on 800 stations a day. Jim resides in Southern California with his wife Cathy and their three daughters. Jeremy Lee is the founder of ParentMinistry.Net, a subscription-based service for children and youth ministry workers. He was on the writing team for the Simple Truth Bible from Group Publishing and the Ignite Study Bible from Thomas Nelson Publishers. Jeremy lives in Nashville with his wife and children.

:-)

One of my worries in regards to being a widowed mom is am I going to be able to pass on my husband and I's faith single-handily. When *Pass It On* came up for review especially with the secondary title of "building a legacy of faith for your children through practical and memorable experiences", I knew it was a book that I needed to read. I've always thought, even though we aren't Jewish, that rites of passage for children are something that Christians should do to recognize who their children are as they grow in their faith. Mr. Burns and Lee give parents the tools they need to be able to bless their children at whatever stage they are at and make it meaningful even if the child rolls their eyes or deny wanting anything to do with a ceremony. My only issue with the book was the use of grade levels to determine where a child is at as a home school family or my children don't fit into the typical grades like if they were in school so one may be above, another below or another in between. The good thing is this book is flexible and if your kindergarten aged child is more mature and seems to fit in the first grade then use that. So each grade has a different spiritual aspect attached to it, so second grade is "an invitation to the Bible", the authors walk through what is going on in this child's life and how it affects their faith, then they describe what a rite of passage could look like for that child (these passages don't have to be huge to-do's just gather the immediate family) and some ideas for gifts ranging from the cheap to the more expensive as well as Scripture. The authors then list what the average second grade child is like physically, emotionally, relational and spiritually so this will help parents better gauge where their child fits especially if the family doesn't assign grade levels. I know it comes in handy for myself such as my 9 year old son who isn't reading yet (not for lack of trying though) but is working at a fourth grade level in all other subjects. Overall, I think this is a fantastic book and I know my oldest who is 13 will more than likely find it cheesy but I'd love to try to fit these into our lives especially as I try to strive to make our faith more strong and real in light of our new lives. The rites of passage aren't bound in stone and each family can tweak as they need to for their family or for their child but the authors do say if you do it for this child and the other children see it be prepared to do it for the next child and so on. I often find it hard to have one on one time with the children as we're so busy and I'm only one person but the other positive about a rite of passage is letting the child know they are loved and cherished by both the Lord and myself even if the one on one attention is lacking. I will be

referring back to this in the coming months and try to figure out how to implement this in our lives.\*\*I was provided a copy of this book from Litfuse Publicity in exchange for my honest opinion, no other compensation was given.

It can be a little intimidating to know that most of what your child learns about God comes primarily from his mother and father, Parents can't rely on the churches or Christian schools to teach our children who God is. We must do it. In "Pass It On" by Jim Burns and Jeremy Lee, they have created Rites of Passages that we can celebrate with our children each year until they are grown. Special milestones to teach them who God is and what His plan is for our children. The beginning of the book explains how we can leave a legacy of faith for our children. The remaining chapters are spent giving different ideas of Rites of Passage to try. Each milestone is meant to point your child towards God. If you are just now picking up this book and you already have a child in middle school, you can easily just pick up at that stage and perhaps even backtrack a couple milestones until you reach the correct milestone. I found this book to be a really interesting read! The first time I sat down to read it, I read through almost half of the book in just that sitting. These two guys know their stuff and I felt like I was sitting down with a youth pastor just chatting about my kids. I think the ideas they have listed here are truly neat. It's one of those things where you can kind of pick and choose which things you will want to do with your family. You can customize it to fit you and your kids. This is an excellent read that I would highly recommend. I rate it as 5 stars. I received this book for free from Litfuse in exchange for my honest unbiased opinion.

Jim Burns and Jeremy Lee have a sincere desire to help parents find practical, intentional ways to promote faith and faithfulness in their children. As they say on page 139, "Parenting does not have to be about survival." With wisdom and experience that comes from raising their own children and shepherding other parents along the way, these authors share specific things you can do with your child for every year they are in school to point the way towards developing a personal faith of their own. Using Biblical-based themes of ceremonies and symbols, Burns and Lee believe that kindergarten is a good age to get started on the various rites of passage which they lay out. "Your child may only be in kindergarten," they posit in Chapter 1, "but he was created to make a difference in the world around him." Beginning with lessons about generosity and responsibility, each year's themes grow to include topics like identity, friendship, and finances. Each chapter not only talks about the age-appropriate rite of passage, but also spells out what to expect from your child physically, emotionally, relationally, and spiritually at each grade level. The chapters are fairly brief

and very easy to read, and they leave lots of room for you to incorporate their suggestions according to the unique needs of your child and family, as well as the leading of the Holy Spirit. I liked the encouragement on page 66 to "...strive to parent in such a way that will cause the 35-year-old version of your child to say, 'Thank you.'" Other highlights included the focus on intentionally making memories as a family, and talking about how to help your child discover who they want to be rather than what they want to do when they grow up. Those are such good points!! I am not a parent, but I take seriously my role to influence young people as a sister, aunt, teacher, and friend. I feel like this book would be an excellent resource for parents, as it is full of good ideas and information. I know no parent desires for their children to fall away from the faith, but true relational parenting is not seen much these days. By exhorting parents to take full responsibility of passing on their faith to their children, Burns and Lee set the pattern for you to have a home where love and communication reign. Every childhood and adolescence is bound to have some turbulent times, but a solid foundation can go a long way toward surviving it with grace. I received my copy of the book in exchange for this honest review. All opinions are my own.

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