

10 PRACTICAL WAYS

to Disciple Your
Deaf or Hard of Hearing Child

1

Learn Their Language

2

Be Fully Present

3

Prioritize Visual Communication

4

Create a
Language-Rich Environment

5

Engage in Their World
Through Their Eyes

6

Encourage Open Conversations

7

Empower Their Identity in Christ

8

Include Them in Faith
and Family Traditions

9

Advocate for Their
Spiritual and Educational Needs

10

Show Unconditional
Love and Grace

1 Learn their Language



Just like Jesus met people where they were, learning your child's language is the first step in discipling them.

If your child uses American Sign Language (ASL) or another sign language, commit to learning it, keep trying, and use it often. Even if they use spoken language, adding sign language can bring more clarity and meaning.

2 Be Fully Present



Jesus was fully present with those He ministered to, and as parents, we are called to do the same.

Put down distractions and be fully engaged when interacting with your child. Presence is more than just physical— it's about showing your child that they are valued, loved, seen, and worthy of your time and attention.

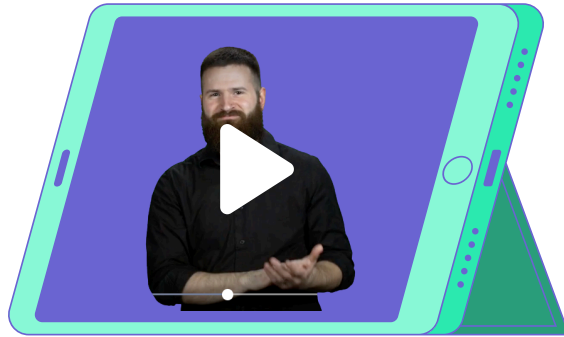
3 Prioritize Visual Communication



Jesus often used visual parables, signs, and miracles to teach His followers.

Similarly, your child benefits from **clear, visual communication**. Be expressive and intentional with your nonverbal cues to reinforce biblical teachings and everyday conversations.

4 Create a Language-Rich Environment



God's Word is central to discipleship, and integrating it into your home in a language-rich way strengthens faith.

Fill your home with **visually accessible Bible stories and ASL worship videos**, such as resources from Deaf Missions, Deaf Harbor, and Deaf Kids Connect.

5 Engage in Their World Through Their Eyes



Jesus walked alongside His disciples, engaging in their daily lives.

Take time to learn about your child's interests, favorite activities, and hobbies. Use these moments to point them to God's truth.

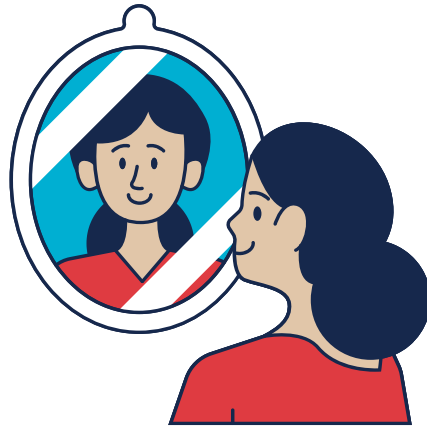
6 Encourage Open Conversations



Discipleship involves guiding your child through their spiritual and emotional growth.

Create a *safe space* where your child can express their feelings, ask faith-related questions, and wrestle with doubts.

7 Empower Their Identity in Christ



Your child's Deaf or Hard of Hearing identity is a **beautiful part of who they are**, but their most important identity is in **Christ**.

Support their self-advocacy, encourage connections with the Deaf Christian community, and reinforce that they are fearfully and wonderfully made.

8

Include Them in Faith and Family Traditions



Faith and family traditions are central to belonging.

Make worship, prayer, and Bible study accessible by including visual applications and sign language.

9 Advocate for Their Spiritual and Educational Needs



Just as Jesus defended and uplifted the marginalized, **you are called to advocate for your child.**

Teach your child how to self-advocate so they grow up empowered to navigate the world with confidence, knowing they are deeply loved by God and their community.

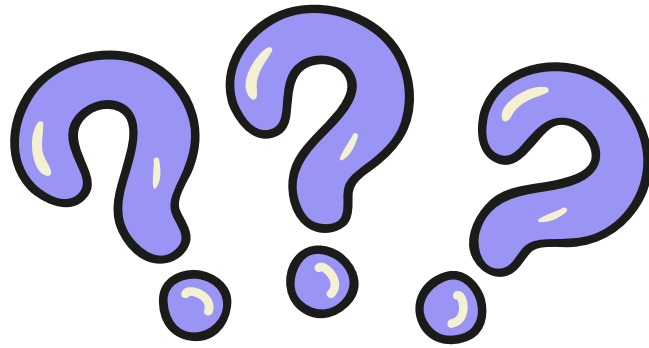
10 Show Unconditional Love and Grace



Above all, your child needs to know that they are loved, valued, and cherished **just as they are.**

Just as God extends grace to us, extend grace to your child as they navigate life's challenges.

QUESTIONS?



If you have any questions or need some helpful tips, don't be afraid to reach out.

We are here to help. You are doing great.
One step at a time.

We love you!