

THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OF
BRENHAM'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



Dear Potential Leader/Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in serving the children of our church and community. This is a great area in which to serve God. You can have the opportunity to impact a child's life, possibly for eternity. Because you can have such an awesome impact, we (the leadership of this ministry) feel that it is necessary to be careful about whom we choose and allow to work with the children. To teach children carries a heavy responsibility. God is quite specific about the judgement that befalls persons who mislead one of His little ones (Matt. 18:6).

Therefore, we have designed an application necessary for each person who is interested in serving within this ministry. Please continue to pray about serving in this ministry. We welcome all those that are led by God to serve. However, for your benefit and the children's, we would not wish that any that God has not called into this ministry to participate. If you still feel God is directing you to serve within the children's ministry, please read the qualifications and pre-requisites necessary to serve, and complete the attached application. Then, you can give it to either Alex Morrison or the church office.

I look forward to receiving your application. If you would like to speak with me further about the details of the children's ministry, you can call me at the church office (979-836-2807), or E-mail me at amorrison@fbc-brenham.org. You can even come in and visit with me in my office M-Th. My office is across the hall from the Youth Ministry office.

In His Service,

Alex Morrison
Minister to Children
Brenham's First Baptist Church
I Timothy 2:5-7

The Children's Ministry
of Brenham's FBC
Volunteer Handbook

What Children Need From Caring Adults

Our vision to develop fully devoted followers of Christ, happens one child at a time. The most effective way to influence children is through meaningful relationships. Our goal is develop leaders who minister to children.

Children Need Adults Who Will:

- Love God and live for Him
- Be interested in their lives
- Take initiative to spend time with them
- Pray for them
- Be real
- Say encouraging words
- Believe in them
- Laugh
- Go to their world
- Remember their names and care for them
- Share God's love through personal experience
- Be consistent to the programs
- Be patient
- Enjoy life

How To Be Involved In Children's Lives

It is important for you to know what we ask from you as our leadership team.

- 1) Understand the Purpose and Planned Values of our Children's Ministry.
- 2) Commit to a Program
- 3) Commit to Grow as a Minister

1) Understanding the Purpose and Planned Values:

- Our Mission Statement:

The Children's Ministry of Brenham's FBC exists to raise up children who are excited about Jesus and will share His love and story to people of all ages.

- Planned Values:

We use descriptive words that reflect our leadership values and influence our overall purpose. We try to incorporate these key elements into all of the programs and our personal lives. It is all built on RELATIONSHIPS!

Relational Approach
Encouragement
Laughter & Celebration
Acceptance
Transparency
Involve ment of Students
Outreach Oriented
Numerical Growth
Spiritual Growth
Home-like
Intimacy
Professionalism
Strategic Follow-Up

2) Commit To A Program:

- Sunday Morning Bible Study: 8:25 & 9:45 classes which are interactive and energetic. The curriculum provided presents various tools with which to lead children through the Bible and teach them how to apply God's truths in their own lives.

Positions:

Teachers: Adults who will greet children, lead them in discussions, learn children's names, talk to children, and encourage children to get involved. The key is to utilize time before we begin and immediately following the bible study time. As mentioned before, outside time contacting is equally important.

Teaching Assistants: Adults or Youth who will help the teacher in teaching the lesson, and directing the children to the lesson that is being taught.

Assistants likewise learn children's names, talk to children, and encourage children to get involved.

- W.O.W. – **Worship On Wednesday** is a high energy, interactive time of fun and Bible study on Wednesday nights. Beginning February 9, 2005 W.O.W. will become G-Force – Experience God Full Blast. This still a high energy, interactive Bible study, but it will change the format of Wednesday nights and hopefully bring in a fresh breath of air that will excite and challenge our children to “experience God full blast.”

Positions:

Host: The host is an energetic leader who leads the G-Force experience. They would need to be able to speak God's truths before a large group of children, sing and lead children into worship.

Co-Host: The co-host usually brings fun and excitement to the G-Force experience. They would need to be able to be silly with and in front of a large group of children. The co-host often provides the comic relief while presenting the questions to be answered by the night's Bible study.

Power Cell Captains: The power cell captains interact with the children on a more personal level. They teach the applications of the Bible study. They show the children how to put feet to their faith. They must be comfortable leading a small group of children and working with ministry tools to apply biblical truths.

Registration Greeters: The persons who register the children are the first persons to see the children each week. It is important that they greet the children with a smile and make them feel welcome from the very moment that they walk through the door. These persons need only to love children and to be able to greet them personally.

Memory Verse Partner: This person will welcome children who are prepared to recite the memory verse from the previous week. This person must know the verse themselves, because the children need to learn from example how important it is to memorize scripture. Once the children have recited the verse, they will receive a reward of KidzCash.

Recreation Director: The recreation director is responsible for setting up the games for each week. This involves gathering the materials necessary for

each game, configuring the games before G-Force begins and leading the children to play the games. This person should be highly energetic and able to lead a large group of children.

Recreation Assistants: The recreation assistants should be full of energy because they are responsible for assisting the recreation director in conducting the games. They would also help the recreation director in game set-up prior to the G-Force start time.

Store Attendants: Once a month, the children have the opportunity to spend their KidzCash at the KidzCash Store. The store attendants would come early on the last Wednesday of each month to set-up and organize the KidzCash Store. Then during the opening time of G-Force, they would tend to the children that wish to come and make purchases. A great smile goes a long way in this position.

Set Crew: Once every six weeks G-Force goes into a different unit. With each unit, the stage will experience a makeover. In order to really draw the children into the lesson, the on-stage set is pretty elaborate. The set crew should be creative, inventive and artistic to a point. Some construction may be required and it would be great if someone on the set crew were skilled in minor carpentry.

Food Crew: Food will be served each week. Persons will be needed to prepare and serve this food. It is nothing elaborate, but it will be a good time of fellowship for the leaders with the children and the children with their peers.

AV Tech: The lighting, video and sound are a crucial part of the G-Force experience. The AV tech should be talented in working with this type of equipment or at least eager to learn. The tech should be familiar with the operation of a VCR, DVD player, CD player, PowerPoint presentations on a laptop computer, mixer (soundboard), light bars and projector.

- **Divorce Care 4 Kids –** Divorce Care 4 Kids is a program for children 5-12 years who are part of families who have been affected by divorce. This 13 week course runs in conjunction with Divorce Care which is the adult version. The classes are offered once in the late winter – spring and once in the late summer – fall. According to the curriculum, preferably, the course is led by a married couple who have not experienced divorce as an adult, but that is not a requirement. The most important requirements are that the persons leading the course love Jesus, love children and have a passion for helping children affected by divorce.
- **Children's Committee –** A group of six individuals that assist the Children's Minister with some of the larger ministry projects within the children's ministry (ex. Fall Festival, Camp Fundraisers, etc...). The committee members accept requests and recommendations to select candidates for this committee and those chosen are presented to the nominating committee who then presents the persons for approval to the church at business meetings.
- **Seasonal Ministry Leader –** There are positions available that only require a commitment for a season (Ex. VBS worker, Camp Sponsor, etc . . .). These persons need to have a great love for Jesus and for children.

What Am I Committing To?

- Consistent attendance at a program (We ask that you arrive at least 15 minutes early and stay at least 15 minutes late. These extra minutes become key relational times with the students.)
- Relational ministry with children during the week (one-half hour additional time for follow up with children through notes, phone calls, meetings, etc...)
- Attendance at a monthly leadership meeting (third Sunday of the month)
- Growing as a minister (Leaders Are Learners)

We want each of you to become independent ministers working towards the same goal.
Keys to keep in mind as you minister.

- 1) Time: Be patient, getting to know children takes time.
- 2) Participation: Going to extra events will intensify and solidify relationships.
- 3) Initiative: The more you invest, the more you will get out of it.

Application Process

- 1) Express Interest- If you have an interest or feel God is leading you to get involved in the Children's Ministry, let us know and we help find a place for you to serve.
- 2) Initial Contact- You will be contacted in some way by a Children's Ministry leader or the Children's Minister.
- 3) Receive Application Packet- This will be handed to you or sent in the mail for you to read through and fill out.
- 4) Observe Programs- We want you to see what we do first hand. See program options.
- 5) Complete Application Packet- This packet was designed for a screening process to insure we have quality leadership and you are well informed.
- 6) Interview With Children's Minister- After receiving your packet, we will sit down and meet to talk about your spiritual health We will also discuss your spiritual gifting and where you would like to be involved..
- 7) Prayerfully Consider Your Commitment- We want you to spend some time praying for God's direction in the commitment.
- 8) Return the Signed Commitment Sheet- After you are ready fill this out and turn it in.
- 9) Begin Ministry- The date that you begin will be set according to the position you choose and the program's timing.
- 10) Evaluation Meeting- At the one-month mark, we will meet to discuss how things are going. We will make necessary adjustments to help the process along.

What You Can Expect From Our Children's Ministry

- Structure & Leadership
- Training & Learning Opportunities
- Letters Of Support And Direction (e-mails)
- Encouraging Words
- Prayer & Accountability
- Challenge To Develop Your Ministry

At This Point You Have to Be Thinking, Wow This Is A Lot Of Stuff. Realize, that we want the transition for you to be as smooth as possible. Please fill out the application and send out the references. Remember, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The Children's Ministry of Brenham's FBC Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team Application

- General Information-

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Date Of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ E-mail: _____

Occupation: _____ Phone: _____

Work Status: Part Time / Full Time / Student

Marital Status: Single / Married / Divorced

Education:

High School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

College/Trade School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Degree: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Other Education: _____ Year Graduated: _____

- Personal & Spiritual History-

Write Out A Brief Testimony Include Dates If Possible:

Write Out Other Significant Commitments Made To God:

Describe Three Ways You Have Grown In Your Spiritual Journey Since You Became A Christian:

How Would You Describe Your Spiritual Journey Now?:

Do You Have Any Accountability In Your Spiritual Journey?:

What Do You Do When You Have Conflict With Someone? How Do You Handle Confrontation?

List Any Special Issues Or Concerns Happening In Your Life Right Now That Would Impact Your Commitment To This Leadership Team:

In Caring For Children We Believe It Is Our Responsibility To Seek Adult Leadership That Is Able To Provide Safe, Healthy, And Nurturing Relationships. Please Answer The Following Accordingly.

Have You Ever Gone Through Treatment For Alcohol Or Drug Abuse? Yes / No

If Yes, Please Describe...

What Is Your View On Drinking Alcohol?

Have You Ever Become Accused Of Or Convicted Of Any Form Of Child Abuse?

If Yes, Please Describe...

Have You Ever Been A Victim Of Any Form Of Child Abuse?
If Yes, Would You Like To Talk With A Counselor Or Pastor?

- Involvement-

How Long Have You Attended Brenham's First Baptist Church?: _____

Are You A Member?: Yes No

List All Involvement You Have Had Previously In Ministry At BFBC:

Any Other Involvement At Other Churches Or Ministries:

Any Visions For The Ministry You Would Like To Be involved In?:

Why Do You Want To Be A Part Of The Children's Ministry?

All Of The Above Information Is Correct To The Best Of My Ability. BFBC May Contact My References and government agencies as necessary to verify my suitability as a children's worker. I Understand That This Information Will Be Held Confidential By The Church Staff.

Signature

Today's Date

The Children's Ministry of Brenham's FBC

Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team Application Reference Form

_____ Is Applying To Be A Part Of Our Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team at BFBC and has given your name as a personal reference.

We Feel That As A Leader, It Is Very Important That These Adults Are Consistent In Their Spiritual Walk With God. Please Complete The Form Below And Use The Attached Envelope To Return Your Personal Evaluation Of This Person's Character And Integrity. This Reference Will Remain Confidential.

1. Describe Your Relationship With This Person:
2. How Long Have You Known This Person?
 - *Give A Brief Description Of The Following:*
3. Emotional Maturity
4. Resolving Conflict
5. Following Through With Commitments
6. Ability To Relate With Children
7. Spiritual Maturity
8. Greatest Strengths
9. Any Concerns About This Person Being In A Leadership Position

Thank You For Taking Time To Fill This Out. If You Have Any Questions Regarding This Reference, Please Contact Alex Morrison, Minister to Children.

Your Name

Date

Phone

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Thank You For Taking Time To Fill This Out. If You Have Any Questions Regarding This Reference, Please Contact Alex Morrison, Minister to Children.

Your Name

Date

Phone

Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team Commitments

After Praying And filling Out The Application To Be A Part Of The Leadership Team, I Have Decided To Be A Part Of The Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team And Choose To Make The Following Commitments:

- I acknowledge the lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and have a personal relationship with Him.
- I will do my best to grow and mature in my relationship with God through personal Bible study, consistent weekly attendance at church, and involvement in accountable relationships.
- I am committed to choices and a lifestyle that are both Godly and above reproach knowing that my lifestyle is a model for other children.
- I am committed to the Children's Ministry Leadership Team for the next year.
- I will make every effort to be at all the meetings necessary to be a part of the Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team. (3rd Sunday Night Leadership Meetings)
- I will commit to attempt to find at least one other adult to be a part of the Children's Ministry Adult Leadership Team.
- I will commit to learn and help carry out the purposes of our Children's Ministry and reach out and care for children that God brings in to our Children's Ministry.
- I commit to be consistent and on time to the ministry I commit myself to. (15 Minutes Early)
- I commit to the following ministry for the next year:
 - Sunday Bible Study: Teacher/Teacher's Assistant
 - G-Force: _____ (Please fill in Position)
 - Divorce Care 4 Kids
 - Children's Committee
 - Seasonal Ministry Leader

Signature

Date