

Gospel Tabernacle

Nursery Guidelines

MISSION STATEMENT

The nursery ministry is an active and growing part of our church. It should not be taken lightly. It is a ministry, not a baby-sitting service. Always remember to maintain a spirit of peace in the nursery. Know that when you are caring for a child in the nursery, you are allowing the parents to enjoy the service in a calm and undistracted attitude. You are being a blessing to all.

BEFORE CHURCH TIME

- Be sure you are at least 15 minutes early for the services you are scheduled to minister. If you are not here by 10 minutes before service, then another volunteer will be needed to fill your spot.
- You should wear your name badge for all services.
- Become familiar with nursery policies. The nursery age limit is 0 - 2 years of age. The preschool age limit is 3-K5. Children within this age group should be in their proper rooms. Older children should be in Children's Church or the adult service, not in the nursery or preschool rooms. Enforce these rules without exceptions.
- When a new child arrives, ask the parent to fill out the *Nursery Care Information Sheet* before leaving the child.

DURING CHURCH TIME

- Love each child; smile and be cheerful when you greet the mothers and fathers. Encourage all mothers or fathers lingering, to leave and go enjoy the service.
- Teach about Jesus. Show pictures and read stories as you can.
- Rock, play with, sing to, or play music to babies. There are lullaby and children CD's in the stereo for you to play to the babies.
- Keep the infants clean at all times. Change soiled clothes at once if possible. Also, do your best to keep the nursery clean at all times.
- Always double bag diapers.
- Feed babies when needed or as requested by parents.
- If you are also caring for your own child, do not sit and hold your own baby, minister to all alike.

AFTER CHURCH TIME

- Lightly clean and store all toys before leaving the nursery room.
- Place all soiled pampers in trash bag and remove and place in main trashcan.
- Change all crib sheets that have been used after babies have been picked up. Put the soiled sheets in the basket to be washed at church. Do not take them home with you.

SECURITY AND DISCIPLINE

- Never leave children unattended.
- Don't allow fighting or biting. Keep order.
- Keep children as quiet as possible. Loud noises can be heard in the main service.

Special Note: If you are going to be absent on your day for nursery ministry, please try and give at least 3 days notice to the nursery's coordinator or the church office.