



## *Thank you for entrusting your kids to our care!*

As a Family Ministry, we partner with parents to proclaim the gospel because we believe that parents are the first and most effective communicators of the gospel to their children. In our Sunday morning Kids classes, we will support and supplement what is being taught and practiced at home.

One of the ways we do this is that our curriculum works through the entire Bible from Preschool through 5th grade. Each and every lesson will exalt Jesus and show children how all of the Bible is about Jesus and reveals our need for him. We will pray for, and with, your children, and we have times of singing and dancing. We also understand that children will not effectively hear the gospel if they are not safe or their parents do not feel their children are safe. As a result, all of our teachers have been background-checked and understand our safety policies for abuse prevention, allergy awareness, and special needs care.

*We are so thankful for the opportunity to teach your kids and get to know your family!*

### **TIPS FOR WHEN DROP-OFFS ARE TOUGH:**

- 1. Arrive with plenty of time to check in, get to class, and get your child settled. And if you are running late, remind yourself that there is grace for you and grace for your child! Rushing makes everyone feel more pressure and often adds to the sadness and difficulty. We're glad you're here and it's okay to slip into the service late!*
- 2. For infants, toddlers, and preschoolers - bring your child's comfort items and label them with their name! Pacifiers, favorite blankets, and stuffies often help remind your child they are safe, even in an unfamiliar setting. At drop-off let your child's teacher know what items they are bringing in so we know how to use them to help and so that we can keep watch and get them back to you!*
- 3. For older toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary schoolers - talk through the schedule on your way to church. Let your child know what to expect. The general schedule in all of our classes is Drop off, Play, Snack, Bible Time, Play, Parents Come Back! Use the same phrases and reminders every week and emphasize that they are safe at church and that you will always come back!*
- 4. If the morning is particularly tearful or difficult talk to your child's teacher or flag down a Family Ministry Staff person to make a plan. We will try several strategies to help calm and engage your child (snack, stroller ride, fidget toy, etc.) and set a timer for your preferred length (10 minutes, 15 minutes, etc.) to give it a try. If your child is just needing extra care and connection from you, we'll text you from our check-in system to return to the Kids Area!*
- 5. Keep coming back and don't give up! You are forming lifelong impressions and patterns for community and church attendance now. Even in the hard seasons, it is important for you and for your kids to prioritize being at church to worship God in community and remember the gospel to be fueled for your week of parenting and life.*
- 6. It will get better and we are here to help!*