

## For Such a Time as This

Children are being told that there is no absolute truth, and that they can live their “own truth.” They are coping with the enormous pressure and confusion of constantly-changing values such as those of gender fluidity and critical race theory.

By contrast, the Bible teaches that truth exists, and that God wants us to be “in the know” so He gave us the Bible. Our classes provide a “respite” where kids can receive the peace and hope of knowing that God loves them and has purpose and direction for their lives.

*“a nurturing environment for personal growth,*

*a safe place to ask deep, challenging questions without fear,*

*the opportunity to pray, be prayed for, and receive God’s love.”*

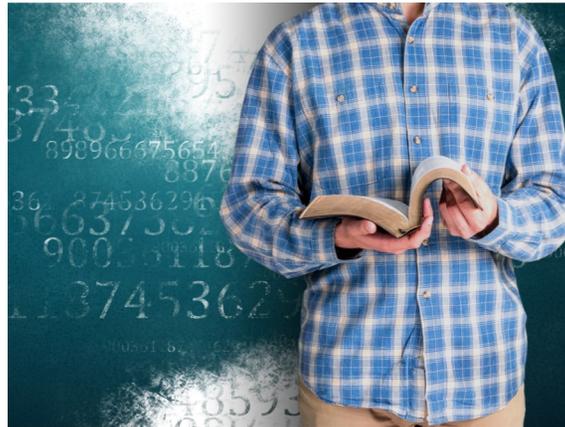
[Tales of Grace in a Time of Violence, 2001](#)

### NOTE:

Our program is reorganizing in an attempt to include the broader range of school formats (beyond public schools) in which families are now enrolled following Covid’s impacts on education:

Public charter schools  
Online academies and hybrid programs  
Homeschool

All are welcome!



### CONTACT PREP4KIDS

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

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**PREP4Kids operates in Multnomah,  
Washington, and Clackamas Counties and is  
not sponsored by any Public School.**

*Volunteer  
with PREP4Kids*

*Portland Released-time Education Program*



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

## What is Released-time?

Since 1931, public school students have had the right to be “released” during school hours for religious training off-campus. Because secular schools are limited in what they can teach, federal and state legislators believed that a counter-balance was needed as an option within the school day. Released-time is a legally protected option for families throughout the U.S. as established by the U.S. Supreme Court and state laws, such as Oregon’s *Parent’s Rights Law, ORS 339.420*.

## What are the Law’s guidelines?

**No federal money** involved  
**Parent permission** required  
Classes held **off-campus**  
Classes taught **during the school day**

## What is PREP4Kids?

**Portland Released-time Education Program** is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian program operating Bible classes in the greater-Portland area since 1984 for families wanting to access released-time religious instruction classes.

## Where are classes held?

PREP4Kids classes are conducted off-campus, usually at a church nearby the school.

## How do classes begin?

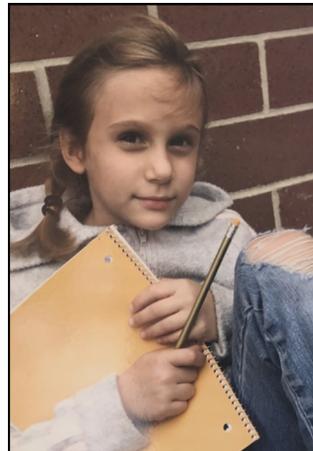
We are a grassroots organization that grows primarily by word of mouth. Our office works with parents who request classes and nearby churches to form, train, and oversee volunteer teams. Parents and students are encouraged to invite other families to enroll. **Generally, 50% of students enrolled are from un-churched families.** We are always grateful to share our ministry model with churches so they can inform potential volunteers and families or consider serving as a class site.

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

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* (mailed updates available)
- ◆ *GIVE* financially
- ◆ *HELP & MENTOR* in a class
- ◆ *TEACH* in a class
- ◆ *DRIVE* students to a class
- ◆ *SPREAD* the word to parents
- ◆ *JOIN* our call list for short term projects
- ◆ *MOBILIZE & INFORM* in your church  
(flyers & posters available)
- ◆ *SHARE* with your pastor the potential of hosting a class



## What happens in a typical class?

We teach an overview of Scripture in a continuous cycle taught through a variety of learning activities, songs, and games.\*

“We teach Bible accounts (not stories) with faith-strengthening apologetics built right in, the big picture of the Bible . . . from Genesis to Revelation. The history is true and so is the gospel of Jesus based in that history!”

*\*ABC curriculum by Answers In Genesis, the world’s largest Bible-defending ministry with offices in six countries*

## Why is PREP4Kids held during school and not after?

Released-time law requires meeting “during the school day” to ensure equal access for all interested families, none excluded due to afterschool bus transportation or athletics. Meeting during school also protects the law’s intent for instruction: classes, not clubs.

PREP’s classes meet **once-weekly** for **one hour** out of the 30 hour school week and are scheduled to not interrupt core subjects. If school assignments are missed, the law states that the work *can* and *needs to be* completed.

In 2003, the *YMCA, Dartmouth Medical School, & the Institute for American Values* supported a study conducted by the *National Council on Crime and Delinquency* which found that students attending released-time did as well or better academically than those who did not attend.