

6—Elijah Allen 4—Madeline Cerniglia 4—Mackenzie Portue 4—Easton Stoltzfus 10-Brooke McDougold 7—Madison Brown 8—Sophie Cameron 8—Madelyn Gardieff 16—Jacob Hernandez 12—Evan Bates 11—Jack Hagan 11—Ryleigh Levy 11—Savannah Symonds 18—Austin McNeal 12—Darby Looper 16—Bobby Tronu 19—Tripp Mozingo 20—Logan Goree 20—Sawyer Rodriguez 23—Justin Halsema 25—Raegan O'Neil 27—Carlos Garcia 27—Trace Perry 29—Jamie Halsema 29—Quinn Metcalf 30—Matthew Meredith 30—Brayden White



## Scripture of the Month (1st-5th grades)

For know the plans | have for you, plans for your well-being, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

October 1— H.A.B.I.T.S Month!!

November 21—No Wednesday Night Activities

December 9—Parent-Child Dedication, 9:15 & 11:00am

19—Children's Christmas Program, 7:00pm







Preschool & Children's Ministry Newsletter

ave done my daily Bible reading



#### October 2018



**Apollo Beach Campus** 

408 Apollo Beach Blvd. Apollo Beach, FL 33572 813-641-2222 bellshoals.com/apollobeach facebook.com/apollobeachcampus

> Children's Classes Babies-5th Grade

Sundays - 9:15 & 11:00 am Wednesdays - 6:30 -8:00 pm

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#### **OCTOBER**

### is "HABIT" forming!

We will be awarding you points for every "HABIT" you complete each week! At the end of the month, we will tally all of your HABITS points and the first Sunday in November you will get to use those points to go HABITS shopping for prizes just for you!

We will also have "Surprise" HABITS days to earn prizes throughout the year, so keep practicing those good HABITS!

## Why More Men Should Serve With Children



Kid duty can be a test of faith, especially for those who have never loved to babysit and would rather interact with adults. But as we ask the Lord to soften our heart in this area, we have an opportunity to experience some of the blessings that come from interacting with these precious little ones.

Perhaps men in particular struggle with serving with the kids. In Christian culture, especially interacting with children seems naturally to fall to women while men focus on teaching and preaching.

However, in his article for The Gospel Coalition, "Brothers, Serve in the Nursery," Samuel Emadi discusses what he learned from serving with kids on Sunday mornings and how serving these little ones can be a humbling experience that God uses to teach us about Him.

Emadi explains that he began sitting in on his son's Sunday School class, thinking he was just going to help his son adjust and then he would leave to be with the adults. However, things didn't quite go as planned, as they often don't when God is trying to teach us something.

"I entered the situation assuming I was simply helping my son make some adjustments in his life. It turns out God was helping me make some adjustments in mine."

Emadi goes on to explain that many men, especially those called to pastoral ministry, think that the best way for God to use them in the church is to allow them to preach, teach Sunday School, or to be involved in some more obvious, tangible aspect of ministry.

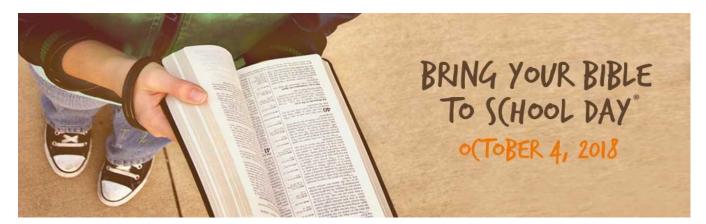
Of course, it is certain that teaching and preaching are essential parts of the church service and ministry, but men (and Christians in general) must be careful not to think of ministry as a hierarchy.

Emadi says we often tend to think of church ministry like a corporate office where we start in an entry-level position (a kids volunteer) and work up to a "better" position (a pastor, teacher).

This view, however, is contrary to the example Jesus set.

In fact, Emadi states, "Serving small children might just be *the* place to cultivate the very character qualities Christ demands of those who would lead his church."

One of the greatest examples we have of humble service is on the night before Jesus was crucified when he washed the feet of his disciples and said to them, "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you" (John 13:14).



October 4 is Bring Your Bible to School Day! On this day, thousands of students across the whole country share God's hope and celebrate religious freedom by doing something simple, yet powerful:

They bring their Bibles to school and talk about it with friends!

For more information, visit www.bringyourbible.org

# Volunteer Spotlight



Sarah Labancz—11:00 Nursery

Sarah Labancz—Sarah grew up in the Metro Detroit area and moved to Florida to work as a Kitchen Designer for a E-Commerce company. Married to husband Greg Labancz with her two children, Colton (2 1/2 years) and Tatum (3 Months) they as a family are excited to grow together in Christ. Greg also serves in our security ministry at the entrance to our children's classroom.

#### Justin & Allison Halsema - 11:00 2nd Grade

Justin was born and raised in Tampa, and Allison is from Toms River, NJ. They met in Charleston, SC and have been married for 15 years. Justin is an outside salesman for Electric Supply, Inc, and Allison is a Nurse Practitioner at Ideal Image. They have two children Caroline – 13, and Jamie – 7 and are so grateful to have found a church

home here at Bell Shoals. They were members of the church where Justin grew up attending in South Tampa, when their longtime pastor retired. They had been searching for a new church closer to home, when their daughter was invited to the Wednesday night youth program, and it was an answer to their prayers. Justin has been involved in Men's Bible Study and Life Group, while Allison has been serving as a substitute with the children's ministry on Sundays and a volunteer with VBS. Justin and Allison are now teaching the 11:00 second grade class. They are enjoying working together and watching the children's excitement to learn and grow in their faith.