

**Morals**-Knowing what is right or wrong

**Obedience**-Doing what I am asked to do, when I am asked to do it

**Prayer**-Talking to God and listening to Him

**Repent**-Deciding that I am sad for what I did and I won't do what is wrong anymore

**Righteous**-When things are right between me and God

**Sanctification**-Growing more and more like Jesus

**Saved/Salvation**-Trusting Jesus to live with me now, keep me from being punished for doing wrong, and live with me forever in heaven

**Savior**-Someone who keeps me from danger

**Sin**-Anything I think or do that does not please God

**Spirit**-A living being I can't see

**Will**-My chooser

While many of these definitions may seem *simplistic* or *incomplete*, they do serve the purpose of helping children understand these terms and concepts at the level they are able to comprehend now. As they grow, their understanding will grow.

How did *you* learn the meaning of most of the words you know? You didn't look them all up in a dictionary. Instead, you heard others using them and by the context of the words you figured out their meaning.

That's what we do in our children's ministry as we teach children with an ever-growing ability to understand.

It is important that children hear you talk about God and biblical truth at home so they can learn. Being a Christian is more than knowing and believing a specific set of doctrines. It's a living, daily relationship with God. Help your children experience God as they watch you experiencing God day by day.

Definitions adopted by Hunt, J. (2008). *Biblical Counseling Keys on Child Evangelism: Sharing the Savior with a Child*. Dallas, TX: Hope For The Heart.

## Lots of great things planned in October for your kids and your family

Now that school is back in session and routines have settled in a bit, we've planned three great activities you will want to consider:

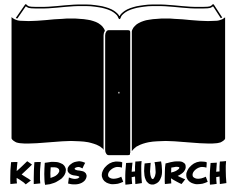
**B.L.A.S.T.**-It stands for "Building Lives Around Scriptural Truth," and it's our mid-week club for kids in grades 1-6. It begins at 6:30pm as the Straight Street Singers (our kids choir) rehearses. Having done this for many years, we can't emphasize enough how much of an impact this ministry can have on your child. We will present two musicals during the year that will embed biblical truth in your child's mind and provide memories that will literally last a lifetime. Trust us on this one. Then at 7pm kids are given 15 minutes to "hang out" with friends, play games, purchase snacks from the Snack Shop (everything from candy to granola bars, chips to soft drinks, fruit juices to...well you get the idea). All items are fifty or sixty cents. Then at 7:15pm there's a big, run rally with singing, a fun competition, and a focused Bible lesson taught by Pastor Herb. From 7:45 until 8:30pm kids are involved in elective activity. Kids in grades 4-6 must choose the elective they will enjoy for the month, while first through third graders don't exactly "elect" an elective, but rotate through all of them planned for their grades, one each week. Everything ends promptly at 8:30pm. **You must pre-register** on our website at [straightstreet.net](http://straightstreet.net).

**Around the World in 90 Minutes** is our annual family activity to kick off Missions Conference Week. You and your kids will gather in the gym at 5pm for a free dinner before rotating through various rooms set up by our missionaries. You and your kids will experience hands-on the ministries and nations of our missionaries. At the end of the evening we re-gather for ice cream and kids will receive a tee shirt with the theme verse of the Missions Conference. Please don't miss this great evening.

**Fall Fun Festival** is a safe (and lots more fun) Halloween alternative. There is costume judging for kids (and parents), lots of games, candy, and junky little prizes kids love, you can buy hot dogs, drinks, and chips, and older children will enjoy Laser Tag. Plus, there's a short evangelistic fill to explain the Gospel in a fun way to visitors. It's Sunday night, October 31, from 6-8pm. And yes, volunteers are needed from 5:30-8:30pm that evening. Email Herb Owen at [herbowen@straightstreet.net](mailto:herbowen@straightstreet.net) if you can help. You'll receive quick training, lead your activity, and stay 30 minutes for "clean-up and put-away". We can't wait for this one!

## This week in Kids Church

Last week we talked about Kids Church for grades 3-6. Herb is leading the kids on a 12-week tour of the Bible. Last Sunday we learned chapters 1-11 of Genesis (Creation, Flood, Sin, Tower) and this week we met Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. See if your son or daughter can quote to you the four phrases we memorized together to remind us of why these guys were important, both to the Jews and to us.



### Has your child expressed readiness to be baptized?

The Bible teaches that baptism is for those who have trusted Christ as Savior and are ready to make a public declaration of their faith in Christ.

Parents of children who wish to be baptized should make an appointment for your child to meet with Pastor Herb Owen to discuss their interest. He will meet with them (parents are welcome to join in the meeting), hear their story of faith in Christ, and help them decide if they are ready to take this important step.

The next children's baptism is in the 9:15am service on Sunday, November 14. Call Herb at 703.254.8305 if your child is ready to take this important step in following Christ.

### Parent-Child Dedication

The next one is Sunday, October 31 during the morning services. If you want to participate, you should sign up for the Principles for Parents Seminar scheduled for Sunday, October 10 from 2-5:30pm (register online at [straightstreet.net](http://straightstreet.net)) and call Pastor Herb Owen Right away (no later than Wednesday, October 15) to set up a 15-minute appointment to meet before October 31.



### Preschool and Elementary Teaching Opportunities

We have two openings to teach children in our ministry. One to teach younger elementary children will open up in December at the 9:15am service, and the other to teach 4s and 5s is open now to teach at the 11am service. Both classes have the necessary support staff in place. This is a great opportunity to help develop "the generation to come" with weekly interaction, mentoring, and Bible teaching. We are grateful for our excellent staff of children's workers and teachers who give their time to love and teach your children. Should you be one of them? Call Pastor Herb Owen if you would like to know more.

## Does your child understand the big "church" words?

Children are literalists and often have difficulty understanding the religious terms used in the church. The following explanations are offered as less confusing alternatives.

**Arose**-Came back to life

**Christians**-People who have trusted in Jesus to be their personal Lord and Savior, who want to please Him and have received His life

**Church**-A group of people who have believed in Jesus as their Lord and Savior (This is not a building of sticks and stones.)

**Death, physical**-When the real you—your spirit—leaves your body

**Death, eternal**-When a person is separated from God forever in a place of darkness and punishment

**Emotions**-My feelings

**Faith**-Believing God will do what He says He will do

**Forgive**-Not staying angry at someone for doing something wrong; treating them like they never did it

**Gospel**-The good news that Jesus died for me—He was buried and He came to life again

**Guilt**-Feeling bad for doing some-thing I know is wrong

**Heart**-The part of me that decides what I really want to do

**Heaven**-A forever-home with the Lord Jesus where there will always be joy and happiness

**Holy**-Set apart to be what God designed me to be

**Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit)**-The Spirit of God, who comes to live inside every true Christian

**Lord**-The one to whom I am responsible because He has power over me

**Mind**-My thinker

*-Continued on back page*