Dear Day One families,

Day One Christian Academy re-opened on Wednesday, March 18 to provide childcare for all families enrolled in the program during this unprecedented time. We have heard the need from many parents that do not have the ability to work from home especially our first responders, or those that are working from home, but struggling to do so while caring for their little ones in the same room.

Please know that your child(ren)'s health and safety is always a priority at Day One, and we are following CDC and Texas Health and Human Services guidelines throughout our campus. All Gloria Dei events and rentals have been cancelled or moved to a digital platform during this time, and all exterior doors are locked. In addition, we've added a screening process for all staff, teachers, parents and children before they are permitted to enter the building.

As you have most likely seen in the news, many businesses and individuals are feeling the financial impact in a variety of ways. This is also true for Gloria Dei and Day One Christian Academy. We are a non-profit, which means we do not have funds coming in from the state or government to pay our teachers that have dedicated their lives to loving and teaching your children. By re-opening the school, we not only relieve one stressor for you, but we also ensure our teachers are paid and retain their jobs.

For any parents that have been financially impacted during this time, we want to keep your child(ren) in our program and have a scholarship fund that was donated by a church member of Gloria Dei. She attended a Christian preschool as a child and had a teacher who made such an impact on her, that she credits the teacher and preschool for implementing the faith she now possesses in her Savior. That faith is a driving factor in all she does, and she wants to give the opportunity for God's love to be poured into all children by providing funds to assist with tuition for families in need.

- If you are in need of tuition assistance, please contact <u>Crystal Oliver</u> to fill out an application.
- If you have not been impacted financially, but would like to contribute to the scholarship fund and help families that have been furloughed or lost their jobs, please contact Crystal Oliver.
- If you know of a first responder that has lost their childcare due to closures, please let them know to contact Sarah Benson.

If you choose to withdraw your child(ren) from the program due to changes in circumstances, we are continuing to follow the Day One Christian Academy Parent Handbook, which states that any tuition or enrollment status changes require a two-week written notice (page 15). As difficult as it would be for us to

do, please know that your child(ren) would then be withdrawn from the program and placed in a waiting pool.

While we realize that this is a lot of information, we wanted to address questions that you may have regarding tuition during this time and answer them open and honestly with you. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call or send an email to Sarah Benson or Kathie Walker at sbenson@dayonechristianacademy.org or kwalker@dayonechristianacademy.org.

We recognize that the decisions you make for your children, including decisions for childcare, are not always easy ones. We consider it an honor and privilege to partner with your family and are here for you and your children. As these are unprecedented times for each of us, I pray that we can respond in a way that conveys a deep and abiding trust in Jesus as the one who made us a promise, "In this world you will have tribulation, but take heart, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). If you would like to learn more about that, our Senior Pastor shared a message this past Sunday entitled, "Faith Over Fear." Click here to watch it. Additionally, Gloria Dei is moving to a live stream worship service at 9 and 11am for the next two Sundays, and Pastor Dan is walking us through how we can "Navigate the Chaos" as he opens up Romans 8. Click here to learn more about those Sunday morning opportunities.

It remains a blessing and privilege to serve the families and children of Day One Christian Academy, and we pray that this pandemic crisis will end soon.

May the Lord bless and keep each of us in His care and grace.

Sarah Benson, Assistant Director Kathie Walker, Director

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