

Released-time Bible Classes

“To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.”

—Theodore Roosevelt

PREP4KIDS is an investment in the future of our children.

PREP4KIDS is unique to other school activities in that it focuses on the student’s spiritual well-being. Each student that goes through the PREP4KIDS program learns positive attitudes, healthy behaviors, how to set good moral standards, and how to make wise choices.

In addition to the character-building benefits, the children who attend PREP4KIDS are given opportunities to grow and learn academically. Kids practice reading, memorization, public speaking, listening, comprehension, and musical skills as they actively participate in class each week.

In a purely academic sense, most of today’s kids who do not attend church will lack even a basic understanding of biblical references in history, literature, music and art. The Bible lessons offered in PREP4KIDS enrich a child’s entire educational experience.

For children who do not attend church or Sunday School, PREP4KIDS is a great place to start!

For those students who regularly attend church, PREP4KIDS is an opportunity for them to continue their Bible-learning during the week and to build supportive Christian friendships. PREP4KIDS teaches children that church isn’t about a building or a Sunday event. *We follow Christ with our lives every day and in every way.*

PREP4KIDS MISSION STATEMENT

Portland Released-time Education Program (PREP4Kids) exists to reach students for Christ in public schools by offering classes in the Bible within their daily school schedule.

PREP4KIDS VISION STATEMENT

- ◆ To provide informative and inspiring Bible classes for the building up and encouragement of students.
- ◆ To increase the number of students reached and empowered with the Good News and hope for the future.
- ◆ To achieve a high spiritual and social return on each dollar invested in building up students.

PREP4Kids is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in the state of Oregon in 1984, governed by a Board of Directors.

CONTACT PREP4KIDS

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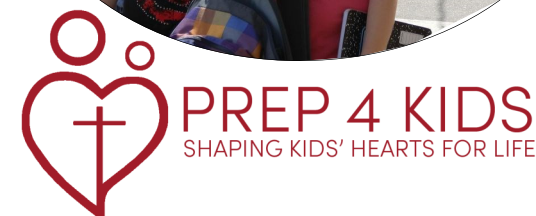
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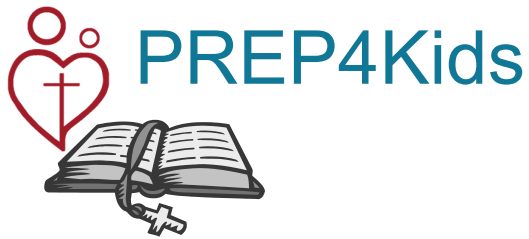
Website: www.prep4kids.org

[PREP4KIDS is not sponsored by any Public Schools in Multnomah, Washington, or Clackamas Counties.](#)

*Volunteer
with PREP4Kids*



*...change a child's life
for eternity.*



“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
His power and the wonders He has done.” Psalm 78:4

Portland Released-time Education Program

RELEASED-TIME EDUCATION

“Released-time” means that public school students can be “released” from school during school hours for religious training **off campus**. Classes are conducted in a nearby church or community building where students are either walked or driven by volunteers. Often, **PREP4KIDS** classes are staffed by members of the host church, which provides the congregation with ministry opportunities for the students and their families’ needs.

HOW PREP4KIDS IS POSSIBLE

Oregon has one of the most generous laws in the nation regarding released-time education.

Statute:ORS 339.420

“Upon application of the parent or guardian of the child, or, if the child has attained the age of majority, upon application of the child, a child attending the public school may be excused from school for periods not exceeding two hours in any week for elementary pupils and five hours in any week for secondary pupils to attend weekday schools giving instruction in religion.”

WHY WE TEACH PREP4KIDS

We believe the Bible should be a part of a child’s education. Children miss about one hour per week (of the approximately thirty hours that they are in school) to attend **PREP4KIDS** and receive education from the Bible as part of their curriculum. The students are **allowed by law** to make up any work missed at school. At the same time, **they are responsible** for completing the work missed while attending **PREP4KIDS**.

PREP4Kids has been bringing a teaching balance back into public schools for over 35 years. It takes a focused and coordinated effort of staff, volunteers, parents, schools, churches, and resources to build and sustain a system that can operate effectively.

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

- ◆ *PRAY* (monthly calendars available)
- ◆ *GIVE* financially
- ◆ *HELP* in a **PREP4Kids** class
- ◆ *TEACH* in a class
- ◆ *DRIVE* students to a class
- ◆ *SPREAD* the word to parents
- ◆ *MOBILIZE & INFORM* in your church (flyers & posters available)
- ◆ *JOIN* our call list for short term projects

For additional information visit

www.prep4kids.org



“Our task is not how to arrest
a decaying culture;
our task is to rebuild a culture.”
— Charles Colson, 1995

FACTS AND STATISTICS

- ◆ The National Council on Crime and Delinquency researched the academic impact of released-time classes in Oakland, CA. The 2003 report found that children in released-time classes did as well or better academically than their classmates who do not attend.
- ◆ Nearly 85% of Christians decided to follow Christ before the age of 14.
- ◆ History has shown that by the time a young person graduates from high school, most of his or her life patterns, basic values, and worldview decisions have already been made.
- ◆ At least 50% of **PREP4KIDS** students come from families who do not attend church.

