

To You Who Bring Small Children to Church

(Author Unknown)

There you are sitting in worship or Bible study. Your child, or toddler, is restless. Perhaps they're even a little boisterous. You try to silence them, and nothing. You try to pacify them with food or toys, and nothing. Eventually, you resort to the last thing you wanted to do: you pick them up, and before a watching audience, you make the march out of the auditorium. All the while, you're a little embarrassed. Maybe you're a little frustrated too. You might even think to yourself, "There's no point in coming to church. I get nothing out of it because I have to constantly care for my kid."

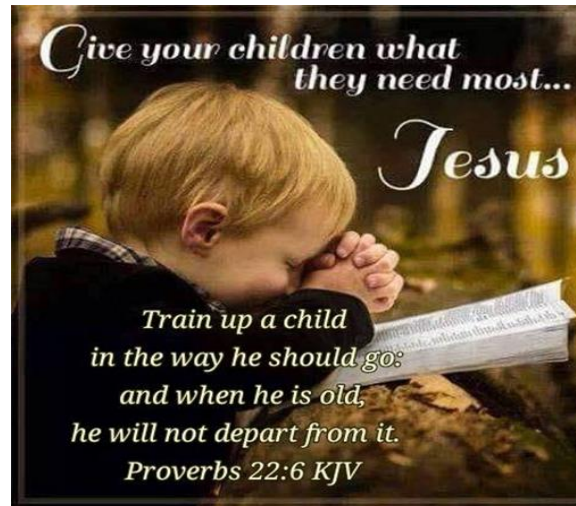


I want you — you mothers and/or fathers — to know just how encouraging you are to so many. The little elderly woman who often fills alone beams with a smile at the sight of you wrestling with your little one. She's been there before. She knows how hard it can be, but she smiles because to hear that brings back precious memories. To see young parents and their small children brighten her day, and she may have just received bad news this week about her health, but seeing the vitality of young ones removes — if but for a moment — her fears.

The older man who always seems to be grouchy notices you too. He's always talking about how children in this day have no respect or sense of good. But, he sees you — a young family — in church, and you don't miss any gathering. Like clockwork, he can depend on the sight of you and your young family. You give him hope that maybe the church isn't doomed after all, because there are still young parents who love God enough to bring their restless children to worship.

Bring your children to church. If you don't hear crying, the church is dying. As hard as it might be for you as a parent who's half-asleep, keep on doing what you're doing. You are an encouragement, and you're starting off your children's lives as you should.

We truly appreciate you and what you do!



A few words...

We know that God holds man as the greatest part of His creation. After all, at creation, He said "let us create him in our image." We are created in the likeness of God. How great it is to know that we are created to be of the same spirit as God. As we look through His word, we can see the importance He places on our children. Consider what He says in Proverbs — *train up your children in the way they should go*. He has given us children for a time and it is our privilege to teach them about the loving God that is our creator.

Many of us have had the experience of dealing with our kids in church and at times we've found it to be quite a challenge. In fact, some of us may even remember when we were that child that was determined to test the will of our own parents. Yet, we also know what a joy it is to see our children learn and grow in the Lord.

Hopefully, we all find joy in the children that are with us in our worship services. The noises they bring into our worship should remind us that these children are the future of the church. It may be the crying of an infant, the "amen" of a toddler or the sweet singing of a child at any age, but all of these remind us that God's church is still alive.

Let us make sure that we are encouraging our young parents and especially when they may be frustrated with the behavior of their kids. And, let us make sure we are encouraging those kids as well so that they may grow up in the ways of God. This is their future and the future of the church. ~Terry

Luke 18:16-17

But Jesus called for them, saying, "Permit the children to come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all."

COVID 19 – Accommodations

Church Services – Resume Services as listed on January 24.

**Sundays – 10:00AM Bible Study
– 11:00 AM Worship
Wednesdays – 7:00 PM Bible Study**

*** Bible Study Classes ***

At this time **ALL** classes (including children) will be held in the auditorium in order to facilitate the social distancing expectations of our government officials.

As we continue to work through these times, please be sure you are following the government guidelines. You must wear a mask while entering and moving around the building. We will also be asking people to ensure distancing from others, which means we will need to spread out around the auditorium (by families). We will continue to handle our communion and offering as we have throughout these trying times – no passing trays and cups placed in plastic bags after use to be gathered and disposed of afterwards.

*Our first desire and priority is to ensure that we are doing all we can to keep everyone **safe and healthy**.*

Again, we are so happy that we are able to join together again in our assembly of worship as God desires – Hebrews 10:25.

*** Colorado Executive Order ***

(Updated March 11, 2021)

The governor's executive order requires that masks be worn in all indoor public places. As an executive order, this is required by law.

We are required to wear our masks while entering or moving around inside of the building. Once seated and socially distanced, the mask can be removed if you desire.

This applies to anyone 11 years of age or older.

There are exceptions for people that have a medical condition that will not allow them to tolerate a mask.

Those officiating the services will not be required to wear a mask while leading their portion of the service.

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/worship-guidance>

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/mask-guidance>