



WHAT TO EXPECT AT MBC CHILDREN'S PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

The following is the basic outline for the Children's Sunday School model for the primary grades. All the children k-5 will be checked into the Fellowship Hall where there will be opening activities as they arrive. The children will be able to engage in conversation with their Mentor, play board games, work on color sheets or work on an activity sheet from the previous week for review. The leaders of each group (Mentors) will be there to welcome the children and engage them with a purpose of building relationships with them. The Mentors will be responsible for overseeing the children in their assigned grade. They will be with their group of children the entire morning. The children will have the opportunity to bring money for offering that will go towards missionaries that they will learn about. There will be a container as they enter where they can place their offering and also place any written questions that they may have.

LARGE GROUP TIME

The large group time will start 5 minutes after the main worship service has started. The children will be with other children in their same grade and signs will indicate where the child's grade will be sitting. At the start of the large group time there will be a time of worship led by a musician. All music will be songs that are sung in the main worship services. Two songs will be sung and the lyrics for the songs will be projected on the screen for the children to follow.

THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT

Following the first two songs we will have a "Theological Thought". During this time a word such as grace, faith, forgiveness, repentance, etc. will be explained. The purpose of this is to get the children thinking about terms that are common to Christianity and give them a better understanding of the terms. The more they understand these words, the better comprehension of Scripture they will have.

MISSIONS MOMENT

We will then have a "Missions Moment" where we will take a couple minutes and look beyond the walls of our church and lives, to focus on a missionary or an unreached people group. We will share about a missionary that is supported by MBC. This would focus on what life is like for them, where they are at, what they do and what is going on in their ministry. We will be able to give the children updates throughout the year. We will also at times talk about unreached people groups. Explaining who unreached people groups are, how they live, what they believe. The goal is to get the children thinking not only locally, but nationally and globally at the need of the gospel going forward. They will also see what God is doing across the globe. Pictures of the missionaries and their work will be displayed on the screen for the children to be able to know who the missionaries are.

We will then sing a third song and recite the mission statement together. At this time, any announcements would be covered and the children would then go to their classrooms. There is a couple of minutes built in where the children can get a drink or use the bathroom. The Mentors will walk the children to the classrooms and handle any of the bathroom needs.

TEACHING TIME

The children will be divided into two groups, Kinder-2nd and 3rd-5th. The two groups will break out into two classrooms. The classroom location for each group will depend on the size of the groups. One class room will be in the furthest NW corner (old Club 45 classroom) of the building. The second classroom will be directly across from the kitchen (old K/1 classroom). The teachers will be in the classroom preparing for the students and will welcome them in. The children will have 20 minutes of lesson time. During this time the Mentors will be with the children and handle any disruptions. The curriculum that will be used is *Generations of Grace*.

In order to declare God's mighty acts from one generation to the next (Ps 145:4), Generations of Grace is: Biblically Driven – covering the whole story-line of the Bible. God Centered – magnifying God's character and works recorded throughout Scripture. Christ Exalting – glorifying Christ as the pinnacle of God's redemptive plan. Gospel Saturated – showing how every passage fits into God's plan of salvation. Family Focused – uniting the whole family around the same passage of Scripture each week. All children from pre-school through 5th grade will be taught the same passage, so the entire family can focus on one passage. For more details checkout www.generationsofgrace.com.

DISCUSSION TIME

After the lesson the children will breakout into groups with children the same grade. The Mentors will then have an opportunity to go through questions with the children about the lesson. This is significant for helping the children understand the lesson taught. During this time, leaders will be able to have an opportunity to invest into the children's lives through the discussion about what was learned and the application of the lesson. This is also a time where the facilitators have an opportunity to build relationships with the children and have opportunity to see how they can be praying for them. The questions will be provided for the Mentors as a guide for discussion. This will not limit the Mentors from venturing away from the questions if what they are talking about is profitable and answering a child's question. During the small group time there will be activity and coloring sheets that can be incorporated into this time if needed.

The goal is to make Christ known to the children of MBC. We want to make sure that the children are given every opportunity to hear the truth and also be able to discuss it in small groups. We want to make sure that they are walking away understanding what was taught, how it points to Christ and understand how it applies to them.

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

The most important job of parents is to raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:4; Col 3:21). Parents are to be the primary evangelists and spiritual trainers of their children. Parents must work very hard at this, teaching their children every day by their regular example and specific instruction (Deut 6:7). So an effective children's ministry will do all it can to encourage parents in their mission, and one way to do this is by providing helpful tools to parents. This is what Generations of Grace strives to do. Generations of Grace provides the Family Devotional, a valuable tool designed with both parents and children in mind. The Family Devotional aims to aid the parents in their own knowledge, love, and holiness. Then as the parents grow in godliness, the Family Devotional also helps parents teach their children throughout the week the same stories and principles that are taught each Sunday.

Additionally, there will be a take home sheet that covers the Theological Thought, Missions Moment, upcoming lessons, and questions that were covered that week.