



# Grade School

## Information

### **Classroom Structure**

Our grade school class is unique in that we keep the entire 1st through 5th grade spectrum together in one classroom. There are no chairs or desks; rather, the worship, Bible study, games and activities take place on a large, carpet padded area of the classroom. While there are many ways to conduct a grade school class, we have found that this approach provides a fun, dynamic and safe environment for the kids to have a blast and Jesus' love to be shared through His Word.

Because we do not offer bathroom breaks for children in the grade school classroom, we ask that parents take their children to the restroom before class.

As the class begins, the girls and boys are divided into two areas in rows ascending by grade: the 1st graders are in the front, with the 5th graders in the back. Grade School helpers assist children in getting situated for class. The teacher starts with worship and Bible study and finishes with games and activities. Once the main service has ended, the teacher will give final announcements and pray before dismissing the kids from class. This gives parents ample time to make their way to the classroom for pick up. After the class has been dismissed, there is no formal check-out process like the other children's ministry classrooms. Therefore, it is important that you instruct your child on where to meet you, either in the classroom or somewhere else.

For safety and security reasons, parents are not allowed in the classroom during service. Only background checked, authorized volunteers are allowed in the classroom. If you have concerns, you are welcome to observe the class through the classroom door windows.

## **Weekend Memory Verse**

Each month there is a memory verse or verses published on the Children's Ministry Teaching Schedule. All children are encouraged to memorize the monthly Bible verse. During the first week of the month, memory verse cards are handed out to assist grade school kids in committing the monthly verse to memory. On the third Saturday/Sunday of each month, they are given a chance to recite the verse(s). If they are successful, Prize Booth tickets are awarded. This is a fun way to encourage children to hide the Word of God in their hearts!

## **Wednesday Night Monthly Challenge**

On the first Wednesday evening of each month, grade school kids are verbally given a set of verses, referred to as the monthly challenge verses. They are reminded of the monthly challenge verses each Wednesday evening. On the last Wednesday of the month, each child is given the opportunity to recite the monthly challenge verses from memory. If successful, the child will receive a minimum of 5 Prize Booth tickets.

## **Prize Booth**

Though it had meager beginnings, the Prize Booth has become a small store of all kinds of toys, cool Bibles and different types of candies. Located in the Grade School classroom, the Prize Booth is open on the second Saturday/Sunday of each month and its contents may only be purchased with ACCF Grade School proprietary Prize Booth tickets.

How can your child earn tickets? These coveted little green pieces of card stock are only issued to grade school kids at church or at Grade School events. Tickets are given primarily for class attendance, for reciting memory verses, and occasionally for winning games. Tickets may be withheld from kids for reasons such as talking during the Bible study or being unkind to others during class.

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."  
Deuteronomy 6:5-7*