



Dealing With Congregational Expectations

Understand and navigate the unspoken expectations congregations place on ministry families, and learn how to shape a healthy family culture within church life.

Whether you know it or not, the congregation will have expectations of church leaders' families that will rarely be clearly communicated to you. By thinking ahead about how you want to approach this, you can help your family and your children not to feel the pressure of these expectations.

- Decide who you want to be
- Frame who you are for the congregation
- Responding to the congregation's advice and opinions
- Assume the best
- Have a response ready
- Give them ways to help
- See behind the complaint
- Frame the congregation's expectations for your kids
- Discipline

01 Discussion questions

- Do you feel the pressure of congregational expectations on you and/or your family?

- What sort of family do you feel called to be? What are your children's roles in this church?
- Do you have any unspoken expectations of your children at church? How might you free them from the weight of being under the spotlight?

SPACE FOR YOUR THOUGHTS
