



First Baptist Church Collinsville

Teaching and Training Kids

That Rock for Jesus

Excuses, Excuses (Luke 9:57-62)

Hi boys and girls. I hope things are going well as you get use to going back to school in person. I expect that most of you have missed a day of school at one time or another. Perhaps your parents took you to visit a family member who lived in another state. Or maybe you had a doctor's appointment. Or perhaps you were sick at home in bed and did not feel like going to school. Regardless of the reason, you had to have a note from your parents saying why you missed school. If you did not have a note, the teacher would not excuse you from class.

Sometimes the excuses parents give for their children missing school can be very strange or funny. Here are some examples I found:

"Please excuse Janet's absence from school. It was Take Your Daughter to Work Day. Since I don't have a job, I made her stay home and do housework."

"Please excuse Ricky from school yesterday. He spilled gasoline on his stomach and I was afraid he might explode."

"Please excuse Mary for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch and when we found it on Monday, we thought it was Sunday."

Making excuses is not new. One day, Jesus was walking along the road with a group of people. He turned to one man and told him to, "Come follow me." The man agreed, but he said, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father." But Jesus told him, "Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God." Then another man told Jesus, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family." But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."

Both of these men wanted to go with Jesus, but they also wanted to do something else. They were not willing to totally commit to following Jesus. Following Jesus can be difficult because we may not be able to go with Him and still do some things we want to do. Jesus does not force anyone to follow Him. Every person is free to choose whether or not they will follow Jesus. Today, Jesus is still calling people to follow Him. Will you follow Jesus, or will you make excuses?

Thanks boys and girls. Have a great time in school this year. And remember, Jesus loves you and so do I.

Pastor Larry

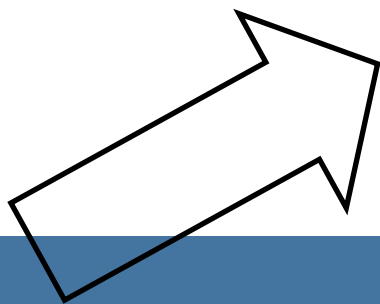
***"I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of
God that brings salvation to everyone that believes."
Romans 1:16***

A NOTE FROM Ms. Felecia:

All of you have now been in school for a few weeks now. I know the first day back, at least a few of you were nervous about getting back into school, starting a new year. Some may have been asking themselves a few questions about school. Will my teacher this year be nice? Will my friends be in my class? Will I meet new friends? What if I forget my bus number? What if I don't know how to find my room? Who am I going to sit with at lunch? Who will play with me at recess?

Some of you may not have been worried at all about school, but if we are honest, we all worry at some time in our lives. Even Adults worry. I will be taking over for Mrs. Charlotte and I am a little nervous because I want to do a good job. Who is our Strength? How can we stay strong when we feel weak or fearful or worried? God is the answer to both of these questions. When we allow God to carry our troubles, we become strong instead of weak. We need to turn to God in our time of worry or fear.

In the bible, there are many verses that show how to take care of worry and fear. Isaiah 41:10 says, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." 1 Peter 5:7 says "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." So, if we follow the words of the bible, we are to pray to God and give him all our worry and trust in him to take care of us. It will not always be easy, but if with God on our side, nothing is impossible.



Children's Church will be moving back upstairs to the second floor in September!



Ages 2 years—12th Grade

**Awana will resume Sunday's
at 4 p.m. on Sunday,
September 12, 2021.**

September Sunday School Schedule:

- 9/5: God Created the World
- 9/12: God Created People
- 9/19: Creation Glorifies God
- 9/26: Sin Entered the World

Children's Church Schedule:

- September 5:** An Unlikely Choice for a King
- September 12:** David Runs for His Life
- September 19:** Children's Worship Feature
- September 26:** Abigail Saves the Day

GIRLS IN ACTION:

Girls,

We will begin meeting in person on Wednesday September 8 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Children's Church room on the second floor. GA/s is open to girls from K-5th grades. Our new emphasis for GA's is "Missions Journey: Kids." As part of our "Journey", we will share stories of missionaries making a difference in communities all around the world and learn that no one is too young to share God's love.

If there is any change for church procedures, we will keep you informed concerning GA's.

For the month of September, we will be learning about J. D. and Andreina Fasolino who are church planters in Toronto. The Bible Verse for September comes from Psalm 98.2 "The Lord has made known his power to save. He has shown the nations that he does what is right"

In Week 1, you will discover about Toronto, Canada, and the diverse community that lives there. You will meet our missionaries and learn interesting facts about them.

In Week 2, you will learn about the awesome power of God to save and our responsibility to share this news with the world.

In Week 3, you will learn how J. D. was influenced as a child by Christian leaders and how that led him to serve God in missions. You will hear how the Fasolinos moved from Venezuela to Canada to plant a church for Spanish-speaking people in Toronto.

Week 4, you will be making a thank-you gift for someone who has been a great influence on you.

Each month we will be learning about Mission Kids with a celebration of their birthdays.

**In-person Wednesday Evening
Activities resume September 8th:**

Children's Choir: 5:15-6:00

Fellowship Meal: 6:00

RA's, GA's and Mission Friends: 6:30

Mission Friends:

Ages 2-5 (Pre-K)

Mission Friends will meet in the
Preschool Area in the Basement.

*Don't forget to get your new
permission and medical forms
filled out and turned in!*

Right Now Media for Children

Parents, make sure you check out Right Now Media for great movies and lessons for children. It is free! Go to the website for the church and look under Resources. There is great bible studies for adults too!

