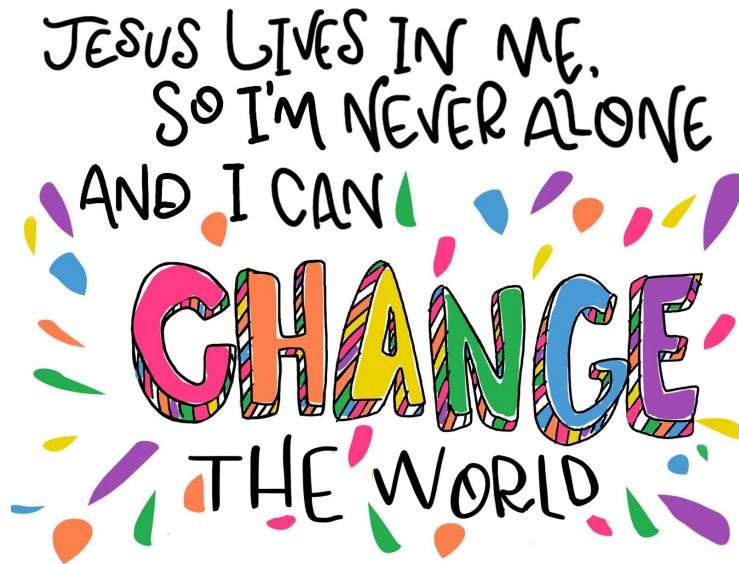




Welcome to the Manual for our Elementary Services!



*"In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."
Ephesians 2:22*

Welcome to the DPK team! You are valuable and precious to us!

THANK YOU! Thank you for giving God your "yes". One of our core values is to see the miraculous take place as we "tear the loaf" and give out that which we have been given. Just as with the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish, we watch God do the impossible when we all bring our portion of anointing, time, and talent. *Thank you for giving your portion within our children's ministry!* Ministry to children is a beautiful reflection of the lines to create a lifelong love of Jesus within our children and families while keeping physical safety a top priority.

So grab a cup of coffee, find a cozy chair and take a few minutes to read through these helpful guidelines to make your experience, and every family's experience, one that is filled with the joy of the Lord, the anointing, and excellence. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your Coach or our First Impressions Team Lead. Thank you again! We love you!

Thank you for being willing to serve our precious young ones!



Elementary-aged kids are spirit beings and can learn and receive- even now- from the spirit of God! Allow the Lord to use your voice and creativity to minister to these sweet little ones. Here are a few helpful tips to keep in mind as you do so!

Never Underestimate the Power of a High-Five (or an Air High-Five)

High-fives are a great and easy way to interact with the elementary aged students- they can even be utilized more than you think! While they can be used as an ice-breaker and a way to say hi or start conversation, they can also be used as a reference for prayer! We call it "High-Five Prayer Points." This is where you give someone a high-five and reference your five finger prayer points to pray for the person you gave a high-five to. The prayer points are as follows: 1.) stop & listen to the person you are interacting with 2.) pray for a person of influence 3.) pray for something dear to their heart 4.) pray for them or someone they know that may be broken, sick, or in need 5.) pray for nations! Practice this with them each week and never underestimate the power of a high-five!

Celebrate Them

Each and every week, you have the amazing opportunity to celebrate and champion the lives of these young children! Whether it be a "God story," a testimony, a praise report or even just a fun and exciting thing that has happened in their life- CELEBRATE it with them! Create time for this whether it may be through personal conversations or through "small group" where each child shares. Remember that the students that come to children's church each week may not have the kind of home life where things like this would be talked about or valued. With this in mind, it gives you as a volunteer the chance to be an incredible and godly encouragement to them in the midst of their week! Make the most of every opportunity and celebrate these precious souls!

Give Them Responsibility

Another way in which you can build up these children is by giving them a sense of responsibility. This can simply be implemented through allowing them to help with small tasks. Whether it be by passing out snacks, announcing the memory verse of the week or by doing the hand motions for worship on stage, these are effective ways in which they can learn to serve, cultivate a sense of belonging and even bring out the gifts that the Lord has placed inside of them. Take the time to figure out what their giftings are and what gets them excited. From there, give them responsibility in that area!

Make the Bible a BIG Deal

As you are teaching and interacting with these elementary students, making the Bible a big deal should be priority! The Bible is God's written, perfect Word to us that helps His children understand how much we need Him, what He's done for us and how to navigate this life in a way that glorifies Him. Our young ones desperately need to learn this from a young age in order that they may grow to know Him through both spirit and truth. Ways in which you can help the kids begin to understand the Word of God and its importance can be through the following examples: encourage them to bring their Bible and a journal to class each week, emphasize that each story from the Bible is REAL and still relates to us today, practice "Sword Drills" with them, select and practice memory verses for each week and empower them to read their Bibles at home too! We are to make the Bible a BIG deal because it truly is a big deal!

Bible Bucks/Rewards

This is the reward system we use in order to encourage children to get involved in class. They earn Bible Bucks which they can redeem for prizes once a month in our prize closet. The prize closet is like a store where they can go and spend their Bible Bucks to buy some of the prizes that are "for sale."

There are many ways they can receive Bible Bucks. They are as follows:

- For bringing their Bible, notebook, and pen to Children's Church
- For attendance
- For bringing a friend to Children's Church
- For listening quietly and staying in their seat
- For knowing the verse of the month
- For bringing an offering to Children's Church
- For taking notes and answering questions correctly in class
- Additional "Good Behavior" Bucks

There is No Junior Holy Spirit

What an exciting time it is to be alive and see the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit to Every Generation! We believe that as children's ministers, we have a mandate to fulfill the prophetic assignment found in Joel 2:28-29 NJKV:

"And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And, also on My menservants and My maidservants I will pour My Spirit in those days."

Acts 2:17 echoes this mandate again telling us that our sons and daughters are included in the Last Days Outpouring.



Pastors Randy and Lucie Needham have placed a priority on bringing revival to the nations, to our city and to the precious families of Dwelling Place Church. We have already seen this with our children as they have powerfully encountered the Holy Spirit during our weekly services, VBS sessions and other special events. However, we believe that this is *just the beginning*.

We believe that is no Junior Holy Spirit and that He desires to develop an intimate relationship with our kids that will permeate their hearts and direct every aspect of their lives. We desire to help our kids tune their ear to the voice of the Lord and flow in the gifts of the Spirit even now. Throughout your entire service or event time with our kids, listen and yield to the Holy Spirit allowing Him to flow through you. Be a lighting rod for the anointing! Come hungry! Come thirsty! Come ready to pour out of the overflow your heart! Press in deeper and deeper into the Spirit of God and ask Him use YOU to bring revival to the next generation! Because, He will!

Segment Your Services

When working with elementary students, it's very important to segment your services. This is incredibly necessary as their attention spans are shorter and their energy levels are higher. In order to keep them engaged, plan to keep the services within five to ten minute "bite-size pieces." This will help the children be able to better digest the ministry shared with them without getting too restless.

Service Elements Include: Welcome/Hangout Time; Snack; (brief) Review from preview week; Service Theme Intro; Game Time; Media; Praise; Memory Verse; Object Lessons (Science based, Props, ect.); Creative Elements (such as: various Skits-Crazy, Bible, Kid-Led, Puppets, Dance, Media, or Special Music); Small Groups; Bible Lesson; Worship; Altar Ministry and Flow.

While segmenting service components/elements is an outline that we go by, remember that there is always room for flexibility and for what we feel the Lord wants to do in service each week! If you and the team feel that there needs to be an extra worship song or longer ministry moment, do it. Just be mindful and stick the segmented service outline as best as possible!

Class Culture

At DPK our "Class Culture (aka rules) are important to repeat and bring into the children's attention throughout our time with them:

- BRING YOUR CHEER
- BE KIND HERE
- HAVE A LISTENING EAR
- LET'S DRAW NEAR



Class Flow

Children respond to familiar schedules and routine. And in the case of ministry to Elementary-aged children, it builds *expectancy and hunger* for the Lord. looked at the beauty of the ministry of the Holy Spirit to our children, and how it makes an imprint, and a watermark on their young hearts for eternity. When each of our teams make it a priority to follow a similar class flow that includes all of the same elements (Fun, the Word, Holy Spirit encounters), it not only produces continuity, it also brings forth a children's ministry full of children who are excited about the things of God and expectant for MORE! They will beg to come everytime the doors open! So, in keeping with the spirit of what was said above, take some time to familiarize yourself with the class flow chart found below.

9 AM Team Huddle Pre Set up
Check-In and Arrivals
Arrivals: BIG GAME
Arrivals: Ask God Thank God Cards
Welcome
Praise Time!
Game & Object Lesson- BIG WORD (Memory Verse)
Snack time!
Table Activity OR Outside Play
BIG MESSAGE (Bible Lesson from Curriculum)
Worship Time
Altar Call
Offering
Big Quiz & Closing
Post Service: Activity Time

Age Appropriate Training Videos

Training on Children's Ministry

<https://theresakidinfrontofme.com/welcome/>

Age Specific- Elementary

<https://theresakidinfrontofme.com/sessions/elementary/>



Team Roles

Another one of our core values is the importance of Community and the beautiful things that come out of it when we fellowship and serve together. We are so thankful for the team of Coaches, Leaders, and Helpers the Lord has brought us! We treasure the supply of the spirit in YOU! We want you to speak up and share your ideas and any needs that you see. To get you started in that direction, you will find a brief summary of the exciting opportunities to serve our families within the DPC Children's Ministry classrooms. Please feel free to reach out to one of our team members if you have any questions or would like further information on a specific role.

Elementary Coach: Erin Neal erin@dwellingplacechurch.com

- Provide mentorship to our Teaching Teams (Amazing Lead Teacher and Awesome Helper) by weekly outreach to them for lesson preparation, in-service training, and prayer support.
- Assist Lead Teachers by assembling all necessary art and craft supplies, color sheets, parent handouts, and lesson needs on a quarterly basis.
- Provide in-service, hands-on training during Sunday Morning services by demonstrating our heart and culture in the classrooms

Lead Teacher:

- Show up with a smile on your face and readiness in your heart to help and love like Jesus.
- Arrive at early designated serving time. Attend any DPC Kid Meetings.
- Be a part of Service Segments [Teaching, Preaching, Prayer, Games, Crafts, etc.]
- Oversee Service Sessions in a practical and pastoral role. Including collaborating with your Caring Coach for service preparations and following the "End of Service Checklist."

"Awesome Helper" Kids Team:

- Show up with a smile on your face and readiness in your heart to help and love like Jesus.
- Arrive at early designated serving time. Attend any DPC Kids Meetings.
- Be a part of Service Segments [Teaching, Preaching, Prayer, Games, Crafts, etc.]
- Assist in "End of Service Checklist" completion.



Team Teaching Model:

In this section, you will get a beautiful picture of how the Lord desires for each of us to use the individual gifts, anointings, and talents to create a supernatural team that leads our kids each week with excellence, creativity and fun. Here's how it works:

- A set of (4) teams (plus the 5th Sunday team) will be scheduled on a rotating, monthly basis.
- Each team scheduled for their weekly service will consist of Lead Teachers and Awesome Helpers each of whom will direct and bring forth the different elements of the service. (see Class Flow and Segmenting Your Service above)
- The Lead Teachers will collaborate with our Creative Coordinator to communicate curriculum and supply needs including: student and parent handouts, props, object lessons, special snacks, puppets, costuming, and media. (And, whatever else you need!) Contact your Coach for further information on our Dream Session that brings lesson planning and supply gathering together.
- In addition to the team roles above, the elementary teams will also consist of a media team and worship team (as we can schedule them in). In the future, we would like to add the following teams: Creative Arts, including dance and drama; Puppet; Events; and, Games.

Team Communication

We are actively using Whatsapp found on App Store or Andriod Market, simply download the app and click this link to join the group text:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JxZc973zSVNAzMU0aQaf4u>

Parents Night Out

As a "thank you" to all kids team members who serve once per month, we will have a "Parents Night Out" with babysitting. You will be notified about the details per occasion.

Child Development Milestones
PRIMARY CHILD (6-8 YEAR OLDS)

Physically

- Rate of growth slows down
- Has sudden bursts of energy
- Tooth-losing age
- Susceptible to colds and communicable diseases
- Tires easily
- Demands varied activities
- Wants to help, but needs the “know how”
- Needs to learn to finish what is started
- Likes to handle objects

Mentally

- Is prone to be excitable and sympathetic
- Grows and grows under praise
- Craves special affection and guidance
- Tells tall tales
- Is imaginative, reasoning and credulous
- Likes children own age
- Vastly expanding world through reading
- Likes pets
- Learns through the senses, experiences and words; thinking is concrete and literal
- Likes Bible stories that shows God’s power
- Is sometimes rebellious
- Likes to solve mental problems verbally
- Practices discriminations and learns to choose
- Memorizes words more easily than thoughts
- Begins to appreciate geographical and historical backgrounds
- Needs practice in helpfulness, kindness, cooperation, unselfishness and consideration
- Prefers non-competitive group activities
- Chooses friends, changes best friend often.
- Likes to pretend being someone else in play; this aids good social adjustment

Spiritually

- Profits by spiritually mature examples
- Is able to realize God’s love and His forgiveness
- Learns reverence by precept and example
- Often ready to accept Jesus and can learn to pray and live for Jesus
- Can solve problems by going to the Bible, after he learns to read
- Needs to be taught to confess sin promptly
- Is curious about death
- Likes action and Missionary stories



Child Development Milestones

Junior Child (9-11 year old)

Physically

- Is in healthiest stage of life
- Is active and exuberant
- Is growing in independence
- Is not too tidy
- Likes to attend camp and other outdoor activities
- Grows moderately

Mentally and Socially

- Can use Bible to find references and solutions to problems, also maps and dictionaries.
- Has good memorizing abilities, is alert and critical of own work.
- Is developing concepts of time and space
- Is interested in problems and contemporaries
- Is eager for information, is active
- Has many interests, can write poems, stories
- Is creative, if you give your time, interest, and understanding
- Likes to collect things
- Checks own progress
- Interested in courageous people and has increased power of concentration
- Can be encouraged to have high standards
- Is interested in fairness
- Likes to participate in class
- Prefers own pals, can dislikes opposite sex
- Has "gang," spirit-group loyalty
- Enters hero-worshiping stage
- Should be taught respect for authority
- Is less shy

Spiritually

- Is Ripe for Salvation
- Responds to teaching on growing in Christ
- Can understand doctrinal truths when taught with visual aids
- Needs encouragement in daily devotions
- Has a lively interest in persons
- Can be interested in winning those in own family and neighborhood.



Church Contact Information:

Church Service Times:	Sundays: 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Church Phone:	281-821-2222
Website:	www.dwellingplacechurch.com
Office Hours:	Monday- Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Street Address:	713 E. Airtex Dr., Houston, TX 77073
Church Email:	kids@dwellingplacechurch.com