

Little Bridges News

March 2020



Calendar of Events

Picture Days

3/17 & 3/18

Book Fair

3/23 – 3/27

Mission to Mexico Jersey Collection

3/1 - 3/22

School Age Min. Days

3/18 – 3/20

School Age Spring Camp

4/6 – 4/10

Spring Show

Thursday 4/16 7:00 pm

Teacher Appreciation Wk

5/4 – 5/8

PreK Grad Pictures

5/12

Canyon Creek Church

Sunday Services

8:45 am and 10:15 am

MOPS

Friday 3/6 & 3/20 9:30 am

Spring Pictures

Class and Individual pictures will be taken Tuesday, March 17th and Wednesday, March 18th. Look for specific classroom days and times and picture order forms to come home soon.

Jersey Collection For Mexico

Every year over Spring Break, Canyon Creek Church partners with Amor Ministries and sends a team of high schoolers and adults to Tecate Mexico to build houses for those in need. This year they are collecting gently worn athletic jerseys to be used for a sports outreach.

Have your kids outgrown their past-season sports jerseys? You pre-loved jersey could bless another child! Little Bridges will have a collection bin set up in the office starting March 1st. Any size jersey for ages 2 – 18, for any team sport will be accepted.

The Book Fair is Coming!

The Book Fair will be set up in the preschool office **and** in the Gathering Hall, March 23rd through March 27th. Check out both places to see the larger collection of books we have to offer this year!

We will also have Spanish books to purchase for the Mission to Mexico Outreach.

Little Bridges Zoo Day May 22nd

Every preschool classroom will be going on a field trip to the Oakland Zoo on Friday, May 22nd. This is the Friday before Memorial Day and we would love to have every Little Bridges family attend!

All classes are learning about animals the entire month of May – and what a better way to finish off the month than to go see some live lions, and tigers and bears – oh my!! Not to mention lambs, frogs, ducks, giraffes, jaguars, koalas and pandas!

Save the date and look for more details coming from your teachers soon.

Follow Us & Like Us

Little Bridges has a website, a FaceBook page and a Instagram account. We would love to have you follow us!

Parenting Traps

Do you find yourself threatening, repeating your instructions, or raising your voice in an attempt to get your children to obey? Are you frustrated because nothing seems to work? It could be that faulty child-training methods have snared your line of thinking.

As parents it is our goal to not merely to get our children to outwardly obey, but to reach their hearts with the gospel of Christ. When we adopt faulty parenting methods that aim for behavior modification only, we miss the point. Here are a few pitfalls that I would encourage you to watch out for.

Bribing your kids into obeying is backward motivation. Bribing encourages children to be selfish. The motive for obeying is personal gain. For example, “If you leave when I say it’s time to go, you can watch a movie tonight” or “If you don’t misbehave in the grocery store, you can pick out candy at the check out counter.” Children should be taught to obey because it is right, not to get a reward. We should simply state the standard and follow through with consequences when that standard is violated.

Counting to Three is something I would also warn against. I know it is a very popular way for parents to get children’s attention, but I want my children to do what I ask the first time I ask. If I count to three, I cause my children to get into the habit of delayed obedience. Delayed obedience is disobedience. Counting to three encourages them to put off obeying until absolutely necessary. We want our children to view obedience as their best option, not a choice that is put off until the last minute. This goes hand-in-hand with the “one warning rule” that we use here at Little Bridges.

Threatening can be one of the biggest struggles as a parent. “If you don’t do this, then these will be the consequences.” But if you’re not careful you can get yourself into a pickle. “If you don’t listen at school, then we are not going to Disney Land for Christmas.” Really?! If you tell your children there will be a consequence then there better be one – and it needs to be the one you voiced outloud. Otherwise, you have caused them to question your word. A parent of integrity says what she means and means what she says. If you don’t follow through, you will eventually lose your effectiveness as well as the respect of your children. Your children need to have confidence that your word is your word.

Appealing to your kids emotions by making them feel guilty is just not healthy. “After all I do for you, this is how you repay me.” It’s easy for us to feel sorry for ourselves and think that our children “owe us” obedience. However, we want our children’s motives for obeying to come from a heart to please not from a parent inflicted guilt trip.

Reasoning just doesn’t work when disciplining a small child. Reasoning with youngsters erases the line of authority between parent and child, and places the parent in a position of being out smarted! Avoid statements like, “Are you ready to go to bed?” and “Don’t you think you should brush your teeth?” and “Why don’t we pick up the toys before lunch?”

Asking your kids if they would like to do something places them on a peer level with you the parent. A parent who tries to reason usually ends up frustrated, and the child usually ends up being disrespectful by arguing rather than obeying. If it helps, play the recording over and over in your head “I am the parent, I am the parent, I am the parent”, then act like it! More often than not, “Because I said so” is absolute reason enough.

Repeating or going back on instructions sends mixed signals. Parents who issue half-hearted commands and then don’t require their children to follow through immediately, quickly loose respect. Children need parents they can 100% count on. They need matter-of-fact guidance and they should never question their position in the family. Kids become uncertain of when and how to respond to wishy-washy instructions which can then lead to insecure children who are unsure of their own actions. However, when parents lead with confidence, children find security and stability in their call to obedience.

By avoiding the snares of ineffective parenting, you can move past the frustrations of not knowing how to handle issues of disobedience and into a confident, well-balanced approach to raising your children. Determine the “family rules” and establish a strong family identity in Christ by expecting your children to obey authority.