

CHILDREN'S DISCIPLINE POLICY

Highland Park Baptist Church

We have wonderful children in our children's ministry and it is our desire that each of these children feel the love of Christ while attending our programs. In an effort to give our young people some control over their own behavior and at the same time give our teachers and leaders the opportunity to teach without disruptions, we have implemented the THREE STRIKES DISCIPLINE POLICY. The use of this policy insures that all children are disciplined according to the same standards and in the same manner. Further this policy allows Bro. Jeff to see a child's behavior during each of our programs, which can be helpful in determining if a child is having problems in only one area or at several different times.

The success of this plan depends very much on the cooperation of our parents and therefore we ask that you work closely with us when behavior problems do occur.

The plan will work as follows:

STRIKE ONE: Simply a verbal warning of sorts. The child will be sent to Bro. Jeff to discuss the classroom problem.

STRIKE TWO: Upon a second disruption the child will be sent to Bro. Jeff:

- At this point Bro. Jeff will discuss with the child his/her behavior
- The child will be told to talk to dad & mom about the problem.
- At Bro. Jeff's discretion the child may or may not be allowed to return to the classroom during that session.
- Bro. Jeff will notify the parents of his conversation with the child after the child has had time to tell the parents (usually at the next service).

We ask that no punishment be given at home after a strike two -- only that the parents discuss with the child how to improve the situation.

STRIKE THREE: Upon a third disruption, the child will be sent to Bro. Jeff.

- At that time Bro. Jeff will speak with the parents about the behavior and may request a conference with the parents and the child.
- Generally after a strike three we suggest that the child not be allowed to attend the next "fun trip" that is planned. Children will not be asked to miss any event with a spiritual emphasis. Any other punishment will be at the discretion of the parents.

Please know that it is our desire to love each child and to teach in such a way that discipline problems rarely occur. At times when problems do occur we are very grateful to you as parents for your cooperation and assistance.

ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE POLICY NOTATIONS:

1. Bro. Jeff will attempt to use great discretion each time that discipline issues occur; at times he may choose to step outside this plan when he feels that the situation warrants different actions.
2. When a child's parents DO NOT attend church with the child the following guidelines will apply:
 - The person who brings the child to church will be contacted in place of the parent.
 - If necessary Bro. Jeff will visit in the home of the child and discuss the behavior with the parents. When parents are un-churched every effort will be made to avoid discipline becoming an issue between the family and the church.