



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."  
--Joshua 1:9

**Emergency Preparedness** is an ongoing process that demands respect and requires attention in order to prepare us to respond in the event of an emergency.

The Emergency Preparedness Plan for Valley Christian Schools continues to be reviewed, revised, taught and tested. To date, we have placed in every classroom and office a "School Site Disaster Guide," placed a Bomb Threat Questionnaire under every phone, conducted in-depth "intruder on campus" training and drills, and have implemented and practiced regular fire and earthquake drills.

Classroom and office exits are clearly marked with evacuation routes and meeting locations. These tools have prepared us to respond, react and forced us to stay focused and alert. What a privilege it is to give so many people tools they will use for the rest of their lives.

We praise God for His continued hedge of protection over us and the provisions set forth that allow us to work toward the safety of His children.

Recently, there has been a lot of concern over the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). To learn more about this illness, click [here](#) and read Santa Clara County's informational postings pertaining to SARS.

## **Valley Christian Schools Emergency Preparedness Procedures Response to Parent Concerns**

Valley Christian Schools will follow emergency response guidelines provided by Homeland Security and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator monitors the websites of the American Red Cross, Homeland Security and the Santa Clara County Office of Education for up to date emergency preparedness recommendations.

The school has conducted successful evacuation drills for fire, earthquake and other emergencies. Our procedures include student and staff roll call to ensure everyone has successfully evacuated the building.

Our faculty, staff and students have received extensive training on how to react in the event of a hostile intruder on campus.

Personnel are trained to shut off air conditioners/HVAC if necessary in the event of a biohazard emergency and the main gas lines in the event of an earthquake. The school has emergency supplies including food and water for three days in the event of an emergency where evacuation is not an option.

If it is necessary to evacuate the school, students will be taken to an off campus location. The location will be made available on our website, <http://www.valleychristian.net> and in a recorded message on the school's main telephone lines. We will also provide information to local radio (1590 AM) and television (NBC 3) stations. Parents, guardians or authorized adults will need to show identification before a student will be released.

Parents will find information on preparing themselves and their families for emergencies by visiting the American Red Cross at <http://www.redcross.org>.

Every so often, there is a need to know more about certain health situations that arise in the community. Recently, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome has been identified as being a potential problem.

To find out more about SARS, [click here](#).

March 19, 2003