Children in the Pews at Our Church



Welcome to Worship at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Baptist Church!

As you look around you will notice that our ***children are important members of our worshipping community***. Their presence here grows out of our commitment to incorporate them into the life and mission of our congregation and to nurture them into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. They are part of our church!

Bringing children to worship will not always be easy – for any of us – but it can be an extremely important part of a child’s spiritual growth. **Children begin to learn to worship God by the *examples of adults***. We trust that, together, we can provide a positive experience for our young worshippers.

**For the Congregation:**

* Express joy at having children worship with us. Send a smile their way.
* Talk with the children who attend our church each week; make them feel valued and loved.
* Help parents of small children by showing your support for their children who are an integral part of our church family.

**Some helpful hints for parents or ‘faith-parents’:**

* ***Bring something*** soft and quiet for little ones to hold onto or look at. You might have a ‘church-bag’ with special things in it for Sunday’s only.
* Establish ***positive and negative signals*** to use during the service, instead of talking.
* ***Stop at the washroom*** before the service and sit near the front so kids can see what’s going on.
* ***Share your Bible and hymnal*** with your child.
* Go over the order of worship with them – ***mark the scriptures*** that will be read in their own Bible.
* Point at the ***words of hymns and scripture*** with your finger to help young readers follow along or encourage them to look at the power point screen and follow there.
* Encourage your entire family to stand up and ***participate*** in the service together.
* Give your kids some coins to put into the ***offering***. Talk with them about why we give our tithes and offerings to God.
* After worship ***talk about the service***. You might ask, “What is one thing that God taught you at worship today?” Discuss any questions they might have.

