

In Jesus' Name • Matthew 18:20

Welcome to a new back-to-school event for kids, moms, dads, and the entire congregation. This Starter Kit has everything you need to begin.

What is a Backpack Blessing Event?

This event is a simple moment in the context of a worship service, Sunday school hour or other family event when the congregation encourages kids with the special promises of God as they prepare for a new school year.

How does it work?

Pick a date before school starts to hold your Backpack Blessing Event. The event itself takes about 10 minutes and is easy to include as part of your regular worship or Sunday school hour. Invite all school aged children and their parents to attend (early childhood, elementary, middle school and even high school students can participate).

The tools you need are included in this Starter Kit:

- Backpack Blessing Event Litany
- ► Backpack Blessing Children's Sermon
- ▶ 10 Backpack Tags to give to students during the event
- ▶ 10 Parent-Child Backpack Blessing Sheets (give one sheet to each family unit and encourage parents to use these cards throughout the year)

Plus, the included CD-Rom contains publicity tools to promote your event, including bulletin and newsletter blurbs, a powerpoint slide and sample social media posts.

You can also order more Backpack Tags and Parent-Child Backpack Blessing Sheets at creativecommunications.com or by calling 800-325-9414. Use order code **BPF19**.

A Backpack Blessing Event lets children know that they are going back-to-school surrounded by God's promises and the love of their parents and other caring adults.

God bless your event!



Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I ... Matthew 18:20

Publicity Blurb (for use in a congregational e-newsletter or bulletin)

- It's back-to-school time! This Sunday morning, there will be a special blessing of all schoolaged children and their parents as part of our regular worship service.
- Children in grades K-8 should bring along their school backpack for a special Backpack Blessing Event. During the service, children and parents will come forward for a special moment of prayer and blessing.
- Let's send our congregation's kids into the new school year assured of God's promises and our loving support! Be sure to join us and to include all of our young people in your prayers as they go back to school.

3 Sample Social Media Posts

- What was your favorite thing about going back-to-school as a kid? Join us this Sunday to
 celebrate and encourage all of our congregation's students as they launch a new school
 year.
- Back-to-school can be scary, fun, uncertain and happy for our kids. Let's send our kids into a new year encouraged by God's Word. Join us for a Backpack Blessing Event this Sunday morning.
- Moms and dads, please be sure your children bring their school backpack to church this Sunday. We will have a special time in the service to share a Backpack Blessing with them as the new school year begins.

