

Mount Zion - Children's Church News

We are learning, loving and serving God together!

We are very pleased to see the children making an effort to learn their memory verses. We know that as the Word dwells in them they will be able to depend on God for all their needs. Approximately every 4 weeks we will test the children to see if they can recite the scriptures on their own. We will share with the parents how they are doing!

We are also encouraged that the children are learning to pray effectively and see positive results in their lives.

During the month of November we will be preparing a small presentation for everyone at our Dec. 6 Christmas Banquet. Please, make the commitment to bring your child to church every Sunday in November. Thank You!

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 Church Workers:

Grace Castro-Nolet	Liliane Mingardi
Luisa Thuswaldner	Marguerite MacDonald
Radina Petrova	Maria Makuch

November's Theme:

In preparation for Christmas, our focus is on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. We want the children to know that Jesus isn't just a baby in a manger, but that He came to give them a new life. We want to deepen their understanding that He will meet all their needs today, no matter what these needs are. The children will learn that they can rely on Him.

Please continue to take some time to pray with your child every day. As they see positive results, their faith will become stronger!

November's Scripture Memory Verses:

During the month of November, we will be reviewing these three scriptures so we can establish them in our hearts!

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. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and minds through Christ Jesus"

Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart"

Upcoming Dates/Events:

Dec. 6: Mount Zion Christmas dinner and children's presentation.

Dec. 21: Happy Birthday Jesus Celebration!

What Parents Can Do:

Parenting in difficult situations:

- Pray for direction.
- Model self-control.
- Pause to think before you respond.
- Always follow through on what you say.
- Apologize if you need to.

Proverbs 29:17 *Discipline your son and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.*

See helpful hints: see next page!

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Helpful Hints: Teaching Children about Forgiveness-Part 2

Last month I shared the importance of teaching children how to forgive. It is a vital life lesson that will help them to grow in their Christian walk. Choosing to forgive can at times be an act of faith and courage, but the benefits of a joyful, unburdened heart, far outweigh taking the step to let go and send away the hurt.

Romans 12: 18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

The first steps for children on the road to forgiveness are to **identify the feeling**, to **make the decision to forgive**, to **create a concrete symbol of letting go of the hurt and to sending it away**. When they have done these things, they can be free and the healing will come.

Other helpful suggestions to consider:

- **Visualize** - At times, the hurt feelings may try to come up again and children get upset remembering what happened to them. When that happened I would help them to re-visualize popping that balloon or tearing up that piece of paper reminding them that they sent those negative feelings away and they don't have to let them come back in. I told them they could visualize this anytime and eventually the negative feelings would go away.
- **Forgiveness is not forgetting** - Forgiving is **letting go** of the hurt feelings, it's not about the other person. However, it is important to help children understand that it does not mean that you forget what that person did to you. It is the child deciding not to allow the hurt feelings to bother him/her anymore regardless of the other person. Not forgetting also means not allowing that person to hurt you again. I explained to the children that if another child continued to be unkind that it might be time to seek out another friend to play with. If a problem persisted, it is always important for children to tell an adult (teacher, parents...) to help resolve the situation.
- **God always forgives us, so with His love we can forgive others** - God loves us so much! Help children know that they can ask God for help in forgiving others by filling them up with His love. What a powerful witness to others when a child can show his/her love by forgiving.

As children learn to **let go** and **send away the hurt** they can see the power of love working in their lives.

Colossians 3:13 *Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

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