

e(5)

essentials for effective children's ministry

(1) e effectiveness gauge

Q. HOW DO YOU GAUGE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WORKER?

A. BY THE RESPONSE OF THE KIDS WHEN THEY SEE THAT WORKER THE NEXT TIME IN CHURCH.

ELABORATION

IF THE CHILD IS EXCITED WHEN THEY SEE THE CHILDREN'S WORKER THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THE CHILDREN'S WORKER IS DOING A GOOD JOB. IF THE CHILD AVOIDS THE CHILDREN'S WORKER, THERE IS LIKELY TO BE A PROBLEM WITH THE

CHILDREN'S WORKER. IT IS POSSIBLE FOR CHILDREN THAT NEED DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL AVOID THE WORKER, HOWEVER THIS WOULD BE THE EXCEPTION AND NOT THE RULE, RULER, OR MEASURING STICK FOR SUCCESS. THE RULER OR MEASURING STICK FOR AN EFFECTIVE CHILDREN'S WORKER HAS "MUCH" TO DO WITH HOW THE CHILD RESPONDS TO THEM BOTH IN THE CLASSROOM AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM IN AREAS SUCH AS THE HALLS, NARTHEX, FOYER, ETC. WATCH FOR IT

(2) **e**lements of top importance

THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IS SIMPLE:

- ★. HAVING FUN**
- Я. LEARNING ABOUT GOD**

ELABORATION

#1 & #2 IN THIS ORDER. IF THE CHILD IS HAVING FUN, THEY WILL WANT TO COME BACK TO CHURCH THE NEXT WEEK, THE WEEK AFTER, AND SO FORTH. IF THE CHILD LIKES COMING TO CHURCH, THEN LEARNING ABOUT GOD WILL HAPPEN, ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS REPETITIVE

LEARNING TAKING PLACE. THE MORE THE CHILD COMES BACK TO CHURCH, THE MORE OPPORTUNITY IS CREATED FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO WORK ON THE CHILD'S LIFE. IF THE CHILD IS HAVING FUN AT CHURCH, THEIR BARRIERS AND WALLS WILL BE LOWERED, THUS MAKING THEM ABSORBENT TO THE TEACHER, THEIR ANOINTING, AND THE THINGS OF GOD.

(3) **e**xcellence in all things

THIS IS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THINGS WITH THE SAME EXCELLENCE AS THE ADULT SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNING. WRONG. THIS IS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WE SHOULD HAVE THE SAME EXCELLENCE AS THE ADULT SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNING.

ELABORATION

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOT THE NEXT GENERATION OF THE CHURCH; THEY ARE THE **NOW GENERATION OF THE CHURCH. MAKE THEM A PRIORITY **NOW** AND YOU **WON**. THE BIBLE IS FULL OF CHILDREN WHO PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE SHIFTING A NATION, THE CHOROLOGICAL UNFOLDING OF THE BIBLE, AND THE EXECUTION**

OF MINISTRY. A FEW CHILDREN FOR EXAMPLE ARE THE BOY DAVID, THE BOY SAMUEL, THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE, THE LITTLE GIRL WHO CHALLENGED PETER, THE CHILDREN IN JESUS' ARMS, AND JESUS TELLING PETER TO FEED MY "LAMBS".

CHILDREN OR THE LAMBS HAVE A VOICE, LET THEM SPEAK AND LEARN THEIR CULTURE. DON'T SILENCE THE LAMBS. THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE SHOULD LET KIDS OR ANYONE FOR THAT MATTER (ESPECIALLY ADULT VOLUNTEERS) DO JOBS (ESPECIALLY UP FRONT AND STAGE JOBS) "JUST BECAUSE WE WANT TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY, THEY WANT IT, OR WE FEEL BAD". WE NEED TO PUT OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD AND CREATE OUTLETS FOR KIDS AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS TO GROW.

IF SOMEONE IS NOT TECHNICAL THEY SHOULD NOT BE WORKING SOUND (THAT IS NOT A PLACE TO PLUG SOMEONE JUST TO GIVE THEM OPPORTUNITY), IF THEY CANNOT COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY ON THE MICROPHONE, THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE IT. EXAMPLE, JESUS WAS AN EXCELLENT COMMUNICATOR. HE SET HIMSELF UP ON THE EDGE OF THE BOAT BY THE WATER AND IN STRATEGIC COVES, VALLEYS, OR MOUNTAINS TO SPEAK FROM "BECAUSE OF THE AMPLIFICATION" OF HIS SOUND. IF YOU HAVE A MICROPHONE, "USE IT" EVEN IN A SMALL CLASS AND "LEARN" HOW TO USE IT. THESE ARE JUST EXAMPLES, BUT IS IS TRUE IN EVERYTHING.

YOU WANT TO GIVE "REVOLVING" OPPORTUNITIES WITH HOMEWORK OR SELF TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS TO ADULTS AND KIDS IN TRAINING BUT DO NOT GIVE THEM PERMANENT POSITIONS BECAUSE YOU FEEL BAD OR THEY WANT IT. GROOM THEM THEM GRADUALLY FOR EXCELLENCE BEFORE YOU ANOINT OR KNIGHT THEM FOR CONSTANT A POSITON. GROOMING COMES BEFORE BOOMING. GROOM BEFORE YOU BOOM!

(4) Engagement of younger gen

A CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SHOULD HAVE A RICH RESOURCE OF TEEN AND YOUNG ADULT ON STAGE WORKERS WORKING ALONG SIDE THE PARENTING AND GRAND PARENTING GENERATIONS. HAVE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS LEAD ON THE STAGE WHILE THE OLDER GENERATIONS GUIDE.

ELABORATION

YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TO BE OLD, BUT NOT THAT OLD AND OLD PEOPLE WANT TO BE YOUNG BUT NOT THAT YOUNG. WE NEED TO BRIDGE THE GAP. DISNEY AND nickelodeon ARE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CAPTIVATORS OF CHILDREN IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. WATCH WHO IS

RUNNING THE "FACE" OF THEIR SHOWS, THOSE WHO ARE THE FACE OF THE SHOW ARE NOT THE PRODUCERS, EDITORS, OR EXECUTIVES RUNNING THE SHOW BEHIND THE SCENES.

DO WE NEED PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS?

ABSOLUTLY. ONE OF THE GREATEST MENTORS AND FRIENDS MY 8-YEAR-OLD HAS IS AN IRREPLACEABLE GRANDMA, THAT IS GREAT WHO PUTS "HER" ON STAGE. WE NEED THE OLDER GENS MATURITY, CONSISTENCY, GUIDANCE, EXCELLENCE, AND DEDICATION, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY WE NEED THEM TO "EQUIP" YOUNG PEOPLE TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY ALONG SIDE OF THEM.

THERE IS A BALANCE. THE RESPECT AN 8-YEAR-OLD SHOWS A GRANDMA AND THE RESPECT A GRANDMA DEMANDS OUT OF THE 8-YEAR-OLD IS PRICELESS AND WE CANNOT GO WITHOUT IT BECAUSE IT IS "FORMATIVE" FOR OUR CHILDREN. AT THE SAME TIME, THE 8-YEAR-OLD IS LOOKING TO THE 16-YEAR-OLD AND 22-YEAR-OLD, WHO IS IN SCHOOL AND NOT SO FAR OFF FROM THEM, FOR THE ANSWERS IN LIFE THEY ARE NEEDING NOW.

WE NEED THE OLDER GENERATION TO MENTOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION AND KEEP THEM FROM DISQUALIFYING THEMSELVES FROM MINISTRY. JESUS CALLED US TO BE FISHERS OF MEN (MANKIND) OR IN THE CASE FISHERS OF CHILDREN. WE NEED KID ATTRACTIVE BAIT.

WALTER DISNEY DID NOT
STAR IN HIS OWN SHOWS.
BUT EVERY PARENT KNOWS
HIM. BE RELEVANT TO THE
KIDS AND EARN THE TRUST
OF PARENTS.

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF THE HEARTS OF THE
CHILDREN BEING TURNED TOWARDS THE
FATHERS AND THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS
BEING TURNED TOWARDS THE CHILDREN. WE
NEED ALL GENS INVOLVED IN CHILDREN'S
MINISTRY AND IN THE RIGHT POSITIONS.**

(5) **e**levation instantly

**WHEN A CHURCH MOVES INTO A NEW BUILDING IN A
YOUNGER COMMUNITY THEY WILL INCREASE IN
THEIR CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE TRAFFIC
'INSTANTLY'.**

ELABORATION

FOR THE SAKE OF THIS DOCUMENT, I WILL LEAVE CHURCH NAMES OUT HOWEVER NUMEROUS OF THE LARGEST, MOST AFFLUENT, AND INFLUENTIAL CHURCHES IN AMERICA HAVE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ATTENDANCE RANGES BETWEEN 17% TO 24% OF THE ADULT ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY MORNING.

AT ANY GIVEN TIME 17% TO 24% OF THE TOTAL WEEKEND ATTENDANCE CAN BE FOUND IN THE CHILDREN'S WING. THAT INCLUDES BOTH CHILDREN AND WORKERS.

YOUNGER COMMUNITIES WITH NEW HOME DEVELOPMENTS ARE AT THE 24% MARK. THOSE IN OLDER AREAS OF A CITY WITH EMPTY NESTERS, WHERE MOST OF THE CHILDREN HAVE MOVED OUT OF THE HOUSE AND NOW ARE IN COLLEGE OR STARTING THEIR OWN FAMILIES ARE AT 17% LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION WILL DETERMINE TRAFFIC INCREASE BUT BENCH MARK IS 17%-25% 17% IS FOR OLDER AREAS OF THE

CITY AND 24% FOR AREAS WITH NEWER FAMILY DEVELOPMENTS. A CHURCH WILL INCREASE CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE **traffic "DRASTICALLY" BY LOCATION ALONE. IF WE CANNOT EXECUTE ON KEEPING THE CHILDREN BY DOING THE ABOVE, THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILY WILL RUN THROUGH OUR HANDS**

LIKE WATER WITHOUT A BUCKET. TRAFFIC AND ATTENDANCE IS NOT THE SAME. ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP IS NOT THE SAME. MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP IS NOT THE SAME. LEADERSHIP AND PASTORAL LEADERSHIP IS NOT THE SAME. PASTORAL LEADERSHIP AND APOSTOLIC LEADERSHIP IS NOT THE SAME. ONE PROGRESSES TO THE NEXT. IT STARTS WITH "capturing the traffic"

pop & culture quiz

WHAT 4* UNIQUE FONTS
WERE USED ON THIS
DOCUMENT?

ANSWER

THE SAME COMPANIES (SEE BELOW) A CHILDREN'S WORKER NEEDS TO BE STUDYING AND VISITING ALONG WITH THE BIBLE AND MINISTRIES MORE ADVANCED THEN THEIR OWN IN ORDER TO BE RELEVANT FISHERS OF CHILDREN, UNDERSTANDING CHILD CULTURE, SPEAKING THEIR LANGUAGE, AND GROW IN MINISTRY. IF ALL A CHILDREN'S WORKER OR PASTOR HAS ARE CHILDREN'S MINSTRY MAGAZINGS, VBS CATOLOGES, AND DVDS FROM THE LOCAL CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE THEY NEED TO EXPAND THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS AND LIBRARY.

Disney



CARTOON NETWORK



nickelodeonTM