

Little Bridges News

August 2020



Calendar of Events

CLOSED – Staff Training

Thursday 8/6
Friday 8/7

First Day of Pre-School

Monday 8/10

First Day for School Age

Wednesday 8/12

Back-To-School-Night

(One parent only & no children)

Toddler Yard: 6:15 – 7:00 pm

Jaguars 8/18

Ducks 8/19

Penguins 8/20

Koalas 8/26

Giraffes 8/27

Pandas 9/1

Court Yard:

TK/K Tigers 8/20

CLOSED – Labor Day

Monday 9/7

Canyon Creek Church

On FaceBook Live

Daily Devotionals

M – F 7:30am

Sunday Services & Sunday School

Sundays 10:30am

Teacher Training/In-Service Days

Little Bridges will be closed on Thursday, August 6th and Friday, August 7th for teacher training/in-service days. We will be using these days to prepare for the new school year.

Little Bridges Update

This month has FLOWN by and I have been so proud of the fun, safe and educational summer our staff put together for our Little Bridges kids!

We are busy getting ready for the new school year and with the restrictions on class size, we are making a few changes. Here they are in a nutshell:

- The Patient Penguins is our new three year old class and will be held in the “old” Koala room.
- The Kind Koalas are moving upstairs to room 201
- The Truthful Tigers is our new all day TK/K class which will be held in the downstairs conference room.
- School age students in grades 1st through 5th will have 4 classrooms upstairs. We will be providing an all day program that supports virtual learning during school hours and an after school program for the afternoon.

Welcome Emails

Be on the look out for a Welcome Email from your teachers during the first week of August. Many details will be included including gate assignment, REMIND instructions for emergency notifications, Shutterfly invitations and class specific details.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night will be a little different this year. Each preschool class will hold an outside parent/teacher meeting on a different evening. We are asking that only 1 parent attend and we will Zoom the event for those who are not attending. Classrooms will then be “open” for 4 parents at a time to walk through.

BTSN is a time for teachers to discuss the class curriculum, the daily schedule, and the objectives for the year. I hope you plan on attending this very informative night – either in person or virtually.

We want to stay connected to each of you and are working on ways that we can do that best.

Were There Dinosaurs On The Ark?

There are two reasons children ask questions. One is to find answers. Another is to have a conversation. And in my experience, children like to question and talk about God ALOT! These are some questions I have heard from our kids at Little Bridges in the past years...

Ms. Jacque, were there dinosaurs on the ark? Why did God create the world? Is there a McDonalds in heaven? Where does God live? Does God have friends? Does God sleep? Who created God? Why can't we see God? Does God cry? What does God look like? What is heaven like? How can I fit God in my heart? Why did God let my grandpa die?

Children are curious. Like it or not, you are going to be faced with tough questions from little seekers. At times, it can be overwhelming. After all, theologians and scholars have been debating the answers to some of these questions for centuries, so how can little ole us be expected to know the answers and communicate them to children in a way that makes sense? If you're like me, it's tempting to reply, "That's a silly question", "It's a mystery" or "Because that's just the way God made it."

But I think we need to resist the temptation to be flippant or to blurt out responses that ultimately discourage children from asking questions about God and their faith. Children are genuinely curious about their world, and we need to create an environment that encourages them to seek the truth. Because, when you do, you foster a lifelong desire to continue learning more about God.

There's nothing wrong with asking questions. Let your kids know that God always loves them more than they could ever comprehend, and that He isn't threatened by their doubts. Open up the Scriptures and show your kids that even Biblical heroes like David and Job were uncertain about God at times, and that they expressed those fears and uncertainties directly to Him. No one can have a genuine, lasting relationship with the Lord without that kind of honesty.

- 1) Encourage questions – let your kids know you will not judge anything they ask.
- 2) Communicate at your child's level - meaning simplifying issues for younger ones. Using language that makes sense.
- 3) Don't be afraid to say you don't know the answer – instead discover together. I think it's really beneficial for children to see that we are not supreme know-it-all's- but that we too are still learning about God and growing in our understanding.
- 4) Show older children how to find answers themselves – pointing them to resources equals a lifetime of seeking answers to the hard questions.

Kids ask questions to learn and the great thing about God is that He made faith simple enough for a child to understand but complex enough for us to study for a lifetime. Faith comes with questions. When you set a tone for spiritual development in your house, you're letting your kids know that you *expect* their childhood to be filled with seeking, questioning, and discovery rather than automated acceptance of handed-down beliefs.

Children that are asking questions are children seeking – and seekers that find and make active decisions about their own faith and know the Lord deeply will develop a meaningful and personal relationship with Christ.