

## **Children's Message – The Church Council**

Items Needed: Ask Council Members to Stand Up

Scripture: Acts 15:8 And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us;

Do you know who makes the decisions about how to operate this Church? Well the secretary has the most power... But after the secretary? Some of you might think the Pastor makes all the decisions... Well I may have some influence, but in this Church the Pastor doesn't even get to vote on the issues. We have elected people from the congregation who get together almost every month to debate and discuss all the issues facing our congregation. If you are a member of our Church Council, please stand up so our young people can see who you are... These people give of their time and talents to make this Church run as smoothly as possible. During our monthly Council meetings, they can make what we call motions that state a problem or issue and call for a solution for how to fix that problem. Sometimes in the course of the debate or discussion different ideas come up and maybe even a better idea is found. After everyone has their chance to talk and give their opinion the president of our Council calls for a vote.

Most of the time this process works out very well. Do you know why? We are all held together by bonds that are much stronger than friendship or even stronger than our family ties. We are bound together by our faith and trust in Jesus and because of that trust we are able to follow his Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides us and leads us even when we're in meetings and debating things we don't all agree on. Since we are all followers of Jesus, we try to see what Jesus would want us to do and we all try to do just that.

Some day when you are old enough, I think the age is 18 years old, you can even be on Church Council and help us make the decisions that keep our Church on the right track. Then you can help us decide on important operational things like when to fix the parking lot and other big issues like how to best manage the great gifts of volunteers and money made available to our Church to use to help the poor and disadvantaged people of our Community. I hope you will ask your Parents or Grandparents to bring you to a Council meeting sometime so you can see how God works through people go get the jobs in the Church done.

Lets Pray... Dear God, we thank you for all the people who serve on our Church Council and for all those who have served in the past. We ask you to give them a special blessing for their willingness to put aside their own opinions and desires to follow where your Holy Spirit leads. Amen.