## The Testimony Church (TTC) Expectations for Children During Service

- 1. You are not allowed to be excused from the table unless your parents give you permission. No wandering around during the service.
- 2. No running in the hallways.
- 3. Your parents must give you permission to go to the children's room.
- 4. You are not allowed to leave the children's room unless your parents are with you (this includes using the bathroom).
- 5. You are to obey the one who oversees the children's room.

## Guidance to The Testimony Church for Use of the Children's Room

- 1. The children's room is for children ages 0-3 during the sermon if the parents need it (they are welcome to stay in service should the parents deem it unnecessary for their children to take a break in the children's room).
- 2. All children will stay in the assembly during worship. Children that are 4 and older are encouraged to stay during the teaching, and prayer time.
- 3. During the prayer time, all ages of children are permitted to stay in the children room but are not allowed to leave unless their parent comes and gets them.
- 4. The members who are overseeing the Children's room are being a blessing to parents by helping them train their children. The goal is to train children to love being in the church among us. The children's room is a tool to help parents train their children. IT IS NOT a day care program.
- 5. The one who oversees the children's room will be a female, trusted member of TTC.
- 6. During the prayer time, the overseer can be "tagged" out to minister or be ministered to as the Holy Spirit leads us.
- 7. The room overseer will NEVER take a child not their own to the bathroom unless the child's parent gives them permission to.

## **Guidance to Parents During the Service**

- 1. Parents must actively teach their children to behave during service. They cannot allow their children to leave the tables whenever the child wants. This will take a lot of training, but the Testimony Church will love and support you in your efforts. Here are some suggestions:
  - a. Young children can be encouraged to sit still and listen with small snacks like cheerios.
  - b. When a child becomes disobedient or restless take them to the children's room for either discipline or a break. The sermons are recorded and you can catch what you missed later.
  - c. The church has coloring pages and quiet toys available for the children to play with at the tables.
  - d. Set your expectations for little ones to sit in service low. Start with trying to get them to sit and behave for 1 minute. Then incrementally add time to it. Be patient with them, and it will pay off.
- 2. If you win at home during the week, you will win outside the home during church. Consider the ABCs of Parenting:
  - a. Always Win
  - b. Be Gentle
  - c. Consistently be Consistent
- 3. We want your goal to be to train your children to love Jesus, the Church, and win the lost to Him.