

# Behavior Expectations for Elementary School Age Children

## Reasonable Expectations

- God will hear and answer our prayers for help in teaching and training the children
- God will use the class time with the children to support what the parents are teaching at home
- Children can keep from touching and teasing each other during class
- Children can keep quiet and listen while others speak
- Children can sit, stand, move appropriately (sit up in one place; stand in place; walk, not run, to where you want them to go)
- Children can raise hand for permission to speak
- Children can obey directions, cheerfully and in a timely manner
- Children can change their behavior when corrected
- Children can participate cheerfully
- Children can improve in behavior and obedience
- Children appreciate encouragement when you see even small improvements
- Children can learn the classroom rules and learn how to put them into practice

## Unreasonable Expectations

- You will not need to pray for God's wisdom and help with the children
- You can change a child's heart by correcting his behavior
- You will be able to handle all behavior issues without the parents' aid
- Teaching the children the classroom rules will necessarily bear the fruit of good behavior
- Children will not act foolishly or willfully
- Children are not sinners
- Children will never disobey
- Children will act the same every class time
- All children have equal ease or difficulty behaving as expected
- Children will not need reminders of expected behavior
- Children will know what behavior you expect of them without your clearly communicated expectations
- Telling the children expected behavior once will be all they need to hear it
- A verbal warning is always sufficient to correct behavior