



Hello Parents,

We have had a wonderful year in Children's Ministries seeing your children grow in their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And, we have especially appreciated the faithful service of our children's volunteers this year, too! We have great programs planned for this Spring and Summer, to help your children grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

As you can see, this time of year gets pretty busy even while your children are studying hard in school, taking tests, doing homework, playing sports, practicing music—whew, I'm exhausted already! But, amidst the busyness of our lives and the lives of our children, we need to make the time to listen and act upon that which God has instructed us as parents to do in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 – Be loyal to God, teach the faith and love of God to our children, and be constantly mindful of God's teachings. This is no small task but it is the most important thing you do as parents raising kids.

This summer, we will be launching an exciting new Sunday program for grades 1—4 called *Tru Story*, by David C. Cook, which supports our understanding that spiritual development can and should begin from the earliest age with parents as the primary nurturers of their children's faith. *Tru Story* resources support both the church and home with a focus on knowing God personally, igniting a passion for Christ, learning to listen to His Spirit, keeping biblical content true to context, and cultivating a concern for people's needs in our communities and the world. We are excited about this new program and the impact it will have on you and your kids. *Tru Story* will launch this June 5.

In addition to this new Sunday program, we will be offering a 12-week DVD-based Spiritual Parenting class beginning June 5 at 9am in the Campus Center. The goal of this series is to begin training parents to raise their children with the eternal in mind, to inspire them to long for more than “just getting through the day”, and to train them to create environments that put their children in the path of the Divine, because only God and His holiness transform a person to a living faith. How is faith passed down from generation to generation? Come join us and find out!

May God richly bless you and your family in Christ Jesus!

Pat Jensen
Pastor of Children's Ministries
Valley Church

Valley Church Parent Newsletter

Parenting Tip

Some Helpful Working Definitions

We want to be practical with children. That means that we give specific instructions about what we want them to do, not just what they shouldn't do. One way to be practical as we help children develop character is to use working definitions. We use these a lot in our counseling to help children understand life more. Here are some examples, but you can be creative and think of many more.

Obedience is doing what someone says, right away, without being reminded.

Honor is treating people as special, doing more than what's expected, and having a good attitude.

Perseverance is hanging in there even after you feel like quitting.

Attentiveness is showing people you love them by looking at them when they say their words.

Patience is waiting with a happy heart.

Self-discipline is putting off present rewards for future benefits.

Gratefulness is being thankful for the things I have instead of grumbling about the things I don't have.

You don't have to use them all. Just choose the one that your child needs right now and teach how to put that character quality into practice. Put them up around the house. This is a very positive way to give kids a vision for what you want.

This tip comes from the book, [Home Improvement: The Parenting Book You Can Read to Your Kids](#) by Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN, BSN.

If this tip was sent to you by a friend and you'd like to continue to receive tips yourself, you can sign up at www.biblicalpharenting.org.



The Funny Side of Parenting

Mom heard her son and daughter playing Hide and Seek.

Kevin said, "You cover your eyes. I'll go hide and text you when I'm ready."

Mom thought that was pretty ingenious of her son but was even more surprised when her daughter got the text and raced straight for the computer.

"What are you doing?" Mom asked.

"I'm tracking his location with his GPS."



Valley Church Children's Ministries

10885 N. Stelling Rd, - 408 739-4642 - www.valleychurch.org/growing/children

Hunt

April 23

Serra Park in Sunnyvale from 1pm to 4pm. Come join in the fun – and bring your neighbors, too! We will have three different egg hunts—1:30pm, 2:15pm, and 3:00pm. Separate areas will be available for ages 0-3 years old, 4-5 years old, and 6-11 years old for the safety and fun of the kids participating in the hunt. See you there!

Easter Sunday Services

April 24

Easter services at 8am, 9:45am, and 11:15am. We will be providing nursery through pre-kindergarten classes for your little ones throughout the morning. There will be no classes offered for K - 12 as this is a family worship morning.

Awana

May 18

Last week of regular Awana classes

May 27

Awards Night at 7pm in Worship Center

May 4

Returning clubber registration for 2011-12

June 1

New clubber registration, continues throughout the summer until all the clubs are full.

Sep 14

Awana starts its 2011-12 year

TRU

June 5

We have an exciting new Children's Church planned for this summer called TRU Story by David C. Cook Publishing for grades 1—4 for both the 9am and 10:45am hours each Sunday. TRU is a large group/small group program that supports both the church and home with a focus on knowing God personally, igniting a passion for Christ, learning to listen to His Spirit, keeping biblical content true to context, and cultivating a concern for people's needs in our communities and the world. If you would like to be a part of this exciting new program, call Pastor Pat at Valley Church for an interview!

<http://tru.davidccook.com/About/Pages/Philosophy.aspx>

6th Grade Graduation

June 5

The 9am Sixth Grade Class will be graduating up to the Jr. High Class on June 5. Joe Usher and his team of Jr. High leaders will enter the Fifth-Sixth Grade Class on Sunday morning and welcome the graduates into Jr. High. They will then continue to attend the Jr. High group throughout the summer, including the mid-week activities Joe has planned for them. Our sixth graders in the 10:45am Jr. Church Class will graduate, as well, and will be welcomed into the 9am Jr. High group. Parents will need to bring their sixth graders to the 9am hour on June 5 for Graduation Sunday.



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VBS

This year's VBS is *SonSurf Beach Bash* from Gospel Light. Grab your gear and let's go!!!

May 1 – July 3

Volunteer staff registration continues on Sunday mornings (except Easter and Memorial Day)

May 15 – 29

Registration for Valley families and families who are currently without a church home Sunday mornings – May 15, 22, 29, after services in front of the Worship Center.

June 1

Open registration to the community begins at 8am in the Campus Center. Last year, all of our classes were full within two hours. Get there plenty early!

July 11-15

VBS week – 9am to noon, Mon-Fri.

July 15

Closing program on Friday, 7-8:30pm.

CYIA

Christian Youth In Action (CYIA) is a summer program for youth ages 13 and up who love the Lord and enjoy working with children! As a summer missionary, you would be trained here at Valley Church for one week during the month of June, followed by 3-5 weeks of ministry within the local community, conducting 5 Day Bible Clubs in neighborhoods and parks. Register by May 28 and save \$10. Cost is \$100 plus 5-day kit. Call 650-941-9536 for application/information. Application deadline is June 1.

June 11,13-17

Summer Tennis Camps

Jun 27-July 1

Mark your calendars for this summer's Tennis Camps for ages 7 years and older. Registration forms will be available on May 25 in the main office. Evangelistic tennis clinics every Wednesday 5:30 - 7pm and Saturday 1-3pm. Bring your non-Christian friends

Lost & Found

This is just a reminder that all lost and found clothing items are stored in green tubs in room 3191. If your child has left an article of clothing at church, there is a good chance you will find it in these tubs. However, we regularly donate all the contents found in the tubs that are unclaimed after three months to City Team Ministries. Check in the main office for smaller items such as watches, etc.,