



"Following Jesus ... and Praising God with arts and hands and voices"

Hello!

Perhaps you're checking St. James out for the first time, or perhaps you're wanting to get reconnected here. Whatever your case may be: *WELCOME!*

This past fall (2011), we launched a new curriculum for children and families, called BibleSong. It connects children and youth to Bible stories and verses through song, sign language, art and skits. It's amazing to see children recall Bible verses learned at the beginning of the school year, all because it was set to music and sign language! The energy the children, youth and leaders have for this curriculum has been awesome and we know it will be important to your family, too!

9:57 is for ages 3 through 8th grade.

How our Sunday morning is broken down:

Large Group - starts at 9:57 a.m.

We meet together in Wold Hall for singing, skits, games, teaching and growing together. We like to think of it as high-energy, interactive worship! We get your blood flowing, the brain thinking... it's a time to gather and praise God together, **parents included!**

Small Group

Small groups are opportunity for kids to reflect on what they saw and heard in large group. Sometimes they'll discuss, sometimes they'll create art or a skit! What they do depends on the caring adults assigned to their small group. Children and youth finish their time at 9:57 in their small groups with a special 'closing' time.

What you do at home:

The "Faith5" practice - The Scripture theme lesson is added to thoughtful conversations for families in the home. They commit to practicing the FAITH5 (Faith Acts In The Home): 1) Sharing Highs & Lows, 2) Reading/Singing/Signing the Scripture verse together, 3) Talking about their day (Is it related to the Scripture in some way?), 4) Praying for one another's Highs and Lows, 5) Blessing one another.

Parents and children are encouraged to covenant in making the FAITH5 a key part of their family ritual seven nights a week.

Opportunities with 9:57

I encourage you to volunteer to make 9:57 the best experience it can be for your children. Volunteers are needed for short-term commitments: greeting families at large group, Christmas program planning, leading music or sign-language, planning special family events. Please consider how you can contribute to this experience, and let me know on the registration form

If you have questions or need more information, please give me a call.

Grace and Peace,

Shayna Anderson

Director of Family Ministry