

First Kids Ministry Description

First Kids Mission and Goal:

First Kids is the Preschool and Children's ministry of First Baptist Church, in Claremore. We are sold out to help parents and kids put God First in their everyday life. We will accomplish this by partnering parents and kids with loving First Kids leaders to provide an environment where a love for God, people, and service will be developed. This mission is derived directly from scripture, [Deuteronomy 6:4-9](#), [Luke 10:27](#), and [Mark 12:30](#). Jesus revealed that the greatest commandment is to love God and to love people. To show our love for both we must learn to serve in the name of Jesus ([Matthew 20:28](#)).

Each ministry First Kids offers, plays a role in the "big picture" of accomplishing our mission. Before diving into each individual ministry and discovering the role they play, let's discuss one other important quality that First Kids strives to produce.

Respect

Our expectation and our boundary for each kid can be summed up in one word, Respect! First Kids works hard to communicate this boundary and for the past 4 years since its introduction it has been extremely effectively. We have four principles as a part of the word Respect:

1. Respect Your Self – Do not do anything that is going to cause harm to yourself, physically, emotionally, or spiritually. ([1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#))
2. Respect Others – Do not do anything to harm anyone else physically, emotionally, or spiritually. ([Romans 15:1-3](#))
3. Respect Property – Take care of personal and other's possessions because everything ultimately belongs to the Lord. ([Psalm 24:1](#))
4. Respect what God is Trying to Do – This is the most important principle of respect. This standard reminds us to put God's interest before ours or anyone else's. If we strive for this than everything else will fall into place. ([Matthew 6:33](#))

In the rare occasion that these boundaries are broken we use a three phase discipline process:

1. We will verbally tell the child what action was unacceptable and allow them to help us formulate a better plan of action next time they are faced with a situation.
2. If a second discipline matter arises the child will firmly be moved to the side and will be told in a firm soft voice that if they are pulled aside again for a discipline matter then the designated leader of the ministry in most cases the children's pastor will be informed.
3. On a third occurrence the ministry leader in most cases the children's pastor will be informed. At this point it will be decided if the parent will be involved and what action will be taken to assure the behavior improves.

Note if a child is physically or verbally harming another child in a manner that you deem as severe then we need to skip straight to step 3. There are certain behaviors that will not and cannot be tolerated.

The key to this process being effective is that the boundaries are clear and the discipline follow through is consistent.

Each Ministry Play's a Role:

As described earlier each ministry of First Kids plays a vital role in the development of our kids. However, it must be known that the First Kids ministry alone cannot and will not ever be able to meet all the needs of a child's spiritual development. Parents will always play the biggest role and the First Kids ministry exists to encourage, guide, provide wisdom, and tools for parents to succeed in raising kids who put God first by Loving God, People, and Service. The First Kids Ministry is like a toolbox in some regards. There are several tools in the box and the better parents and First Kids Leadership know how to use the tools and selecting the right tool the more effective we can be. Even more importantly the tools will do no good if they are left in the box. First Kids will help you learn how to

use the tools all we ask is that you commit to use them! To give you a jump start we are in a since providing you with a description of the different tools that are offered:

Quick Reference for Each Ministry:

This quick reference will help you catch a quick glance at the balance that First Kids offers in each ministry. As a reminder I plan is to reach our Goal by providing environments where a Love for God, People, and Service can be developed. Each ministry will offer bits and pieces of each yet will have a special focus on one area. Much like a good workout program first kids works all the spiritual muscles at the same time but gives special emphasis to one area to maximize results. The Special Focus Area will be highlighted.

- Sunday Kids Bible Study:
 - o Love For God: An environment is created to allow kids the opportunity to fall in love with Jesus through prayer and Bible study
 - o Love For People: Building small friendship groups who grow towards Christ and establish a mentor relationship with loving first Kids leaders.
 - o Love For Service: Provide opportunities for short term, mini mission projects.
- Worship Care:
 - o Love for God: Preschoolers will see Jesus through the loving workers as they interact.
 - o Love for People: Preschoolers and workers are given an opportunity to play and bond with each other.
 - o Love for Service: Workers provide an example of service to preschoolers and their parents
- First Kids Worship:
 - o Love for God: Allowing kids the opportunity to express their love for Jesus corporately.
 - o Love for People: Kids worshiping together in a verity of styles and allows parents the opportunity to learn how kids express their love for Jesus.
 - o Love for Service: Allowing older Grade School Kids an opportunity to develop a love to serve.
- Legacy Christian School:
 - o Love For God: LCS produces an educational environment all week long where kids will grow in Christ through discovering his incredible creation.
 - o Love For People: LCS Students are in a small classroom setting where kids will learn to interact and love one another in a deep Christ-Like manner.
 - o Love For Service: LCS Strives to provide service opportunities where kids can will spread the Love of God to their community and world.
- Paid Childcare:
 - o Love For God: Preschoolers and younger grade school will see Jesus through the loving paid childcare staff as they interact.
 - o Love For People: Preschoolers and younger grade school kids are given an opportunity to play and bond with each other.
 - o Love For Service: Workers provide an example of service to preschoolers and their parents.
- Navigate:
 - o Love for God: Providing an environment for kids to fall in love with Jesus and His Word so they are ready to Serve Him
 - o Love for People: Building small friendship groups where kids can learn to serve as the body of Christ and form mentorships with loving First Kids leaders.
 - o Love for Service: Providing older grade school kids the opportunity to go on mission in the name of Jesus.
- Wacky Wednesdays:
 - o Love for God: Getting outside of the church walls to enjoy God's creation and learn his ways on the go.
 - o Love for People: Providing an atmosphere where kids from multiple age groups can fellowship and love on one another in the name of Jesus.
 - o Love for Service: Creating an environment where older kids can invest in younger kids in the name of Jesus.

- Leaders in Training:
 - o Love for God: Helping Kids understand the importance of a personal quiet time.
 - o Love for People: Teaching kids to use their gifts and to be active members of the body of Christ
 - o Love For Service: Training for kids to serve in First Kids, the church, and the Kingdom of God.
- Camp Tulakogee:
 - o Love for God: Provide an environment where kids can get away from worldly distractions to focus their time on growing closer to Jesus.
 - o Love for People: Kids will be able to hang out and build relationships with kids from other churches and build community with kids from our church and community.
 - o Love for Service: Kids will be exposed to testimonials from people on Mission for the Lord.
- Vacation Bible School:
 - o Love for God: Creating an atmosphere where lost kids can learn who Jesus is and how they can make him the Lord of their life.
 - o Love for People: Produce a place where kids can build close relationships with loving adults and other kids.
 - o Love for Service: Loving First Kids leaders will model their love to serve.
- Family Ministry:
 - o Special events are meant to bring the family together to create environments where families can grow closer to God and each other. Different family Ministry events will emphasize different areas.
 - Love for God: An atmosphere will be created where Families can grow closer to the Lord.
 - Love for People: Families will be given opportunities to draw closer to one another.
 - Love for Service: Opportunities will be given for families to serve alongside one another in the name of Jesus.

Sunday Kids Bible Study:

First Kids Sunday Bible Study meets at 9:00am every Sunday. FK Bible Study puts a big emphasis on helping kids develop a love for God. Kids will naturally be exposed to *loving people* and *loving to serve* but again it prominently emphasizes a love for God. What this means is that from preschool – 6th grade kids will learn to put their faith in God, talk to him through prayer, and seek him through his Word. It is extremely important for parents to encourage their kids to understand and succeed in the area of prayer and Biblical knowledge. We see parents all the time cheering kids on in their academic and physical endeavors. Remember that these are temporary and spiritual development is eternal. We encourage you to talk with our incredible leaders and express more passion in your kids developing spiritually than in any other area.

Since 2009 the First Kids Council has been working on a major project to begin establishing a comprehensive guide for parents and First Kids Bible Study Teachers for expectant parenthood – 6th Grade. This is a massive endeavor and will come together slowly. Some of the bits and pieces will be seen this year in 2011 where we are going to begin referring to our leadership as Love For God Leaders, Love for People Leaders, and the development of a Love for Service Team who will lead mini-service projects for preschoolers and grade-schoolers. Please pray for us and if you would like to be involved in the development of this guide then please let us know. Our goal is to have the full guide in place and in practice by year 2013.

Worship Care:

Worship Care is a ministry for our preschool parents and is provided during the Sunday Morning Worship hour at 10:15am. Parents and Volunteers work on a six week rotation in age graded classes from Birth – 6th Grade. The Worship Care time is organized to be a time for leaders to love the kids in the name of Jesus as they play. This allows many adults to show their love to serve. This ministry also allows parents and leaders the opportunity to go to service to focus their full attention on Worshiping the Lord.

By year 2012 we hope to provide a preschool and Kindergarten 20min Kids Worship experience during this hour.

This ministry consistently needs parents, grandparents, and teens to serve on the six week rotation or to help substitute. Contact noah@fbclaremore.com or call the church office at 341-8181 if you desire to minister to our kids and families in this capacity.

First Kids Worship:

First Kids Worship is for Kids that are in Kindergarten – 4th grade and it occurs during Sunday Morning worship each Sunday at 10:15am. This Ministry serves several purposes within the First Kids Mission:

1. The Primary purpose of First Kids Worship is to help kids develop a love for God and to express that love for Him. First Kids worship is modeled after our “Big Worship Service.” We help kids understand the importance and Biblical origins for many of the elements of worship such as: prayer, offering, praise and worship, and kid’s style sermons. We desire kids to express this love no matter the place or their age.
2. First Kids worship provides an opportunity for our older grade school kids, 5th and 6th graders, to develop a love to serve. They get the following service opportunities through first Kid’s worship: Ushering, Crowd Control, Multi-Media Team, Drama, Scripture Reading, and God given gifts and talents.
3. Parents are given an opportunity to worship with their kids. Kids are asked to worship adult style and first kids worship gives parents a chance to worship kids style alongside of their kids. Parents are invited to join their kids for worship at least one time during the year. Parents can visit anytime however we have also provided a designated month for each age group. This can be found on the website and in the bulletin.

Legacy Christian School:

Legacy Christian School is for 2 year olds – 6th grade and occurs during the school year (August – May). LCS seeks to provide avenues through which students may discover their own individual abilities. LCS also seeks to provide sound Biblical counseling for both students and parents. Through an understanding of aptitudes and abilities, limitations and needs, we will seek to motivate students to further their learning, appreciate their Christian heritage, and apply Christian principles so as to become a way of life. LCS wants students to know they believe in them, that they contribute something of themselves as a lasting contribution to this world, and in the community in which they live and serve. Find full details about LCS on their website at www.lcclaremore.org.

LCS recently received accreditation through the ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International). This accreditation sets LCS apart as it has met strict guidelines in offering the best Christian education that an institution can offer. You can visit www.acsi.org to see more details on what it means to be ACSI accredited. LCS in the coming years is working hard to do Biblical integration in every academic discipline. LCS is also dedicated to find more opportunities to develop kids into servant leaders in the community by the introduction of the I am Third Ministry (God is 1st, Others are 2nd, and Self is 3rd). This ministry is student lead and allows the kids to find creative ways to serve the community in the name of Jesus.

Paid Childcare:

Paid Childcare is a ministry ran by our paid staff for babies – 2nd grade. One acceptance to the second grade is our Tuesday Night Celebrate Recovery where we provide Childcare through the 6th Grade. The Paid Childcare staff strives to meet the needs of preschoolers and their parents by providing Childcare during Bible Studies and some church fellowships. We have an incredible group of loving leaders who are CPR certified and desire to see kids loved in the Name of Jesus.

Paid childcare is always looking for loving preschool workers to add to our staff. If you are interested you can pick up an application from Paula Atwood who is the paid childcare coordinator.

Navigate:

Navigate is for kids that are 2 years old – 6th Grade and occurs Wednesday Night’s during the School year at 6:15pm. The primary focus of navigate is to help kids develop a love for people and service. 2’s – 2nd grade memorize as much scripture as possible, so that when they hit the 3rd grade they can begin fulfilling the Lord’s number one mission, spreading the love of Jesus to family, friends, community, and across the World. The crowning achievement for Navigate kids is to go on a Mission Trip their 6th grade year. For the past 3 years this has been an

amazing and life changing opportunity for our kids as they have served at a homeless ministry in downtown Fort Worth Texas call Beautiful Feet Ministry.

By the 2011-2012 school year we hope to have developed our own custom Navigate Curriculum for our 3rd – 6th Grade kids to focus our preparation for our kids to go on mission for the Lord.

Wacky Wednesday's:

Wacky Wednesday is for kids who have completed 1st – 6th Grade and it occurs Wednesdays during the summer at 6:15pm. This ministry is focused on developing love for people. It is an extremely relaxed and intimate time where relationships will be formed. Wacky Wednesdays will take kids on fun filled adventures where they can hang out with each other and share Christ with our community.

Leaders in Training:

This is a new ministry scheduled to be unveiled fall of 2011. This will be focused on love for service. This ministry will center on preparing kids to serve in First Kids Worship and in other ministry areas in First Kids and throughout our church.

Camp Tulakogee:

Camp Tulakogee is the name of our summer kids camp for kids who have completed 3rd – 6th grade and it occurs 4 days in June. The camp is located between Tulsa and Muskogee right off of Fort Gibson Lake. The primary emphasis of Kids camp is to get away to help kids develop a love for God and for people. The kids camp experience is invaluable in helping kids grow deeper with Jesus and each other. Parents will not want their kids to miss the chance of allowing their kids to get away from the craziness of this world and get totally focused on their relationship with Jesus.

Vacation Bible School :

Vacation Bible School is for babies – kids who have complete the 6th grade and it occurs one week in July. The primary function of VBS is to help kids develop a Love for God. This is an event that is nearly totally focused on helping kids learn who Jesus is and how he desires to be the Lord of their life.

The 2011 Vacation Bible School will be unlike any we have ever done before. This year only our preschool will be on campus and we will be taking VBS for our 1st – 6th graders to the community of Claremore in the form of a weeklong block party in 4 different locations across the City. This will not only focus our attention on reaching the lost in the community of Claremore, it will also allow our church to focus on having a deep love for serving our community in Jesus name.

Family Ministry as a Focus for Special Events:

Nearly once a month our First Kids Ministry provides a special event for kids and their families. We desire to bring the family together during these events to experience growing together through a love for God, People, and Service. We do not ever want to merely provide an event just to provide an event. We are way too busy for that. For this reason each event we put on has a distinct purpose to bring the family together. Below is a list of a few of the ministries:

- Boy's and Dad Campout – which functions to Bring Dad's and son's together and to provide an opportunity to connect boys without a father figure with some solid Christian men.
- First Kids Grand Prix – provides parents the opportunity to have fun and to work alongside their child to build a pinewood derby car.
- Father Daughter Campout – Provides Dad's and daughters the chance to interact with one another in an intimate and beautiful setting.
- First Kids Valentines Banquet – Provides mom's and dad's with the opportunity to be served by their kids. Also gives the kids a chance to feel great about providing an environment for their parents where they can love and laugh together.

- Family Mission Trip and Thunder Basketball Game – Families will serve alongside each other at a homeless ministry in Oklahoma City. After serving at the shelter families will enjoy a fun evening watching the Oklahoma City Thunder play.

Getting More Information:

Internet: First Kids ministry works hard to keep its internet page up to date. This is the best way to get the most information the fastest about any ministry or special Event. Be sure and check out the Family Resource section for First Kids suggestions.

Email: If you are like me and need something to pop up to give you a reminder about different ministry opportunities then let the First Kids offices know to add you to the first kids or navigate email lists. Email tthrun@fbccclaremore.com or noah@fbccclaremore.com.

Facebook: Brother Noah has a facebook page with a ton of pictures from past ministry events and activities. First Baptist Church also has a facebook page and many of the First Kids ministry special events are kept up to date on the page. If you would like to be added to the First Baptist Church facebook page send a message to Bro. Noah.

iPhone Application: Recently the First Kids ministry began providing an iphone application. You can gain access to this incredible tool by going to the app store and type in fbcc in the search section. This app has some great features such as family devotion ideas and games for kids.

News Letter: The church publishes a newsletter each month and all ministry activities for the month will be listed. To get added to the church newsletter list email tthrun@fbccclaremore.com or call the church office at (918) 341-8181.

Bulletin: A bulletin is available every Sunday and will list the most recent ministry and activity information. A copy of this is also available on the web.