



How We Do Childcare

Our small groups meet home-to-home (Acts 2:42) so childcare is done at or near the host home but not on the church campus. I KNOW this is hard for parents of young ones to grasp but encourage them to “give it a try”.

Arrange childcare in a separate room from where the adult discussion takes place, in order to maintain focus during the adult study without distraction. Please be firm on currently sick children, or those with a fever within the previous 24 hours, to not attend and cause other children to become ill.

If you need assistance in obtaining a childcare worker, you may contact the church for a list of pre-screened childcare workers.

Here are some suggestions to help you facilitate childcare in your small group:

- **Best Practice:** Have two group members sign up each week to do childcare.
- **Another option** is to have group members provide names of sitters they use.
- **The Contingency:** Have a “backup group member” signed up each week.
- **Alternate Venue:** Consider holding some group meetings at a local fast food restaurant with a children’s play-place, or at a park with a playground.
- **A final option** is to have folks get their own sitters at their own homes.

Also, be sure to have each child bring their own age appropriate toys, books, and videos with them. This eliminates the host home from having to try and gather age appropriate toys, etc... for a varied number of children. If each child takes care of their own activity needs, then all the children will get exactly what they need (and they can even learn to share with one another).

Note that with any of these options, you can also include your children in applicable portions of your small group meeting time such as worship, story telling, and prayer time. Each group handles their Childcare as they feel led to do so. There is no specific way to do this. Keep trying various approaches until you find the one that works best for your group.