



PARENT GUIDE





WELCOME

Dear Parents,

We are truly honored that you have chosen Shield of Faith Christian Center as a place where your child can begin or continue their journey in learning about Jesus Christ. We recognize that entrusting your child to us is a significant decision, and we are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and spiritually enriching environment where they can grow and thrive.

At Faith Kidz, we believe that a strong biblical foundation is one of the greatest gifts a child can receive. Our mission is to partner with families to help children develop a genuine relationship with God, understand His Word, and apply biblical principles in their everyday lives. We do not take this responsibility lightly, and we are dedicated to serving your family with excellence, integrity, and care.

Our Children's Ministry is intentionally designed to be more than just a classroom experience. It is a dynamic and engaging environment where children are encouraged to explore their faith through age-appropriate teaching, worship, interactive activities, and meaningful relationships. We strive to create an atmosphere where every child feels valued, supported, and excited to learn about God.

We also believe that parents play the most important role in a child's spiritual development. That is why we are committed to partnering with you—providing support, encouragement, and resources to help reinforce at home what your child is learning at church. Together, we can build a strong spiritual foundation that will guide them for a lifetime.

We are grateful to God for the opportunity to serve in this ministry and for each family He brings our way. It is our prayer that every child who participates in Faith Kidz will grow in faith, confidence, and purpose, discovering who they are in Christ and the plans He has for their lives.

We are excited about all that God is going to do through the lives of these children and within your family. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's spiritual journey.

Blessings to you and your family,
**Shield of Faith Christian Center
Faith Kidz Ministry**



MISSION STATEMENT

Faith Kidz exists to raise a generation of children who know God, walk in His Word, and fulfill their divine purpose. We equip young hearts to hear His voice, grow in faith, and carry His light into the world.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to see every child in Faith Kidz grow into bold, confident followers of Jesus, rooted in God's Word and walking in their God-given destiny. We aim to cultivate hearts that impact their families, communities, and the world for Christ.



NUT-FREE POLICY

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work to provide a safe and healthy environment for every child in our care. Due to the increasing number of children and adults with nut allergies, Shield of Faith Christian Center has implemented a strict nut-free policy within our Children's Ministry.

The safety and well-being of all children is our highest priority. Even trace amounts of nuts can cause severe allergic reactions, so we take every precaution to minimize any potential risk.

To help us maintain a nut-free environment, please be mindful of the following items, which are not permitted:

- Raw or roasted nuts of any kind
- Peanut butter sandwiches or peanut butter crackers
- Candy or snacks containing nuts
- Granola bars that include nuts
- Trail mix or similar snack blends

Shield of Faith Christian Center will not provide any snacks or meals that contain nuts. We also kindly ask that families refrain from bringing any outside food items that contain nuts into classrooms or ministry areas. Children should not bring food items with them that include nuts or nut-based ingredients.

In addition, we carefully review food labels to ensure that products are not manufactured on shared equipment with nut-containing items. Many manufacturers include this information in their ingredient statements, and we intentionally avoid such products to reduce the risk of cross-contamination.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and partnership in helping us maintain a safe environment for all children. We understand the importance of protecting every child entrusted to our care, and we are grateful for your support in this effort.

Thank you for helping us keep our ministry a safe and welcoming place for everyone.



SICKNESS POLICY

We are committed to maintaining a clean, safe, and healthy environment for every child in our care. Throughout the year, we take proactive steps to help prevent the spread of illness within our Children's Ministry.

Each classroom is thoroughly cleaned before, during, and after every service. In addition, all toys and frequently touched surfaces are sanitized using child-safe cleaning products. Tissues, soap, and hand sanitizer are readily available in every room, and both volunteers and children are encouraged to use them regularly to promote good hygiene and reduce the spread of germs.

To help us protect all children and volunteers, we ask that parents do not bring a child to Faith Kidz if they are showing signs of illness. If a child becomes ill or exhibits symptoms while in the classroom, a member of our team will promptly contact the parent or guardian and request that the child be picked up immediately.

We appreciate your cooperation and partnership in helping us maintain a healthy environment for everyone. Your support plays an important role in ensuring the well-being of all children in our ministry.



Designed specifically for children ages six weeks through preschool, our Nursery and Preschool Ministry provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where our youngest children can begin learning about the love of Christ. We understand that these early years are foundational, and we are committed to creating a space where children feel secure, cared for, and valued from the moment they arrive.

Our dedicated team of trained and caring volunteers works diligently to ensure that each child receives attentive, compassionate care. We strive to create a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere for infants, while also providing a structured and interactive environment for toddlers and preschoolers that supports their spiritual, emotional, and developmental growth.

Each service is thoughtfully designed to provide a meaningful and age-appropriate experience. During their time with us, children participate in a well-planned program that includes worship, Bible-based teaching, and engaging activities. Biblical truths are introduced in simple, relatable ways and reinforced through songs, storytelling, and hands-on learning experiences that help children understand and remember what they are taught.

We incorporate a variety of creative elements each week to keep children engaged and excited about learning. Through music, movement, play, and guided interaction, children are encouraged to explore their faith in a joyful and positive environment. Our goal is to make each visit a fun and memorable experience while building a strong spiritual foundation.

We also recognize the importance of consistency and routine for young children. Our structured approach helps children feel comfortable and confident, allowing them to build relationships with their leaders and peers. At the same time, we remain flexible to meet the individual needs of each child, ensuring that every child receives the care and attention they deserve.

It is our desire that every child who participates in our Nursery and Preschool Ministry experiences the love of God in a real and tangible way. We are honored to partner with families during these important early years and are committed to helping lay a strong foundation of faith that will grow with them for years to come.

WHAT WE OFFER
IN FAITH KIDZ



WHAT WE OFFER IN FAITH KIDZ

Children in first through fifth grade are invited to participate in a dynamic, engaging, and spiritually enriching ministry experience designed specifically for their age and stage of development. Through our age-specific Small Group model, children are given the opportunity to grow in their faith while building meaningful and lasting relationships with both their peers and trusted leaders.

Each service is intentionally structured to provide a well-balanced and impactful experience. Children begin by participating in energetic and uplifting worship, followed by prayer and biblically sound teaching that is both relevant and easy to understand. Our lessons are designed to capture their attention, encourage participation, and help them connect God's Word to their everyday lives.

In addition to the large group setting, children are placed in consistent Small Groups where deeper learning and personal connection take place. These groups create a safe and supportive environment where children can ask questions, share thoughts, and engage in meaningful discussions. Our trained leaders guide each group with care, ensuring that every child feels seen, heard, and valued.

Within their Small Groups, children will learn how to navigate and understand the Bible, develop a personal and growing relationship with God, and begin applying biblical principles in practical ways. Scripture memorization is incorporated regularly to help children build a strong spiritual foundation that will guide them throughout their lives.

We also place a strong emphasis on relationship-building and community. By fostering an atmosphere of encouragement and inclusion, children are able to form friendships, develop confidence, and experience a true sense of belonging. These connections help reinforce their desire to return each week and continue growing in their faith.

Our Elementary Ministry also incorporates interactive activities, games, and hands-on learning experiences that make each service both fun and memorable. We believe that when children enjoy their church experience, they are more open and excited to learn about God and His Word.

Our goal is for every child to leave feeling encouraged, equipped, and inspired in their walk with Christ. We are committed to partnering with families to help raise a generation of children who know God, love Him, and confidently live out their faith.



WHAT WE OFFER IN FAITH KIDZ

Our Preschool Ministry, designed for children ages three through kindergarten, provides a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where young children can begin to explore their faith and develop a love for God. We understand that these early years are formative, and our goal is to provide an experience that helps children build a foundation of faith, develop social skills, and grow in confidence within a loving and structured environment.

Each service is thoughtfully planned to combine energetic worship, Bible stories, and hands-on activities that bring Scripture to life in ways children can understand and remember. Through songs, movement, crafts, and interactive lessons, children are introduced to God's love and His Word in a fun, engaging, and age-appropriate manner. These activities are designed not only to teach biblical truths but also to encourage children to apply what they learn in their daily lives.

Children are placed in small, consistent groups led by trained volunteers who provide guidance, support, and encouragement throughout the service. In these groups, children have the opportunity to ask questions, explore new concepts, and form meaningful relationships with both their peers and leaders. Small group interactions foster a sense of community, teach early social skills, and help children feel secure and valued while learning about God.

Our Preschool Ministry emphasizes the importance of routine and consistency, which helps children feel comfortable and confident in their environment. Repetition of key biblical concepts, regular worship, and consistent group activities reinforce learning and help children internalize lessons about God's love, kindness, and faithfulness. Prayer and simple devotionals are also incorporated, allowing children to practice communicating with God in ways that are meaningful to their age and stage of development.

In addition to spiritual growth, our ministry supports emotional and cognitive development by offering activities that encourage creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving. By providing a balance of structured learning and playful exploration, we help children develop confidence, independence, and curiosity while fostering a positive association with church and community.

It is our desire that every child leaves Preschool Ministry each week feeling loved, valued, and excited about their faith. We are honored to partner with families during these critical early years and are committed to helping lay a strong spiritual foundation that will guide children as they continue to grow in Christ. By creating an environment where learning about God is joyful, memorable, and meaningful, we aim to nurture a lifelong love for Jesus in every child we serve.

Matthew 19:14

14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

NKJV



NEED TO KNOW

Check In

Our Check-In Team is ready to warmly welcome you and assist with the process of checking your child into Faith Kidz. From the moment you arrive, our goal is to make the check-in process smooth, safe, and efficient for both you and your child.

When you check in, both you and your child will receive a set of stickers with a matching code, commonly referred to as a “security tag.” This unique code ensures that only authorized adults are able to pick up your child at the end of the service, providing an extra layer of safety and peace of mind.

During the service, if we need to contact you for any reason, your child’s security code will appear on the screen in the Main Sanctuary so you can respond immediately. This system helps us maintain clear communication with parents while keeping children safe and accounted for at all times.

Our trained Check-In Team is committed to creating a welcoming environment while maintaining the highest standards of safety and security. We appreciate your cooperation in following these procedures, which allow us to provide a secure and nurturing space for your child to grow in their faith.

Pick Up

At the conclusion of each service, a Faith Kidz team member will ensure the safety of every child by verifying that the code on your security tag matches the code on your child’s sticker before they are released into your care. This simple but important step helps us maintain a secure environment and ensures that children are only released to authorized adults.

In the event that a security sticker is lost or misplaced, we will verify your identity using a photo ID. Our team will then guide you through the pick-up process to ensure a smooth and secure transition.

These procedures are designed to provide peace of mind for parents while keeping our children safe at all times. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and understanding, which allows us to maintain a secure, organized, and welcoming environment for every child in Faith Kidz.



NEED TO KNOW

Safety

At Faith Kidz, the safety and well-being of every child is our highest priority. To maintain a secure environment, no one is permitted to enter our classrooms without a corresponding security tag. This ensures that only authorized adults have access to the children in our care.

All team members serving in Faith Kidz undergo a thorough screening process, including background checks, and receive comprehensive training in safety and security protocols before joining the ministry. This preparation ensures that every child is cared for by qualified, trustworthy, and well-prepared leaders.

Once a child is in our care, they may only be picked up by an adult who presents a security tag with a code that matches the child's sticker. This procedure guarantees that children are released safely and only to authorized guardians.

If you have any questions or need assistance at any time, please connect with a Faith Kidz staff member. Our team is always available to provide guidance, support, and reassurance to parents, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all children.

Small Groups

a wide variety of topics designed to help them understand God's Word and apply it to their everyday lives.

At the heart of this experience are our Small Groups. Each child is placed in a consistent group led by trained, caring leaders who provide a supportive and encouraging environment. Within these groups, children are able to ask questions, discuss biblical concepts, and deepen their understanding of Scripture in ways that are both engaging and relatable.

Small Groups also foster meaningful friendships and a sense of community, allowing children to connect with peers who share their faith journey. Through interactive lessons, discussion, prayer, and fun activities, children develop confidence in expressing their beliefs, memorizing Scripture, and applying biblical principles to real-life situations.

Our goal is for every child to leave each service with a stronger knowledge of God, a growing love for His Word, and a foundation of faith that will guide them throughout their lives. By combining structured teaching with personal connection and hands-on learning, we aim to create an experience that is both spiritually enriching and memorable.



NEED TO KNOW

We believe that friendships and shared experiences play a vital role in a child's spiritual growth. Our Small Groups provide a dedicated space where children can connect with peers, explore their faith, and build meaningful relationships in a safe and encouraging environment.

Guided by trained and caring leaders, each Small Group offers consistent support and mentorship. Leaders invest in the spiritual development of every child, helping them understand biblical truths, apply God's Word to their daily lives, and grow in their personal relationship with Christ.

Through interactive activities, discussion, prayer, and shared experiences, children not only deepen their understanding of Scripture but also learn the value of community, teamwork, and empathy. Small Groups are designed to foster confidence, curiosity, and a lifelong love for learning about God.

By participating in these groups, children form friendships that encourage accountability, encouragement, and support in their faith journey, helping them feel connected, valued, and inspired to continue growing in Christ.

Learning Plan

Each week, children in Faith Kidz engage with lessons carefully tailored to their age and developmental stage. Through a combination of teaching, Scripture memorization, and practical application, our goal is to inspire a love for God's Word while guiding them to grow in their faith at a pace that meets their individual needs.

Our structured learning plan provides a consistent framework for exploring biblical truths, helping children understand God's Word in ways that are both meaningful and relevant to their daily lives. By combining interactive lessons, hands-on activities, and age-appropriate discussions, children are encouraged to internalize key principles and apply them in practical ways.

This approach not only strengthens their spiritual foundation but also fosters curiosity, engagement, and a genuine excitement for learning about God. Detailed information about upcoming series, lesson topics, and key Scripture verses is provided in the following pages, allowing parents to stay connected with and reinforce their child's learning at home.



SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Praise and Worship

In Faith Kidz, we believe that praise and worship are essential for inviting God's presence into our lives. Through music, song, and movement, children are encouraged to connect with God in a joyful and meaningful way.

Our worship experiences are designed to be age-appropriate, engaging, and interactive, helping children not only enjoy singing and praise but also understand the heart of worship. By participating in worship, children learn to express their love for God, experience His presence, and develop a habit of turning to Him with gratitude and reverence. We want every child to grow up recognizing the joy, peace, and spiritual benefits that come from worshiping God, forming a foundation that will inspire their faith for years to come.

Making Friends

God created us for community, and at Faith Kidz, we prioritize helping children build healthy, meaningful relationships with peers their own age. We believe that connecting with others in a safe and supportive environment is essential for both social and spiritual growth.

Through Small Groups, collaborative activities, and shared experiences, children learn the value of friendship, teamwork, and encouragement. These relationships provide opportunities to practice kindness, empathy, and cooperation while reinforcing the lessons they learn about God's love. By growing alongside their peers, children not only strengthen their social skills but also develop a deeper understanding of how faith is lived out in community. Building these connections early helps foster confidence, a sense of belonging, and a lifelong appreciation for the importance of relationships rooted in Christ.

Memorizing God's Word

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."
(Psalm 119:11 KJV)

One of the most important ways we help children build a strong biblical foundation is by guiding them to memorize Scripture. Committing God's Word to memory helps children internalize His truth, equips them to make wise decisions, and strengthens their relationship with Him as they grow.

In Faith Kidz, Scripture memorization is incorporated in fun and age-appropriate ways through songs, games, repetition, and interactive activities. This approach encourages children to actively engage with the Bible, making it a natural and meaningful part of their daily lives.

Our goal is for each child to carry God's Word in their heart, providing guidance, encouragement, and a moral compass that will influence their thoughts, actions, and faith journey for years to come.



AGE-SPECIFIC LEARNING

Children grow and develop at different rates, both spiritually and emotionally, and at Faith Kidz, we are committed to meeting each child at their unique stage of development. We understand that learning God's Word is most effective when it is presented in a way that is tailored to their age, abilities, and interests. Our goal is to create an environment where every child can engage meaningfully with Scripture, grasp its truths, and apply them in their daily lives.

Each year, children progress through carefully designed, age-specific lessons that are both relevant and engaging. Younger children are introduced to fundamental biblical stories and principles through interactive activities, songs, and hands-on learning experiences. As children grow older, lessons become more detailed and practical, teaching them how to navigate life challenges, make wise choices, and build a personal relationship with God.

This intentional, step-by-step approach ensures that learning is both accessible and memorable. By pacing instruction to align with developmental stages, children gain confidence, deepen their understanding of Scripture, and develop critical thinking skills that help them apply biblical truths in real-life situations.

In addition to spiritual growth, age-appropriate learning fosters social, emotional, and cognitive development. Children learn to interact with their peers, participate in group activities, and practice leadership and teamwork—all within the context of a Christ-centered environment. By nurturing their whole development, we aim to cultivate a lifelong love for God, His Word, and the community of faith.

Through this approach, children not only grow in knowledge and understanding of God's Word but also develop the character, habits, and spiritual foundation that will guide them throughout their lives. By meeting children where they are and helping them progress at the right pace, Faith Kidz equips each child to thrive spiritually, socially, and emotionally as they grow in their faith.



CONSISTENT SMALL GROUP LEADERSHIP

At Faith Kidz, we understand that meaningful, consistent relationships are vital to a child's spiritual growth and overall development. We want every child to look forward to coming to church each week and to feel a sense of belonging within their Small Group. Seeing familiar faces, connecting with caring leaders, and forming friendships with peers all help children feel safe, valued, and excited to participate.

Small Group Leaders play a central role in nurturing these connections. By building strong, trusting relationships with each child, leaders create a supportive environment where children feel comfortable sharing their thoughts, asking questions, and exploring their faith. This consistent mentorship encourages children to engage actively in learning, participate in discussions, and internalize biblical principles in ways that are relevant to their daily lives.

In addition to spiritual guidance, Small Group Leaders model Christ-like behavior through patience, encouragement, and integrity. They help children develop important life skills such as empathy, cooperation, and problem-solving, while also fostering a sense of community and accountability. By investing time and attention into each child, leaders help them build confidence, resilience, and a deeper understanding of God's love.

These relationships also create a bridge between the church and home. Children are more likely to share what they are learning, ask questions about God's Word, and practice biblical principles at home when they feel supported and encouraged by trusted leaders. The bond with a Small Group Leader helps children see their faith as personal and practical, not just something experienced at church.

Our goal is for every child to leave Faith Kidz each week feeling encouraged, inspired, and supported—knowing that they are a valued part of both their Small Group and the larger church family. Through these intentional relationships, children grow not only in knowledge of God's Word but also in character, confidence, and a sense of belonging that will influence their faith journey for years to come.



PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

At Faith Kidz, we firmly believe that one of the most important factors in a child's spiritual growth is a strong partnership between the church and parents. Children thrive when the lessons they learn at church are reinforced at home, and when families and church leaders work together to guide, encourage, and pray for them. By partnering with parents, we can help children develop a solid spiritual foundation, cultivate a love for God's Word, and grow in their relationship with Jesus.

We invite you to play an active role in your child's faith journey. Here are several practical ways you can help us maximize the impact of your child's time at Faith Kidz:

- **Attend consistently:** Selecting a regular service time and location allows your child to form meaningful connections with both leaders and peers. Consistency helps children feel secure and builds a sense of belonging, which encourages them to engage fully in worship, lessons, and Small Group activities.
- **Reinforce lessons and Scripture:** Practice the current Scripture memorization and main points from Faith Kidz lessons with your child at home. Discussing what they learned in a relatable way helps children internalize biblical truths and understand how to apply them in daily life. This reinforcement strengthens retention and shows children that faith is not just something experienced at church, but a part of everyday living.
- **Pray intentionally:** Prayer is a powerful way to support your child's spiritual growth. Pray for your child's understanding, curiosity, and love for God, and pray for the Faith Kidz team as they serve, guide, and mentor the children each week. Involving God in your child's learning helps them see faith as a personal and ongoing relationship with Him.

In addition to these practical steps, parents are encouraged to actively communicate with their child's Small Group leaders. Sharing insights about your child's personality, interests, or areas where they may need additional support allows leaders to provide more personalized guidance. This open line of communication strengthens the partnership between home and church, ensuring each child is supported holistically—spiritually, socially, and emotionally.

By working together, parents and Faith Kidz leaders create a consistent, loving, and faith-centered environment where children feel valued, encouraged, and equipped to grow in Christ. This partnership nurtures confidence, character, and a lifelong love for God, helping children navigate the challenges of life with a solid spiritual foundation. When families and church leaders unite in purpose and prayer, the impact on a child's spiritual journey is profound and lasting.

Stay Connected



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