

# Mount Zion - Children's Church News

We are learning, loving and serving God together!

As the children settle into a new school year, we too at Children's Church are excited about re-establishing our routines. Our commitment is to plant the word of God firmly in the children's hearts so they can be "more than conquerors" in their daily life!

**Parent meeting:** We would like to have a parent meeting right after the main service on **September 14**. Your attendance is very important, so please mark this date on your calendars!

We want to teach the children the importance of our time together; therefore, we remind all the parents that Children's Church starts at **10:40**. We will respectfully ask late arrivals to sit with their parents in the main service.

For any new parents we ask that you fill out two information forms:

1. **Registration form**
2. **Media release form**

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to speak with me or email me (address below).

**Rita Cardarelli** (Children's Church Director)

## Children's Church Workers:

<b>Grace Castro-Nolet</b>	<b>Liliane Mingardi</b>
<b>Luisa Thuswaldner</b>	<b>Marguerite MacDonald</b>
<b>Maria Makuch</b>	<b>Radina Petrova</b>
<b>Vincent Nolet</b>	

## September's Theme: Know who you are!

### Underlying Concept:

- Importance of knowing God's word to help you in your daily life
- Know how God created you (how you look, your personality and your gifts and talents).
- Don't judge others!

## September's Scripture Memory Verses:

**Joshua 1:8** Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

**Philippians 4:6-7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

## Upcoming Dates/Events:

**Sept. 7:** Church BBQ

**Sept. 14:** Parent meeting

## What Parents Can Do:

The fall season is usually the time to re-establish household routines! Why not make the commitment as a family to learn the monthly memory verses together.

In last May's newsletter, I suggested a few ways... here they are as a reminder!

Games are an effective way to help your child learn Scriptures.

1. Choose a Scripture and then write each word of the verse on a piece of paper. Then, challenge your child in a timed race to assemble all the pieces together in the correct order.

2. Parents can put a Scripture verse on a white board (You can purchase a small one at the Dollar store) with an erasable marker. Take turns erasing a word and reading the verse until the whole board is empty. Parents can also write a verse and leave some words out for their child to fill in.

3. Some children learn best when their bodies are in motion. Recite scripture while bouncing a ball, skipping a rope or tossing a beanbag! Blow up a balloon and try to keep it up as your child recites a scripture.

4. Artistic children can write a verse on a piece of poster board or cardboard and then illustrate it. Can mom or dad figure out the scripture verse just by looking at the illustrations?

**See helpful hints: see next page!**

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### Helpful Hints:

### Information Attention Grabbers

As the children enter another school year, we will continue to teach them the importance of knowing God's word. We want them to know that God is always there to help them in their daily lives. The only way that they can rely on Him is to know His word. Daily **reading, studying and meditating is the key!**

Our world today is filled with *information attention grabbers*, (television, internet, texting...). Parents must be diligent in supervising what their children are "plugged into". The world's views will creep into their hearts and eventually influence their thoughts, behaviours, morals and values. Note this sobering statistic: "*Kids and teens 8 to 18 years spend nearly 4 hours a day in front of a TV screen and at least 2 additional hours on the computer (outside of schoolwork) and cell phone using social media.*"

God foresaw this problem and in His wisdom gave us the solution to this problem; **Joshua 1:8 "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."**

**Here are some suggestions to help parents combat the world's views and fill it with the word of God:**

- The most effective thing a parent can do is **model** for their children the appropriate behaviours and priorities. When they see you **setting aside time** to pray and read your bible they learn where you draw your strength.
- Plan as a family to **meditate on a scripture a week**. Write it in a visible place for everyone to see. Discuss it at the dinner table, pray together at night before they go to bed, let God's word sink deep into your hearts.

**Keep information grabbers at bay by:**

- Placing computers in a communal place visible to mom or dad (not in their bedrooms). Children should know that their parents will monitor computer sites.
- Establish rules for cell phone use and parent viewing rights.
- Create and enforce family TV viewing rules.
- Talk to your children about what they see on television, the internet... and share your own beliefs and values. Take the opportunity to discuss things when you hear something you don't approve of. Ask guided questions such as, "Do you think that behaviour was okay? What else could they have done? What would you have done? What does God's word say about it?"
- Give children positive alternatives to *information grabbers*. Reading appropriate books, board games, play outside, involve them in sports etc.) **Spending time together reinforcing your values and beliefs** builds a firm foundation for your children to stand on.

We at Children Church are dedicated to work as partners with parents to minimize and overcome the influences of worldly views. Please feel free to share with me your thoughts and concerns.

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