

CHFBC CHILDRENS MINISTRY VISION – edited July 7, 2015

In Psalm 78 the psalmist exhorts his fellow Israelites to listen to him because he has an important message for them. The message concerns their children:

1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, 3 things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.4 We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. 5 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, 6 that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, 7 so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

The exhortation is addressed to fathers to teach their children the laws of God. There is intent, or purpose expressed in teaching their children which we see in verse 7 - “so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments”.

At CHFBC, we desire to help parents in their God-given responsibility regarding their children, to “bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord” through teaching their children gospel-centered, Christ-exalting, Bible-saturated lessons instructionally and relationally (i.e. both inside and outside the classroom).

Jesus' commission to all believers is recorded in Matthew 28:18-20.

18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Our children's ministry is designed to assist parents in fulfilling this Great Commission through faithfully and clearly presenting the message of the Bible that only God can “make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” Ps. 16:11

To that end, our SS will ensure that, “Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.” Col. 1:28

Our “textbook” is the Bible:

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work. 2 Tim. 3:14-17

Our goals for Sunday School graduates (Grade 8):

- (1) They will be able to explain the gospel to others;
- (2) They will learn the core doctrines of the faith, and
- (3) They will learn to pray.

Our goals for Youth Group graduates (Grade 12):

- (1) They will be able to summarize the Bible's central story-line of (a) Creation to (b) the Fall to (c) Redemption to (d) Restoration/Glory;
- (2) They will have a greater understanding of the life of Jesus, what salvation is through Jesus, and of a Christian's identity in Jesus;
- (3) They will have found a place to serve in the local church;
- (4) They will be able to find answers for difficult questions about their faith/Christianity, and
- (5) They will join a small group of believers for their continued spiritual growth.