**An Over the Top Welcome!**

**(How to treat visitors)**

**1. A Personal Interaction**

- A 1st time rider should never sit by themselves on the bus.

- Give extra personal interaction… make them feel special for coming

- Every worker should greet them personally.

- Our actions towards first time guests speak one of two things:

1. We care about you and are glad you came.

2. Thanks for coming but it’s not that big of a deal.

- From the Runner… to the Driver… to the Secretary… to the worker who sits next to them on the ride to church, they ought to feel very special!

**2. A Clear Explanation**

- A 1st time rider should not feel lost when they come to church.

Illus. - “Can’t come back because they are afraid of getting lost.”

Illus - kids (little) are scared of new, unfamiliar things…. Remember your first day of school…

- Our job is to clearly explain to them what will happen that day (where to go, what will happen, where the bus will be when it’s time to leave).

- Use the “TTT” Method -

• Triplicate

• Teacher

• Time

- Every 1st time rider should receive a personal escort to class and be introduced to their teacher.

- Ask one of your faithful riders to be their “buddy” for the day.

- The more clear we make it for new riders, the more comfortable they will be at our church.

**3. A Return Invitation**

- One of the keys to keeping new riders is proper follow- up.

- Follow-Up:

• Starts when we drop them off at home on Sunday. (thanking… inviting back… thanking parents.)

- Every 1st time rider should be escorted to their front door.

- Parent’s should be met and thanked.

• Continues with a Saturday visit in the home.

- If not home, leave a hand written note on the flyer.

- Always assume that a first time rider will ride again the next week. (leave a flyer)

• Is Completed when the visitor either becomes a regular rider or a dead end contact.

Kids who come back to our church will not do so because of the fantastic Bible lessons, the killer songs, or even the awesome facilities…

Every child who comes to FBC will want to come back for one of two reasons:

1. Because they have fun! (KIDZ BLAST!)

2. Because they feel loved!