



City Church's Children's Ministry

General Information

City Church's mission: "To be and make disciples of Jesus Christ."

It is the desire of City Church's Children's Ministry to partner with families to teach our children that Jesus is the way and the truth and the life, and to model what it means and what it looks like to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We believe it is our role to support parents in their biblical responsibility for "teaching and modeling God's truths to children." We want our children to become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, and to grow and mature spiritually by learning about our Savior's grace as revealed through God's word.

City Church's tagline: "An authentic community, walking with God in our city."

God gives us gifts and abilities that we desire to use to foster growth in Christ. Part of "walking with God" includes serving our body of believers, and children are a vital part of our community. There are several ways to serve with Children's Ministry at City Church. Our children's ministry team consists of volunteers who lead Christ-centered lives, and desire to help children feel loved and cared for, help children know who Jesus is, and help children develop and mature in their growth.

Children's Church

Children's Church is offered to children **2nd grade and under** (including infants) during the Sunday morning worship service, from 10:00 – 11:15 am. In the classroom for **preschool through second grade students**, our teachers and assistants instruct a Bible lesson using the "Children Desiring God: The ABC's of God" curriculum, and provide meaningful activities that are Christ-centered and engaging. In the classroom for **12 month olds through 3 year olds**, and in the nursery for **newborns through 12 month olds**, our teachers and assistants use the "Children Desiring God: A Sure Foundation" series to lay the foundation of a knowledge of God to our littlest ones. Caregivers and teachers provide a safe, clean, loving environment for children. Children **3rd grade and above** remain in the service with the adults. We provide "worship bags" containing activity bulletins and Bibles for this age group to help students remain engaged and focused during the service.

"Children Desiring God: The ABCs of God" Curriculum

In the classroom for **preschool through second grade students**, City Church's children's ministry uses a series entitled, "The ABCs of God." It

is “a study for children on the greatness and worth of God. It uses the alphabet as a framework for learning the attributes of God and other terms that describe His character, at an age-appropriate level. (Note that attributes are purposely not taught in alphabetical order.) Each lesson asks and answers three key questions, "Who is God?" "What is He like?" and "How should I act toward Him?" as it presents a theology of God for children. Through the use of a teaching aid called “The Blessing Box,” students will discover a new attribute of God each week and will be challenged to consider how they should respond to an amazing God who is worthy of their greatest love, honor, trust, and obedience.”

“Children Desiring God exists to equip the body of Christ to spread to the next generations a passion for the supremacy of God in all things for the joy of all peoples through Jesus Christ. Our aim is to impart to children a vision of God, who He is, and who we are in relation to Him, and to establish them with a foundation of doctrine and truth. We want them biblically grounded, seeing God as the hero of every story, with a God-centered world view and a faith that will hold them when the days of testing come. We want them to love the Lord their God with all their heart, and to delight in Him forever” (Nelson, 2013).

Nelson, J. (2016, July). *Children Desiring God: The ABCs of God*.

Retrieved from <http://www.childrendesiringgod.org>

“Children Desiring God: A Sure Foundation” Curriculum

In the classroom for **12 month olds through 3 year olds**, and in the nursery for **newborns through 12 month olds**, City Church’s children’s ministry uses a series entitled “A Sure Foundation,” which has pieces geared toward both babies and toddlers. For babies, “*The Fragrance of the Knowledge of Christ* establishes the philosophy of ministering in infant nurseries and creates an environment centered on prayer for each baby.” And young toddlers “are taught four repeating Bible stories and monthly memory verses along with truth statements about God’s character in *The Wonders He Has Done*” (Nelson, 2017).

Children’s Ministry Needs

As a young church, we have a variety of ages of children who walk into our services, and we need godly, caring adults who love working with children and are ready to be flexible to serve and meet the needs of our children and our church. Our youngest children need loving caregivers each week to care for their needs and engage them in play and story-telling as they “form a foundation of love and security.” Our older learners need “structure and guidance to begin their first understandings of who God is and how He loves them” using a Bible lesson as well as engaging application activities.

In addition, we are looking for volunteers who are available to be called to fill in any of these roles as a “back up” during a holiday or in the event our numbers are high.

Volunteer Procedures for Children’s Ministry

- 1) Complete the **Volunteer Application**.
 - a. References
 - b. Background Check
- 2) Read the **Child Protection Policy**.
- 3) Read the **City Church’s Children’s Ministry Handbook**.
- 4) Sign the **Volunteer Agreement** attached to the handbook.
- 5) Meet with Children’s Ministry Directors and/or Pastors/Elders for an **interview**.
- 6) Three month **trial** period of observing, assisting, and possibly teaching a lesson. Evaluate if this team is a good fit by both Children’s Ministry Directors and/or Pastors/Elders and volunteer.