

**MOUNTAIN VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - NURSERY - 2 YEAR OLD (still in diapers)**

**Parent Policy**

**VISION FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

**We at MVBC want to assist each child in gaining knowledge of the Bible and Christian faith; therefore, applying what he or she has learned into everyday life experiences. We want to help each boy and girl develop Christian attitudes and convictions in every area of life and help them to develop and use their ability to witness lost friends and/or family. MVBC will provide the foundation in each child's life for a genuine conversion experience when he or she is ready to receive it and help the child understand what it means to be Christlike.**

**STEPS IN LEADING CHILDREN TO CHRIST**

- **God loves you -John 3:16**  
Assure the children that God loved them so much that He died for their sins. Let the children acknowledge that God loves them by reading John 3:16, substituting their names in place of "the world." "For God so loved " Madison..."
- **God has a great plan for your life -John 10:10**  
Let the children know that God wants them to experience a full and abundant life right here on earth.
- **Sin separates you from God -Romans 3:23**  
Explain to the children that because of sin in their life, they are separated from God. Make sure you explain that "sin" is an attitude of rebellion against God (doing what we want instead of what God wants), and "sins" are such things as lying, cheating, etc. Explain that sin separates us from God and puts a wall between us and God. Also, explain that the price for sin is eternal separation.
- **Jesus Christ died for you -Romans 5:6-8**  
Let the children know that God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were yet sinners. Tell the children that Jesus did not deserve to die because He is perfect. But He did die. He died for our sins. He took our place.
- **You can be saved by faith in Jesus Christ -Acts 16:30-31**  
Explain to the children that they can be saved from eternal separation from God and that salvation is a free gift (Ephesians 2:8-9). We can't be saved by good works, coming to church, etc. Jesus Christ is the only way to be saved (John 14:6).
- **It's your choice -Romans 10:9; John 1:12**  
Explain to the children that they must decide for themselves if they are willing to turn from their sins and ask Jesus into their heart. First, we ask God to forgive our sins and to take them away. We then ask Jesus to come into our lives and to be our friend and leader. If the Holy Spirit is leading the children, ask the children if they would like to invite Christ into their life. Suggest that you pray together and have the children repeat the prayer after you, line by line:  
**Thank You, Jesus, for loving me.**  
**I know that I have sinned and I need You to forgive me.**  
**I ask You into my heart to be my Savior, Lord, and Friend.**  
**Please forgive me of my sins and give me the gift of eternal life.**  
**In Jesus' name. Amen.**
- **You can know you are saved -I John 5:10-13**  
Have the children read this verse with you and assure them that they are saved. Make sure they understand they only have to be saved once.
- **Salvation is forever -Rev. 3:20; John 10:28-29;**  
**I Peter 1:3-6; Hebrews 10:14; Hebrews 13:5**

Close with an assurance of salvation. Have the children read Revelation 3:20, and then ask, "Did you invite Jesus into your life? Where is He now?"

- Follow with Hebrews 13:5, and ask if Jesus will ever leave them. The answer you get, of course, should be a resounding, "No!"
- Believer's baptism-Matthew 3:13-17  
It is vital that you explain to the children the importance, reason, and meaning of baptism. Explain two ways to obey God such as telling other people that they are a Christian (Luke 2:8-9) and being baptized.
- You will need to inform the children's parents of the children's decision and the pastor so materials and support can be provided.

## I. POLICY

### PARENTS of CHILDREN

- *Sign the guidelines of the ministry and children expectations*
- *Check labels of food for allergies and make the church aware so that it is documented*
- *One parent will check in and pick up the child from the nursery. No one under 18 may pick up the child.*

Some behaviors that will be addressed with parents are:

- Aggressive behavior that may result in injury of a child
- Intentionally injuring a child
- Repeated misuse of toys and/or classroom materials
- Running away
- Repeated bullying or teasing
- Repeated refusal of teacher's guidance
- Uncontrollable disruptive behavior

\*\* If the above behaviors become a challenge the child will need to be removed for one week from the class. This will be a time to teach repentance and confession of wrongdoing with the child. All behaviors have consequences. If the Director deems the child's attendance is a danger to other children or staff members, immediate dismissal may be required.

## II. POLICY

### Procedures FOR DISCIPLINE based on Biblical Standards

#### **Discipline Procedures based on**

- Discipline will be handled in a fair, consistent, timely, and age-appropriate manner
- Redirect negative behavior and discuss appropriate choices
- Children need to understand why a certain behavior is inappropriate and how to modify it.
- Children will often be asked to help problem-solve.
- When redirection and conversations fail, our staff helps children understand consequences of behavior.
- Consequences are age appropriate and never physical.  
→ Physical contact would only be used to restrain a child to prevent a child from running away or causing harm to himself/others. If that situation occurs, staff will immediately call for additional assistance as well as notify the parent.
- Children may be removed from their peers if negative behavior continues. Establish rules for the classroom and enforce and be consistent with the expectations so children will know what to expect each week.
- Children will receive positive reinforcement for following rules and expectations. Example: positive comments and redirecting are best

### III. POLICY

#### RULES Based on Biblical Principles

1. Be respectful.
  - Treat others the way you want to be treated.
  - Respect the Word of God and the House of God.
2. Be responsible.

### IV. POLICY

#### CONSEQUENCES (Love is the foundation of all consequences/discipline.)

Make discipline a teachable moment Children sometimes make poor behavior choices  
Love must be the foundation of all discipline. Tell them you love them

1. Warning
  - State the rules up front, before the incidents start or as you anticipate a child may be getting ready to have a decision to make about positive or negative behavior.
  - Focus on helping children do what is right, not just stop doing what is wrong. Always have another person present when speaking with a child.
  - When discipline or correction is necessary, tell them that you love and believe in them, but that their behavior is not acceptable.
  - If a situation comes up that you have not addressed before, STOP! State the expected conduct and explain the consequence.
2. State the expected conduct and remove the child from his peers.
  - Conference with the parent to state expected conduct and remove the child from peers to correct behavior.
  - Speak with positive comments to a child as you discipline
  - Always lifting their character as you discipline.
3. Go back over the expected behavior and notify the parent.
  - Continued behavior will result in removal from children's church
  - When a student is unruly to the point of keeping others from learning, separate him from the group and call for the parents' involvement.

\*\* If the above behaviors become a challenge the child will need to be removed from the group for one week. This will be a time to teach repentance and confession of wrongdoing with the child. The love and mercy that God shows each of us each time when we make choices there are good and bad consequences. Repentance needs to occur.

All behaviors have consequences. If the Director deems the child's attendance is a danger to other children or staff members, immediate dismissal may be required.

### V. POLICY ILLNESS

Children should NOT attend Children **Classes or Opportunities** if...

- You have a fever of 100 degrees or higher.
- You have any respiratory infections, or have had a cough, sneezing regularly, had shortness of breath, vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.
- Have/had the flu or COVID symptoms in the previous 14 days, or have had any contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis.
- If a fever develops during their time in the classroom, the child will be removed and you will be paged to pick up your child.

Revised May 21, 2023

Effective: June 4, 2023

- Please pick up your children immediately following the end of service so there is time to clean and sanitize the materials used.
- We ask that toys of any kind be left with the parent and not brought to the classroom.

I have received and met/spoken with the Trained Volunteer/Children's Director and agree to encourage my child and work with MVBC volunteers to help all children have a meaningful and safe learning experience.

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Trained Volunteer/Director \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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