

Church in Anaheim Children's Meeting

– 2020 Fall Term –

TWO KEY MATTERS

1. Meeting in the Home for the Family

“There should be many spiritual transactions in the family. The members of the family should spend much time in prayer and spiritual fellowship together. This is especially true for families with children. They must seek opportunities to come more often to the Lord.” (Chapter XII of *The Collected Works of Watchman Nee*, (Set 3) Vol. 49: Messages for Building Up New Believers)

2. For the Gospel

“According to our study, the most effective way is similar to the way we propagate the gospel. Every saint should open his home and have a children's meeting in his home.” (“The Children's Work Having Many Aspects” in *Crucial Words of Leading in the Lord's Recovery*, Book 5: Concerning Various Aspects of Church Service by Witness Lee)

PARENTS AND SERVING ONES RESPONSIBILITIES

We have had fellowship with some parents regarding bearing more responsibilities in a group. The main responsibility of these parents and serving ones is to be willing to initiate times of prayer and coordination among the group. They may also gather contact information, such as phone numbers, email addresses, etc. for mutual coordination of meeting times and the service arrangements of the saints. They may also initiate particular fellowship among the group or with saints from other children's service groups. The role of these serving ones is **not to lead or to arrange**, but to initiate fellowship and facilitate the function of other saints.

A parent serving with the children is one who is willing to participate in times of prayer and coordination among the group. They may also gather contact information, such as phone numbers, email addresses, etc. for mutual coordination of meeting times and the service arrangements of the saints. They may also initiate particular fellowship among the group or with saints from other children's service groups. The role of the parent serving one is **not to expect leadership or arrangement**, but to initiate fellowship and exercise to participate in mutuality with the other group members.

WEEKLY ZOOM MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN

Pre-school – Friday 4:30-4:50pm

Kindergarten & 1st Grade – Friday 5:00-5:30pm

2nd & 3rd Grades – Lord's Day 4:00-4:30pm

4th & 5th Grades – Lord's Day 4:45-5:15pm

6th Grade – Lord's Day 5:30-6:00pm

START OF NEW TERM 2020

Friday, **August 28th** for PreK and K/1st

Lord's Day, **August 30th** for 2nd/3rd, 4th/5th, and 6th

PARENTS AND SERVING ONES PARTICIPATION

What will I be doing when children's meetings begin? Carrying out the children's meeting by level in small groups.

1. **Prepare:** Read story and choose songs ahead of time. Fellowship among group members on how to speak with the children. Try to gather 10 minutes early to pray with your group of parents and serving ones.
2. **Welcome Children** (~5 minutes): At the designated time, welcome the children and ask them a fun question, such as “what is your name and your favorite kind of ice cream?” or “how many people are living in your household?” or “what kind of pet would you most like to have at home with you?” Play a simple game as an icebreaker while you wait for the children to join. (No more than 5 minutes)
3. **Singing** (~5-10 minutes): Sing songs together. Recommended 2-3 songs, depending on length and age group. We have chosen at least one song as a recommendation for you to use for each of the first 10 stories. You should choose songs

ahead of time to find songs that will help open up the children to receive the point emphasized in the story. This is for all serving ones/parents.

- a. The preselected songs mentioned are being video recorded as we did for the family summer camp. As these are ready, we will post them to the Church in Anaheim children's website for you to use.
 - b. You can also sing "live", grab an instrument and sing with your family while the rest of the group is on mute. All of our children's songs are available at: www.churchinanaheim.org/children.
 - c. You can also play the recorded audio while sharing your screen for the children to see the lyrics and sing along. As we do for our children meetings in person
4. **Stories** (~5-10 minutes): Gathering the children by levels will give us the opportunity to talk to the children at their level. We are happy to announce that this year we will start with material that is being prepared specifically for each different age groups. Hallelujah! We have seen this in the ministry and have been talking about this for years. Now, we have now a clear direction from the Lord on how to talk to the children at their level without giving them premature knowledge but by giving them the food they need at the right time to grow among us, keeping the integrity of the Lord Recovery as they become the next generation.
- a. **Preschoolers – Lead them to discover how precious their humanity** is in the way they were created by God. Not only **physical characteristics** of their human body, but also their **human traits** that are only found in the God created man, who is different from the rest of creation.
 - b. **Kindergarten/1st – Inspire** the K/1st graders to attain the **highest level of morality** by using the **key persons** of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.
 - c. **2nd and 3rd Graders – Encourage** them to know **who our God is** and what things He expects for them to do by presenting to them the **key events** of the Bible from Genesis to the New Testament.
 - d. **4th and 5th Graders – Discuss outcomes in the Bible** to **touch their conscience**, **convicting** them with how their actions can have long lasting **consequences** shaping the person they are becoming.
 - e. **6th Graders –** They will hear lessons that **will lead them to or solidify their salvation** on the first months and maybe beginning in February or March, we will start a transition period in order to help them enter into the church life by learning about practices of life and understanding all the church meetings.
5. **Game or craft** (Leftover time): You can use this time to play a game together, memorize the verse for the story, or do some exercises together. All will depend on the age group and how they interact within the group.

CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill out the children's registration form as soon as possible. Timely registration of your children and your service will provide us with the information we need for our fellowship to coordinate the different levels.

WHO WILL BE SERVING AT EACH LEVEL?

You will be serving with parents and/or serving ones from all districts in Anaheim who have children in the same age group as your child. As we receive all registrations, we will group you all. You will receive an email including all the parents/serving ones and saints who are helping to coordinate your group.

Wait to receive a schedule from one of the saints on your level to know which day and which task you will participate in or be responsible for. If you can't serve on the day assigned to you, please switch with someone else from your group.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN'S SERVING ONES (FRI, AUG 21ST, LORD'S DAY, AUG 23RD)

As a new term begins, we have parents and serving ones who are joining us for the first time or moving up to a different level. We want to take the opportunity to conduct a "teacher's training" for each level. Next weekend we will meet at the time we are suggesting for each level to meet; two on Friday (August 21st) and three on Lord's Day afternoon (August 23rd). We encourage you to join us so we can learn together. If you have multiple children, we encourage you to join the meetings for each level your children. Even if you are not serving directly with a level, we want you to be familiar with what we will be doing and how to approach reviewing the story throughout the week. We will go more into details on which songs to sing for each level and how to lead the singing. We will also go more in depth on the stories for each level and practice among ourselves. Finally, we will brainstorm together on how to conduct the activities/games/crafts for each level.