

## Godly Play Curriculum

*Godly Play uses storytelling and wondering to encourage children to experience God in a developmentally appropriate, tangible, and accessible way.*

The Godly Play Philosophy acknowledges that children:

- face and wrestle with complex issues,
- already have a spiritual life that adults can help foster and learn from,
- and can express themselves spiritually and make meaning of their faith.

Play is important for children's learning because play is:

- fun,
- a developmental need,
- how children make sense of the world,
- and how they work through problems and process experiences.

Godly Play Environment and Fundamentals include:

- a welcoming atmosphere to come closer to the mystery of God's presence;
- choices that allow for a child's critical thinking to develop;
- consistent language;
- and an environment of trust and belonging that allows children to be themselves, encounter God, and form community.

## Basic Teaching Philosophy

We want children to:

- understand themselves as they relate to God,
- learn who God is and how He is actively working,
- learn about Jesus and how to be more like Him,
- and learn how to live for God in this world with the help of the Holy Spirit.

This happens through:

- experiencing God's Word through stories,
- spiritual conversations and wondering with the help of teachers and parents,
- and providing response time to process what children have learned.