

## MEET THE UNOFFENDABLES



### VISION AND GOALS

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not turn from it."

Proverbs 22:6 NIV

Rock City Church Children's Department, "Unoffendables," is committed to joining with parents, teachers, and classroom assistants to train up an ARMY of youth who advance the Kingdom of God:

A= Anointed R= Righteous M= Mighty Y= Youth

We believe in ministering to children from birth to age eleven. Upon turning 12, our children graduate from Children's Ministry. These graduates complete First Principles Classes and become grafted into serving in the various Ministries of Rock City Church. As you look around our church, you'll see youth serving on the Performing Arts Team, Drama Team, Video Team, Pastoral Care Team, and Children's Team.

Did you know that a child's personality and character is often shaped by age three? During the course of a year, the Children's Department has the ability to impact the development of children for the Kingdom of God at least 104 times or roughly 30% of the 365 days in a year.

We believe that our efforts to impart the Kingdom of God into another generation will preserve a generation of children who will grow up to love the Lord with all of their heart, soul, and mind and impact their culture for Christ. We believe that God still uses and speaks to children. God shows us the importance of children and highly esteems them in His Word (Matthew 18:3).

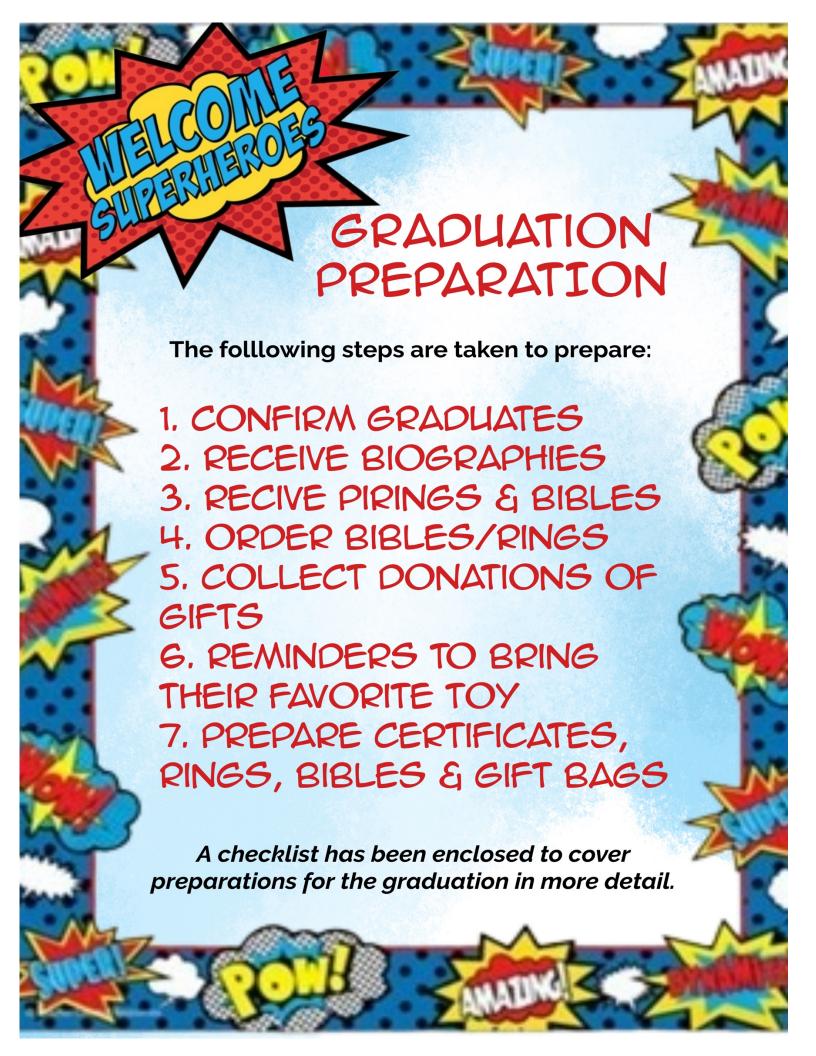
Children will pray, worship, make crafts, perform skits, listen to Bible stories, and watch live performances. We believe that our children should receive opportunities to put into practice what they are learning in class: winning souls, worshiping, praying in the spirit, laying hands on the sick, giving to others, and leading. Our children visit local nursing homes and minister at special events such as block parties and other special occasions throughout the year.

Above all, we believe children can experience God's presence and can come to know Him in a personal way. It is our prayer that you and your children will hunger after God and experience His presence.

### GRADUATION OVERVIEW

The Rock City Church "Unoffendables" Children's Ministry hosts graduations in the spring and fall for children who have turned 12 yrs. old. The graduation is specifically geared to honor children who have regularly attended RCC Unoffendables Children's Ministry. This special ceremony is held on a Sunday morning during service. The graduates submit biographies that describe their talents, interests, what they'd like to do later in life, and how they would like to serve in ministry at Rock City Church upon their First Principles graduation and baptism. The graduates hand over a beloved childhood toy in exchange for a graduation certificate and a bookbag filled with special items, such as: a personalized Bible, personalized ring, gift cards, and other exciting items that would be of interest to a young teen. Our children are called to be "Kings" and "Priests." The Bible (sword) represents being a king; whereas, the ring represents being a priest in covenant with the church.





### UNOFFENDABLES GRADUATION EVENT CHECKLIST

\*This document outlines responsibilities and assignments for preparing for the graduation ceremony. You'll want to allow 6-8 weeks to prepare for the ceremony.

#### I. Logistics

 ⊠ Review Children's Rosters for Candidates Debbie/Julie Debbie

Melai Bartley

Nyla Langford

o Ethan Vanja

Debbie □ Tell Graduates About Bringing a Toy Debbie

Debbie Julie Julie

Angela 

Daniel Epps □ Reminder Calls to Graduates Debbie

 ⊠ General Graduation Gifts Children's Min

\$25 Amazon Card

o 5 Below Gift Card

Bible (Sword: Representing Being a King)

Chick-fil-A Gift Certificate

Cold Stone Creamery Gift Card

Compassion Commission Certificate

Journal for Notes

RCC Bookstore Gift Certificate

Ring (Representing Covenant: Priests unto God)

Rita's Italian Ice Gift Card

Subway Gift Card

Walmart Gift Card

Special Interest Gifts for Graduates

Melai- Art Supplies

■ Ethan- Computer Supplies

Nyla- Firefighter Gear/CPR Training

#### **Graduation Agenda**

- Introduce Graduates
- Read Graduate Biographies
- Exchange Toys for Gift
- Present Certificates & Take Photos
- Prayer for Graduates & Honor Bishop



# CEREMONY DETAILS



Graduates stand
before the
congregation.
Children are
introduced one at a
time by having their
photos shown on the
screen and
biographies read.

their favorite
childhood toy as a
sign on maturing
and stepping into
what God has called
them to in ministry.





After surrendering the toy, graduates receive a personalized ring, certificate, and gift bag that includes a Bible and various gifts centered around their likes & interests.



# CERTIFICATES & RINGS

The framed
certificate
congratulates the
graduate on
completing
Children's Ministry
at RCC. The
certificate is signed
by Bishop and the
Children's Director



A graduate with his ring, certificate, and gift





Personalized rings are given to the graduate, symbolizing how they are in covenant with the church. The ring serves as a reminder that they are "priests" and under covering of the Body of Christ!



# HONOR & THANKSGIVING

Each graduate is presented to the congregation and a photo is taken with the graduate and Bishop! Bishop has the congregation stretch out their hands towards the graduates and he leads a prayer of covering. The graduates honor and thank Bishop for training and equipping them during their childhood by presenting him with a card and gift. The congregation comes down towards the graduates to high-five, hug, and congratulate them!



