

BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE KID'S MINISTRY

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Synopsis: The gift of being a minister to children is being there at the pivotal moments in their lives as they experience holiness, Godliness and truth in a world that is constantly pulling them in other directions. In this session, we will explore tactics, ideas, and execution of how to overcome the call of the world and direct their hearts toward God. We will explore pop-culture, memes, video games, and other external influences by implementing and teaching peer leadership, mentorship, and developing a passion for ministry in kids today.

Involve Kids in Lessons

- To be used, you had to follow rules: Be a worshipper. Be involved. Be in your seat. Behave.
- Evolved into relying heavily on media: Intro video. YouTube songs. We let the kids choose the songs.
- Turned into a ministry teaching kids' ownership of their own program.

"Church of the Future"

- Kids between 8-11 are taught how to: Lead Songs, Door greeters, Altar workers, Peer leaders, Media, Lights, Sound.
- Every kid, every age has a job to do in ROK
 - 5-6: Enjoy the service and learn all the motions/rules/games/songs
 - 7-8: Teach the 5-6 year olds how to be involved
 - 9-10: Lead songs/teams and volunteer
 - 11: Step in as if they are part of the staff — Fill in for media, lights, sound; wear costumes for silly songs Lead worship from the seats Welcome new kids

Controlling the Narrative

- Keeping them focused
- What gets their attention?
- What gets them motivated?
- Create lessons/characters/personas based on your findings.

Understanding Kid Culture All Around

- Knowing the references: Movies, Games, Mobile, Video, Memes, Online persona: *We all know Spongebob but who here knows Pewdiepie?*
- Why are they doing what they're doing? Seek to understand, not to admonish.
- Let the kids take the lead. No one knows their culture better than they do.
- Don't be afraid to test new ideas.





WHY START A BIBLE QUIZ TEAM

Steve Cannon

They Learn the Word of God

- The word of God can completely change their lives.
- They'll be more knowledgeable and it will help them in their daily lives.

Their walk with God.

- It gives them a steadier walk with God. Every day they are in the word of God.
- Services and prayer meetings at quiz tournament are not like any other around. There have been hundreds of kids and teenagers who received the Holy Ghost at quiz tournaments.
- There is no way you can get so many young people who have devoted their lives to God in one place and not have an awesome move of God.

It helps keep them in church.

- 80 percent of Apostolic teenagers end up out of church. That means the church only had a 20 percent retention rate.
- Those involved in Bible quizzing have the exact opposite happen. Of children and teenagers who have been involved in quizzing for three or more consecutive years, 80 percent stay in church the rest of their lives. Whereas only 20 percent of the same group backslides.
- The longer they are in quizzing, the higher the chance they'll stay in goes up. When you learn why you believe something, you're more likely to always believe.

Quizzing improves study habit of teenagers and children.

- Being involved in quizzing helps students to learn how they best study.
- Many students in school need improvement, not in what they study.
- HOW they study. Quizzing allows them to learn more efficient ways to study.
- Bible quizzers are usually the smarter in their classes in school.

Better time management

- Bible quizzing teaches teenagers and children stability and scheduling helps in their everyday lives.

Quizzing creates better attitudes toward winning and losing.

- Many young people learn their attitude for winning and losing from the sports arena. Quizzing allows them to learn how to win and lose quizzes with grace and still having confidence because of the Word put in their hearts.

Good friends

- Through quizzing your children will meet hundreds of other kids who have a passion for God and His word. There are hundreds of young people who have met their best friends and future spouses through quizzing.

It makes them smarter!

- Through quizzing they learn hundreds of verses each year, which does not take away memory capacity but makes more available.
- Many kids don't think they can quiz because they don't have a good memory, when quizzing actually solves that problem.

<http://www.najbq.com>



HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN'S CRUSADE

Steve L. Cannon

FOUR AREAS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CRUSADE

1) Prayer and involvement by a local church:

- The local church must be praying for revival.
- The local church must bring children for a crusade.
- Our philosophy – mucho children – mucho get the Holy Ghost!
- The evangelist will be inspired by the number of children or crowd energy.
- Our greatest altar workers were trained locals!

2) Planned services with respect to time:

- Services should be constructed with children in mind.
- Children have a short attention span.
- A long drawn out service could play havoc on the altar service.
- Do things funny and exciting, then turn your evangelist loose!
- If you do crusades through the week, while children are in school, be careful how long the service goes. A long altar service is better than a long sermon! Evangelists must be sensitive of time.

3) A dedicated evangelist who is used by God.

- The key to every service is a dedicated evangelist.
- Give him or her flexibility.
- Never try to compete with the evangelist.
- Praise and encourage your evangelist.
- Offer assistance often and criticism seldom.

4) A dedicated TEAM to allow God to flow through them:

- To have the same TEAM go from crusade to crusade is great!
- You can evaluate nightly your victories and your mistakes.
- You can get the feel of what is working and what is not!
- Momentum can be built in the day to day crusades.
- The more you pray together the greater the results!
- Your Crusade TEAM shows success or failure! Walk into every service with greater faith than you had at the last place!
- A united effort beats a divided effort ten to one!



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THINKING BACKWARDS

What is the order of a service?

- Welcome: Express appreciation to adults who love children.
- Singing: Sing songs that children enjoy.
- Worship: Worship prepares their hearts for the Word.
- Offering: Remember this is worship too.
- Evangelists: (see the Children's Evangelists and Teacher Training Directory)
- Altar call and service: Make sure the evangelist understands that this is important.
- Wrap-up or dismissal: Always take time to celebrate with those filled with the Holy Ghost. Don't rehash the sermon and bore people.

What could possibly fall apart and you can still survive?

- Bad welcome? Don't let technical or weather problems dampen your spirit. You can make it.
- Bad music? Been there - thank God I made it through! Worship? I've had my share of dead services! Be positive and move on.
- Offering? Many services have more ones than fives or tens! Be grateful for what you get.
- Could the evangelist make a mess and trucks and clowns stumble through? If you've been in the church long enough, you've seen it happen! Children will not notice like adults. Just have church!
- Could the dismissal or wrap-up be too long or non-effective? Don't let it happen!
- The ONE THING that has got to be successful is the altar service! Always remember encourage those who did not get the Holy Ghost.

To make the altar service successful, you must think BACKWARDS!

- Plan your altar service with the evangelist and workers! Train your altar workers!
- Teach them to pray "one on one" with children!
- Encourage every altar worker that they CAN pray children through to the Holy Ghost! Altar workers are so important! Build their faith in the possibilities.
- Work with your evangelist to know when to come up and pray and how! You need to pray in front of them to be more effective.
- Have altar workers come to the altar first - take the sting out of kids walking up there alone! They need training and you can give it to them!
- The greatest goal of a crusade is not singing, puppets, or sound. The greatest goal is a child speaking in tongues in the altar!
- Walk into your crusade, thinking altar! Because you think backwards, God can go forward. This is a time you are thinking backward, but going forward.





TEACHERS TOOLBOX

Every Sunday School teacher, youth worker, Super Church leader needs a teacher toolbox. Now, this is not a physical toolbox that carpenters and mechanics would use, but a mental, filled tools and ideas to be used when working with children.

ENTHUSIASM

Enthusiasm is the first tool you need in your teacher toolbox. Enthusiasm is the key to being a successful teacher. Effective teachers motivate their students with an enthusiastic style of teaching. The late John Cooper, a good friend who lived in North Carolina, stated, "Effective teachers must be effective actors, communicating what they know through speech and body and facial expressions." Do you remember your favorite teacher? What made that person great? If you reflect back, I bet it would be their enthusiasm. Those most effective in ministry are those that are most enthusiastic. The craftsperson's other tools should include props, role playing, humor, suspense and surprise, space utilization, voices, and body animations.

PROPS

Props can be anything from a rock, a piece of rope, a hat, a scarf, anything that would help portray the story or character in which you are presenting. When you bring the prop into play, don't mention what it is, just begin to use it to tell your story or present your lesson. For example, two spies were spying out Jericho and found themselves in Rahab's house atop the wall. The guards are coming, and they have to escape. Rahab and the Jewish spies tied a red cord in her window, by which the spies escaped ... As you tell of the red cord, use a red rope or scarf, simply bring it out and tie it up somewhere to hang down. Don't say 'They used a rope or cord, like this one', just use the prop without mentioning it. It is an attention getter and not mentioning it will get you far more attention and keep everyone involved.

COMEDY

Humor has to be one of my favorite tools. Note that humor is subjective to the audience. What is funny to adults is not always funny to kids. Kids don't always get jokes or one liners, unless they are kid oriented. Mispronounced words or saying things out of sequence is very funny to young ones. Physical humor is also very effective with kids. Seeing someone fall, a hat or jacket on backwards, or anyone supposedly smacked with a balloon is extremely funny to the 12 and younger crowd.

SURPRISE

Suspense and surprise: build the tension and release it. The famous Bible stories do this all the time. You create a hero, the hero is trouble, you throw rocks at the hero, and the hero is saved. David and Goliath, Noah, Samson, etc... create the suspense and then the surprise, the deliverance, the healing, the miracle.

GET ANIMATED

In role playing, don't just tell a Bible story, act it out. Use the kids as part of the characters or props, or you or someone preplanned can come in with a costume on. Animating your body and voice just draws more attention than one could imagine. Using a silly voice, a high voice, or a low voice, along with physical movement to present what you're saying will keep the attention of those in attendance. Before you say it, I'll say it. You'll make a fool out of yourself sometime when you work with kids. 1st Corinthians states that we are fools for Christ's sake, but wise in Christ.

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn."

• Ben Franklin •

