

A comprehensive manual to train leaders of Children's Discipleship Groups





Why Train Children to be Disciples of Christ?

Believing kids need a place to enjoy God on their own emotional and age level. Among children their own age, they can see themselves stretch and grow without feeling like they are performing. At the same time, we believe that there is nothing offered to adults in the Gospel that is not offered to kids. Just as reading and writing and math are good adult activities, it is taught level by level to children so they can grow and become skillful adult contributors to society. We believe training children to minister in evangelism, healing, worship, intercession, prophecy and every other outlet of Christian body ministry is normal and right.

We believe that this generation has been born into pivotal times in the destiny of God and that we are stewards of a hero generation who will be remembered for their deeds. We are parents and teachers of potential key players in the fulfillment of prophecy.

We believe that kids are people, as valuable and worth listening to as any adult. We believe that you shall have whatever you “say” (expect) of kids. Without forcing in any way, but encouraging in many ways, it is our desire and commission to train kids to communication with God through the Holy Spirit. God has put a hunger for the supernatural into this generation because of the times they are born in. They will seek to satisfy that hunger. Only feeling at home and comfortable with the real supernatural will enable them to “make sense” of the events on the horizon of history.

Your Role as a Spiritual Leader of Children

As a minister to children you are giving the most important training a child needs to fulfill his purpose in life. You are training his spirit. The need, generally accepted, is to train their bodies, minds and emotions to respond to their world and their culture. We want to enjoy them and have them participate with us in the experience of natural life. We must, even more, desire their companionship in spiritual life. "God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." says John 4:24. Romans 8:14 teaches that the people whom God will claim as His sons are only those who are led by the Holy Spirit. God seeks to develop His character and purposes in our lives by developing in us the gifts and fruit *of the Spirit*.

The Bible calls children our inheritance. When they develop into useful, strong adults, we, ourselves, are richer. In most countries, government-provided education of their child citizens is strongly encouraged and often compulsory. Children's ministry is a provision for the training of citizens in the Kingdom of God. This manual will help you become a spiritual educator to the generation that will one day be your rulers. They will truly know how to lead by following the Spirit and obeying the One who said, "All authority in heaven and earth is given unto me." Your rival is the world, the flesh and the devil. Every day they assault young ones to stimulate their appetites to sin. The answer is to give them a taste for God's presence so they can experience that the Lord is good. We must bring the atmosphere of heaven into the lives of children on a regular basis. They are truly hungry for the real satisfaction of knowing God and His plan for their lives.

In this manual are sermons written as articles. You may read them and learn. Accompanying each sermon are notes to help you teach each subject. You can use them, adding your own experience and testimony, as you train others in the art of leading a children's discipleship club.

This training manual is a tool to empower adults to teach, train, and equip children to do the work of ministry and release them in their giftings and callings. Your life is now impacting many lives beyond yourself. You will receive great reward for every child you train and every person touched by their lives.

See your children's club as a personal ministry expressing the Christ's Great Commission to teach, train, and equip children to do the work of ministry. He wants all of His children released to bless others through the Holy Spirit. God is able to do more than we could ask or think. May your requests and faith grow as you impart to children what you have received from the Lord.

Grow in a creative mind set. No matter where you are, there are visual examples of the spiritual truths that your children need. Allow the Holy Spirit to inspire you to take the time to create object lessons.

Live with a Kingdom mind set. We minister to children who have no resource except the God of heaven, so we ask you to grow in faith that you might impart that faith to your children.

God is leading His people into the harvest field—into the *best* harvest field. We stand together as ministers united by purpose and calling. As we see our children become powerful adults, we can anticipate hearing "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord."

In that understanding, may we all focus on the God who opens that door of joy for us. We are entering into God's destiny on earth. He plans to reward us eternally according to

Jeremiah 29:11. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

and

1 Corinthians 2:9 "'No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him'"

I honor each of you for taking up the challenge to make disciples of children!

In His Service,

Pamela Ayres
Director PowerClubs International
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1. Kids are Hungry for the Supernatural

One day everything we now know as prophecy will be history. An example is Isaiah: 7:14 "A virgin shall conceive and bear a son and call His name Immanuel." This is a fulfilled prophecy. That is history. Here is another prophecy: Matthew 24:31 & 34: "And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other... 34. Verily I say unto you, this **generation** shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." (emphasis mine) This scripture is still in the future and is prophecy. In spite of the controversy over *how* it will happen, at the end of time there will be a crescendo of spiritual activity climaxed by the return of Christ to the earth.

How close are we to that time? In order to be about our Father's business, we have to know what He is doing at this time. God has a time schedule for His purposes on earth. In the first coming of Christ, He was fulfilling prophecy spoken in Gen 3:15. God promised Satan his head would be bruised. According to Gal 4:4, in the fullness of time, God sent His son, made under the law to redeem those born under law. He fulfilled His promise to bruise Satan's head.

In the one generation, the generation of Jesus on earth, God changed all history.
He changed the age of law to the age of grace.
He reconciled lost man to Himself.
He exalted His Son over all things.
He made Himself visible through His son to all ages.

It is as though a wall was erected between the age of law and the age of grace. Those on the side of the Old Testament could look longingly at the coming promises, but something better was prepared for us who have been born after the first coming of Christ. The lives of every person on earth today have been shaped by the events and people who lived during the generation of Jesus on earth. All of the prophecies that foretold His coming were fulfilled in one 34 year period.

Realizing how significant that generation would be, it makes sense that God would carefully choose the actors of that generation. He timed their arrival. "So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations." (Mat 1:17) The book of Matthew is announced as "The book [Greek, "biblio"(scroll)—not genealogy] of the *generation* of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son Abraham. There was a specific generation of the First Coming of Christ.

A specific generation is also being prepared to welcome the Second Coming of Christ. We are born to be forerunners of the Second Coming and to prepare a generation that will prepare the earth for the coming of the Lord...to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else (the Lord) will come and strike the land with a curse." (Malachi 4:6)

Just as John the Baptist was to herald one coming after himself who was greater, so we are granted the privilege of heralding the generation coming after us who will do works greater than ours and receive revelation deeper than ours. Everything he did was to prepare other people to receive another person who was to come. His message, not his person was his focus. Before the First Coming, God sent one messenger to one country to prophesy the coming of a savior who declared the establishment of the Kingdom of God **within**—invisibly in our hearts. Before the Second Coming, He will send many messengers to many countries declaring the establishment of the Kingdom of God **without** --visibly on earth. "This people have I formed for myself. They will show forth the praises of the Lord," says Isaiah 1:9.

The characteristics of these messengers is that they

are saved and know the Lord
are supernaturally-minded and trained and can bring others to experience the Lord
are visionary ---They are convinced and can convince others of the significance of these days to the point that people make decisions and take action.
are significantly consecrated unto the Lord

They will be mocked as mentioned in 1Peter 3: Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. " (I Thes 5:4)

Some of the signs that tell us we are in the perilous times preceding the coming of Christ are the following:

1) The Signs of Nature - We are told to watch for earthquakes, famine, pestilence, and signs in the heavens (see Matthew 24:7 and Luke 21:11).---ever increasing. (Hurricane season most active in all recorded history in U.S.)

2) The Signs of Society - Jesus said that society will become increasingly lawless and immoral -- as evil as it was in the days of Noah (Matthew 24:12,37-39).

3) The Signs of Technology - The book of Daniel says that there will be an explosion of knowledge in the end times and that people will move about quickly (Daniel 12:4).

4) The Signs of Israel & World Politics- All these signs have been fulfilled in this century. The nation has been re-established, the land has been reclaimed, the ancient language has been revived, the Jews are back in Jerusalem, and Israel is the focal point of world politics.

5) The Spiritual Signs- Parts of the western world consider themselves post-Christian. Doors that were once fast closed because of the morality of Christianity have been flung open.

We need to be alert to the days we live in. We are in the end times and the role of adults today is like the role of the parents of John the Baptist and Jesus. We cannot prevent the end times; we can only cooperate with God's destiny as He allows the fullness of times to culminate. In Luke 12:42 God calls us "... faithful and sensible steward's), who have been put in charge of the master's servants, to give them their rations at the proper time..." In one generation, God is going to change history. We are stewards of children who are or could be in that generation. They are children of Joel 2:28 which promises " And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions."

Never before has it been so common for so many to see visions, relate dreams or share unusual experiences as in our time. As God pours out His Spirit on all flesh, spiritual experiences abound. We were born for the supernatural world, created in God's Spirit image. There is a homing pigeon pull in our hearts to find our source. If no one introduces us to the fulfilling source of supernatural love in God, we will drift toward the false. Hunger drives this generation. They are very much introduced to the supernatural through the media and other means. They want to know the truth. Church is to be a place of freedom and fulfillment, expressed in a way they can receive. We do not want to raise another generation of Bench Christians. We are to raise children who know God's voice and obey when they hear Him say "go" or "no". Hearing the supernatural voice of God and doing His works is normal Christianity.

If you listen to the music of today, you can hear the heart beat of the generations alive on the earth. Is it quiet? Do you hear a gentle waltz? The rhythm of today is in tune with the birth pangs of the earth. The stress of recent change and coming change and uncertain times is evident in the quick and heavy beat of the music. Children take to it easily. It reflects their internal rhythm. The music of a generation declares the rhythm of the generation. The children are exhibiting authority today, many at a level above their ages. Advertisers are appealing to their power in the family to sell things. God's kids are being trained in the things of God and used by God. But if you do not train children who are hungry for the **true** supernatural, they are vulnerable to the false. They cannot deny the hunger put inside of them by God for the times that they are in.

In the West we are watching a phenomenon of children running after witchcraft by buying books about a boy named Harry Potter who has learned to perform lying signs and wonders. He even speaks in a tongues—false tongues. And he makes supernatural things happen. The acceptance of witchcraft is a social symptom that is like physical symptoms. Hungry people eat whatever they can get. If nourishing food is available, they will eat well. If not, they will eat what is available.

To believe that children are not capable of spirituality is nonsense. We need to see children as people. Every part of them is growing up—body, soul and spirit. If a family refuses to send their child to school, society will chastise them. We know that the child will not be able to be a productive citizen. It is the same in the Spirit. A child must come to know his Creator and be trained in interacting with Him. He

was born for the pleasure of God. God takes pleasure in him and wants him to grow up talking and hearing from Him. The church must also find an interactive place for children. If they do not find their place within the church, they will leave the church as soon as they are able to make their own choices.

Jesus talks about the time of regeneration in Matthew 28:19. He says that those who have followed Him will rule and then He says in verse 30 "But many who are first will be last, and the last first. Immediately afterward He tells the parable of the landowner and the 11th hour servants. Both the promise of ruling in the Regeneration and the working servants parable end with the same promise: many of the last shall be first with the addition that many are called but few are chosen. Is there a chosen generation? Have there been generations that have lived and died without being chosen for outstanding use?

There have definitely been individuals that were counted as last in the eyes of men and yet were lifted up to power. These are some of the last who were first.

Joseph	The youngest except for Benjamin who was elevated to rulership
Benjamin	The youngest who was elevated by his brother with 5 times more in favor
Leah	Despised and rejected by Jacob but elevated by fruitfulness over his chosen In the end, she was placed beside her husband in the grave God's hidden choice to raise the priesthood and line of kings
Jacob	the last to be born, His leadership was prophesied to his mother: Genesis 25: 22. And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger . Also see Romans 9:11.
Samuel	A child elevated to rule through a gift from God
David	The youngest chosen to be the leader
Solomon	The youngest chosen to be the leader
Jeremiah	The child chosen to tear down & raise up kingdoms through prophecy
Daniel, Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael	Four children of captivity elevated above their peers and eventually all of Babylon.
Amos	A menial worker raised up to rule through prophecy
Esther	An unknown maid, elevated to authority because of beauty (physical & spiritual)
Ruth	An impoverished foreigner raised to security and influence through motherhood
Nehemiah	A servant sent to rule

The 10 older brothers rejected Joseph because they feared rejection, but they were not rejected. Each had a place that no one could take from them. They could have strengthened their place and increased reward if they had cooperated with God's sovereign plan to use the youngest. They born into a plan much bigger than their own lives, into an ongoing, predetermined history. This is the secret of predestination. God has a scripted drama working out to His glory and for His destiny. He sends actors onto His stage, alternately using and fooling Satan to move the plan further. The choices of our will do not stop God's plan. They increase or decrease our eternal honor as God's surrendered vessels. That is why he says that the greatest will be as children. They do not write their own script; they receive everything from the director. Jesus was our greatest example. He could say that he received all his words and all his actions from the Father and he was incredulous that others could not see the signs of the times and flow with them. Others were not so blind. The prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna waited, prayed, fasted, and declared the day of the coming of the Messiah. When they saw him, they saw the ruler in the child.

The disciples who were called to be mentored by Jesus were also living in anticipation. After one invitation from the mouth of somebody they *thought* might be the Messiah, and they were dropped everything to go after him. They were given that anticipation from the generation that preceded them—from their parents and their teachers. An assignment has been sent out to our generations, also, as a part of the predetermined plan of God. The majority of people will miss the signs and be unprepared for the second coming of Christ. They will go along marrying and being given in marriage and building and

be overtaken suddenly. Are we going to be among the few who find their place in God's drama and play it? Will we alert our kids and prepare them?

In this drama, he has harvesters, evangelists, miracle workers, apostles, and pastors, and prophets. All of these end-time players will receive increased revelation and power that equals and surpasses the dynamic increase of technical revelation in the secular world today. If you buy a computer today, tomorrow it is surpassed by the next generation of computer. If you receive a revelation of God today, tomorrow it will just be foundation to a greater revelation until His Kingdom comes and His will *is* done on earth as it is in heaven.

These are the days that we are in!!

The birth pangs are in progress. God is calling people to bring forth birth. Will you watch them happen or will you make them happen? If you want to make them happen God's way, then you will need to put yourself into a position to pour all that you are and all that you have into a child. Our generation is in leadership right now. Where will we be in forty years? I will be 99 years old, if I am still alive. Creation is still groaning to see the manifestation of the sons of God. Those who are in tune to that groaning, those birth pangs, are also birthing the answer to that groaning. We are progressively bringing forth the manifest sons. We are positioning them to hear, receive and obey the call of Jesus Christ to the miracle-working Regeneration Generation. He is going to make all things new, beginning with them. They will express the fullness of Christ and be a sign of what awaits the entire earth at the return of Christ when the supernatural will be completely natural.

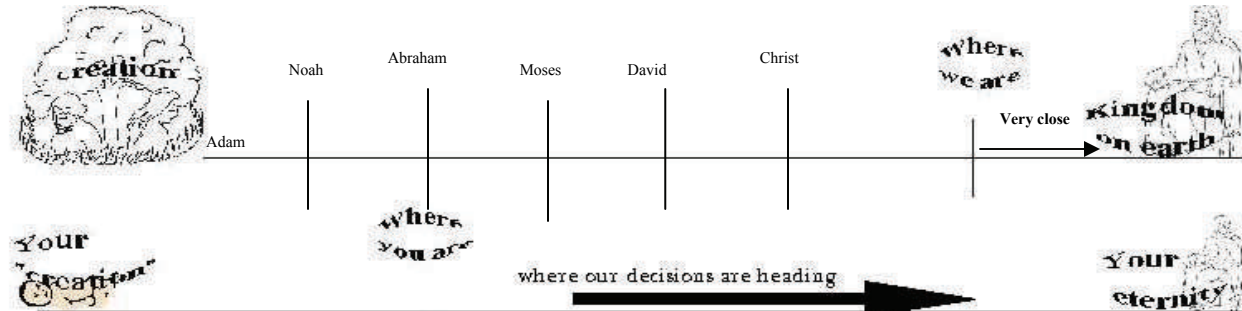
The ten brothers who refused the call of God on the younger one never lost their position in the family, but they never enjoyed leadership with the called-out one. They chose their lack of destiny. If they had nurtured and supported what God was doing, they would have risen to favor with Joseph. Our generation has an important choice to make. We can flow with God's script and mentor this generation to greatness or we can shove Joseph out into the world to be raised by the heathen. Stand with me if you will make this choice and move past the walls of generational culture and take the power of God to your kids.

Testimonies included in preaching notes:

Glorious Shoo runs a Christian school for the poor in Moshi, Tanzania. One of his new students came to the school with an extreme intolerance for milk. When she would drink it, she would get hives. The other students observed this and prayed for her. They asked that she tried to drink. When she took the milk, she had no reaction and has had none since. This truly blessed and surprised her parents. Another child was admitted who had been kicked out of 4 schools. He began tormenting the other students with bad behavior. They came to believe that he was tormented himself by a demon. They jumped him, cast the demon out and the child has become of the better behaved students in the school. In a school religion class in the Tanzanian schools, the religion teacher did not show up one day in a fourth grade class. A child stood up and asked if he would be allowed to teach. After permission was given, he began to teach on the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit fell and for an hour the children were overtaken by the spirit of prayer and the power of God.

1. Kids are Hungry for the Supernatural—Teaching Outline

VISUAL AIDS: A SMALL PIECE OF BOARD TO SYMBOLIZE A WALL—EXAMPLE OF CHILDREN PROPHECYING-SOMETHING TO VIBRATE OR FLASH A LIGHT(SUCH AS A FLASHLIGHT THAT FLICKERS QUICKLY)--TIME LINE (THIS CAN BE A POSTER SIMILAR TO THIS



--ONE DAY EVERYTHING WE NOW KNOW AS PROPHECY WILL BE HISTORY.

Example: Isaiah:7:14: "A virgin shall conceive and bear a son and call His name Immanuel."
That is a fulfilled prophecy. = History

(Matthew 24:31 &34)- 31. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. = PROPHECY

34. Verily I say unto you, this **generation** shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

In spite of the controversy over *how* it will happen, at the end of time there will be a crescendo of spiritual activity climaxed by the return of Christ to the earth.
How close are we to that time?

In order to be about our Father's business, we have to know what He is doing at this time. He is moving toward an end purpose.

TIME LINE—Use time line—explain how God saw the end from the beginning but progressively added generations with their particular assignment to bring **God's destiny to pass.**)

Gen 3:15 God promised Satan his head would be bruised
Gal 4:4 Christ was made under the law to redeem those born under law

God has a time schedule for His purposes on earth.

Mat 1:17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.

**GOD THINKS IN TERMS OF GENERATIONS, NOT JUST INDIVIDUALS
(SHOW OBJECT LESSON WALL AS YOU SPEAK)**

In the one generation, God changed all history. --the generation of Jesus on earth
He changed the age of law to the age of grace.
He reconciled lost man to Himself.
He exalted His Son over all things.
He made Himself visible through His son to all ages.

There is a wall between the Old Testament and the New Testament
ACTORS CAREFULLY CHOSEN to play out God's plan

Matthew 1:1 The book (biblio (scroll)—not genealogy) of the **generation** of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son Abraham. Book of Matthew written about one generation on earth during the time of Jesus

Every apostle was born in the same generation as the First Coming
Every mother, father and teacher of the apostles was predestined

PERFECT TIMING --- You were born to be forerunners of the Second Coming
TO PREPARE a generation that will prepare the earth for the coming of the Lord.
AS mentors of the young generation, we are like John the Baptist.

John 5:35 --He was a burning light for a season.

He advertised the coming of the Lord—some one greater Everything he did was to prepare other people to receive another person who was to come.
His message, not his person, was his focus.

First Coming: One John the Baptist for one country declaring the establishment of the Kingdom of God **within**.

Second Coming: Many messengers for many countries declaring the establishment of the Kingdom of God **visibly on earth**.

The people God is preparing:

Isaiah 1:9: This people have I formed for myself. They will show forth the praises of the Lord.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE MESSENGERS:

1. Are saved-- They know the Lord
2. Are supernaturally-minded and trained---They can cause others to experience the Lord
3. Are visionary ---They are convinced and can convince others of the significance of these days to the point that people make decisions and take action.
4. Are significantly consecrated unto the Lord.

We are in the end times and every man needs to be active in preparing for God's change. Kids are already experiencing change regularly.

I Thessalonians 5:4. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

The role of adults is like the roll of the parents of John the Baptist and Jesus and the apostles.

EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE NEAR THE CLIMAX OF TIME—**JUST NAME THE HEADLINES UP TO 5)**

1) The Signs of Nature - We are told to watch for earthquakes, famine, pestilence, and signs in the heavens (see Matthew 24:7 and Luke 21:11). ---ever increasing.

2) The Signs of Society - Jesus said that society will become increasingly lawless and immoral -- as evil as it was in the days of Noah (Matthew 24:12, 37-39).

3) The Signs of Technology - The book of Daniel says that there will be an explosion of knowledge in the end times and that people will move about quickly (Daniel 12:4).

4) The Signs of Israel & World Politics- All these signs have been fulfilled in this century. The nation has been re-established, the land has been reclaimed, the ancient language has been revived, the Jews are back in Jerusalem, and Israel is the focal point of world politics.

The Most important 5) The Spiritual Signs

MOST SPIRITUAL AGE OF ALL GENERATIONS—Visions, dreams are common

The music reflects the rhythm of their spirits.

(Flash the flash light in a quickly vibrating rhythm or whirling lights)

They are hungry for the supernatural.
Need to be trained to hear the voice of God.

(PLAY Examples if you have them.) Or give testimonies that you know or have heard of kids doing supernatural works of Christ

These are children who are trained in the things of God and used by God. But if you do not train children who are hungry for the **true** supernatural, they are vulnerable to the false. They cannot deny the hunger put inside of them by God for the times that they are in.

God has ordained the times. **WE CANNOT PREVENT END TIMES**

ONLY COOPERATE WITH GOD'S DESTINY

In Luke 12:42 God calls us "... faithful and sensible steward's), who (have been put in charge of the master's servants, to give them their rations at the proper time..

We are stewards of the children of Joel **2:28**

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

Children are exhibiting authority above any preceding generation, in the family and in society.
Advertisers use it— God is training it for His kingdom.

Do you want to see the sons and daughters of your country prophesying, seeing visions?

THEY BORN FOR THIS TIME & HUNGRY FOR SUPERNATURAL

If they are not introduced to the true, we drift to the false.
They cannot deny the hunger within. Is church boring?

We do not want to raise adults who sit on the pew and do not find a ministry for Christ.

To believe that children are not capable of spirituality is nonsense.
We train in the natural or they are not productive.
Train in the supernatural.

Children learning witchcraft is a symptom of spiritual hunger
What symptoms are in your kids?

Bad symptoms mean a physical need
Bad spiritual symptoms mean a spiritual need

Change children's ministry to see children as spiritual people

If get no school training, they are useless in society

Must have spiritual training to **become** the church

If no place in church, they leave the church.
To believe that children are not capable of spirituality is nonsense.

SUPERNATURAL TESTIMONIES FROM AFRICA (see bottom of sermon or substitute your own)
Your children are hungry to do works of God like these, also.

Children are ready to take authority in their own territory: family, community, nation., schools—wherever their foot treads.

(If there is time you may skip to the bottom of the notes and read a prophecy or two.)

Jesus talks about the time of regeneration when He will sit on the throne in
Matthew 28:19

In Parable of landowner (calling from 1st to 11th hour) and after promise that those who follow Him will rule he says

Many who are first shall be last and the last first.

MATTHEW 24: 34-- Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

ONE LAST GENERATION = (John 14:12) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, **the works that I do shall he do also**; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Any gospel that does not include the supernatural is the “different gospel” Paul warned against in Galatians 1:6.

List is those who were last and became first

Joseph	The youngest except for Benjamin who was elevated to rulership
Benjamin	The youngest who was elevated by his brother with 5 times more in favor
Leah	who was despised but raised the tribe of priesthood and line of kings
Jacob	the last to be born, was prophesied that the older would serve the younger
Samuel	A child elevated to rule through a gift from God
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Esther	An unknown maid, elevated to authority because of beauty (physical & spiritual)
Ruth	An impoverished foreigner raised to security and influence through motherhood
Nehemiah	A servant sent to rule

- 10 Brothers rejected Joseph because they feared rejection.
- Each had his own place
- Rejecting God's chosen kept them from leadership but did not stop God's plan.
- Must become like children -- not write our own script.
- Jesus did what He saw the Father do - Was amazed that we don't
- Secret of predestination = We are born into a predetermined plan of God.
- Our choice is to choose to do our part in the right time.
- Anna and Simeon anticipated and saw the Christ/ruler in the body of a child.
- The apostles of the 1st coming were given anticipation by parents and teachers.
- We are raising the 5-fold ministry of tomorrow

- They and us will receive increased revelation and power, like the picture of technology. It takes a prophet to raise a prophet.
- Birth Pangs are in progress—bring forth birth
- Birth the answer to the earth's groaning—**The manifest sons of God** Romans 8:19—the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God...22. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.
- Position them with training and anticipation
- They are a picture of the fullness coming to the whole earth.

You will be known as great in heavenly places because you invest in the greatness of God into a pivotal generation.

- Recognize the supernatural in them—and train them!
- The 10 brothers of Joseph did not lose their position but had smaller destiny—If they had nurtured Joseph, they would have risen with him

Conclusion

Our generation has an important choice to make. We can flow with God's script and mentor this generation to greatness or we can shove Joseph out into the world to be raised by the heathen. Stand with me if you will make this choice and move past the walls of generational culture and take the power of God to your kids.

Altar Call—Call forward and pray for people. Lead them in a prayer to commit to train this young generation and to train the children of their country

These prophecies can be read during sermon if there is ample time. Be sure to end with the above conclusion.

IF WE EXPECT= IT WILL HAPPEN

The prophets tell us that they **will** take authority.

Rick Joyner, *The Harvest*, page 34

One of the most extraordinary characteristics of the harvest will be the youthfulness of the laborers. Teenagers will be the backbone of the revival, and preteens will be some of its greatest evangelists. Young children will cast out demons, heal the sick, raise the dead, and divert raging floods with a word. Some will actually take dominion over entire hospitals and mental institutions, healing every patient in them by laying hands on the buildings. During the harvest the world will understand that "...the children whom the Lord has given me are for signs and wonders..." (Isaiah 8:18)

Bill Hammond in *Birthing God's Purpose*, page 81-92

"There is not just a youth revival coming but a youth revolution! You are going to the public schools, private schools, church schools, and home schools. A revolutionary revival is coming to schools from kindergarten through college. You will invade all areas of the world with supernatural kingdom of God. Many will get activated by becoming involved in intercessory prayer walks, Bible studies, and spiritual renewal meetings. You the "Transition Generation." Your group will be the generation that will fully manifest the Saints Movement, become the Army of the Lord, and bring forth the "Kingdom Establishing Movement" which will finalize the restoration of all things, releasing Jesus to come from heaven and take dominion over all the earth.

"Jesus is still saying today that we should allow the children to come unto Him for He is going to use them mightily. Jesus is excited about this age group, for they will be the ones to bring Him back as King. Even now God is going to sovereignly visit the teenage and junior age children, moving them into the Holy Spirit realm of visions and supernatural visitations. They will prophesy very specific things and heal the sick. They will receive such revelation of Jesus that it will cause them to lose all fear of the devil and evil spirits. They will know that the smallest child of God cleansed by the blood, clothed with the robe of righteousness and the garment of praise can whip the biggest demon hell has to offer. They will be little David's, boldly going against and defeating great Goliaths."

2. Redefining Children's Ministry

How many of us would feel privileged to be called back to school and told that we must retake our fifth grade courses to continue in life? Can we imagine sitting for periods of time listening to material that we already know or have never found interesting? This is a picture of most Sunday Schools, and we regularly require our children to attend such classes. In America the statistics say that as many as 70% of young people leave the church when they are old enough to make their own decisions and never come back. Just as an adult would reject returning to fifth grade, so a child rejects boredom. God has birthed a generation that is in tune to the end times. I call them "the Regeneration Generation". They were born in anticipation. Their body, music and activities all move to a beat that says *now! Now!*

The world around us is very busy offering engaging activities that move to the rhythm of these kids. Satan did not create that rhythm in this generation but he acknowledges it. In the back of his heart he knows that his end is near and that the generation alive on the earth is to express his doom. They are candidates to manifest the Son of God in an expression of perfect authority. Before Jesus returns, the prophets declare that a final harvest and a vindication of His glory will occur over all the earth. The church is to equip and release these harvesters and miracle workers who have committed their lives to Christ.

According to research, the spiritual commitments of people are made by 9 years old. I quote from Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions by George Barna, published in 2003:

p. 46 "Research shows that development of a child's world view and moral beliefs starts as early as age two." By nine years old, the moral and spiritual foundations of a child's life are laid.

Anyone who wants to influence children must begin when they are open-minded.
Once foundations are laid, if wrong, they must be broken down before right can be re-laid."

These are not cultural statistics but developmental statistics. Children develop their basic human characteristics in the same way and time frame from birth to twelve years old for all cultures. Your children have made their basic decisions about trusting God by the age of nine. We may not see all the fruit because we are not going to give them all the liberty to choose their own paths but while they are tender, we need to observe their lives and direct them. I quote the same research:

p. 34 "The probability of some one embracing Jesus as his or her Savior was 32 percent for those between the ages of 5 and 12 ; 4 percent for those in the 13-18 range; and 6 percent for people 19 or older. In other words, if people do not embrace Jesus Christ as their Savior before they reach their teenage years, the chance of their doing so at all is slim."

It is amazing that the entire church is not running to minister to kids. We understand that you do not wait until a child is eighteen to teach him the basics of natural life skills. We begin training them in math and language and social studies and other subjects from age five. Why do we continue in methods of presenting the path of Christ in an irrelevant way to every other influence upon them? We need to meet them in the rhythm and heart that God has given them to meet these days. We need to teach them the ways of the Lord and train them in the gifts of the Spirit *while they are listening*. Once they have made up their minds and formed their foundations, they will no longer be listening. In childhood they are like sponges. You can just sit them in the water and they will soak it up. When they have turned the corner into young adulthood, which is in their teenage years, their foundations have been formed.

The church questions whether or not a child can be saved and argues over the "age of accountability". James 4: 17 says, "Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins." The age of learning is the "age of accountability". From toddler days children know whether they are obeying or disobeying. Otherwise, we would have no right to correct them. The day of salvation is always now for those who will believe, but it is more probable for those who are children.

This testimony comes from the Christian Aid PrayerLine on Monday Dec 1, 2003— “China has more children than the entire population of the United States. Studies have shown that 80% of Chinese Christians believed in Christ before they were 15 years old, even though Sunday Schools were illegal. Special training sessions are now being conducted in Bible Schools to prepare workers for child evangelism.”

Barna says in his book (p. 47) “The greatest hope for the local church lies in raising godly children.” It is only logical and practical and spiritual to believe this. Let me leave one last note from his research. On page 38, he reports on a spiritual survey given to 13 year-olds and adults. The differences between the beliefs of the 13-year-olds and the adults was the same or generally slightly different. That gives evidence that by 13 a person’s adult belief system is set. This result totally coordinates with Erik Erikson’s stages of psychosocial development used by many psychologists to understand human emotional growth patterns.

Too much of kids’ ministry is teaching about other people and what *not to do*. The Ten commandments, Noah’s Ark, and many other Bible heroes lose their power to inspire when you have heard them over and over again. They say “this is what has happened, focus on what has been”. We must teach them what is happening now and what *they* can do—how to live in the Kingdom of God *now*. They go to secular school in order to be positioned with their skills to obtain success. We hold their secular teachers accountable to train them well or they lose their jobs. We in the church need to live in righteous awareness of what competence our children truly have. The Kingdom of God is the only kingdom that will last forever. There are no rewards for mathematic ability at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

We are the vessels to prevent the abortion of destiny in the children of this generation. The best, most spiritual people in the church should be the children’s ministers. Fucia Pickett, one of the early pioneer ministers of the Charismatic movement once chose a young woman to mentor into her position to take over her ministry. This woman had been through Fucia’s ministry school and had been working in the nursery and preschool ministry for some time. When this great woman of God approached her and offered her mentoring and position, the younger woman declined. She told Pastor Fucia that she believed that she was bringing forth more fruit into the kingdom by praying for the babies and training the preschoolers than she would ever bring by becoming a world traveling adult minister. This testimony so impressed one pastor in Pennsylvania that he called KIMI and asked for us to come to train his children. God give us ears to hear. Many Christians are still going from conference to conference seeking their destiny. The principle is that as we give, we will receive. Give destiny to the children, receive it for yourself.

You have the anointing; we are here to give you tools.. It is time to put them to use. There are children of destiny waiting to draw out from what you already have. They are hungry and do not know how to ask for what they hunger for. No one was there to tell me about God or the way of life when I was a child. Jesus appeared to me at seven years old but I could only go into a closet after that and look at a little statue that glowed in the dark to help me remember the experience. Not until I was twenty-eight and had survived many bad decisions, did some one lead me to a place where I learned the truth and accepted it. This is part of my personal passion for calling adults into the arena of children’s ministry. All of the changes that must take place in our lives to reach them in their time of life are worthwhile. They will be spared pain and we will be rewarded in glory.

In addition to simply *going* to the children, we **must** learn to challenge them. We must redefine children’s ministry by the challenge! We challenge children to do their best in school, to do their best in sports, and to do their best in the many extra curricular activities we pay for: dance, music or gymnastics. We pay their teachers and seek the best for them. We reward them with praise for meeting and overcoming every challenge, yet overcoming on the sports field is only useful in the learning of discipline. There is no heavenly reward for football. There is great heavenly reward for hearing the voice of God and doing the works of God. There are assignments to come to the church that include works greater than we have ever heard or read about. Jesus is looking for champions and every champion has received coaching from an experienced champion. That is you.

You cannot raise a champion without a good diet. The church world in general (including parents, curriculum publishers, and Bible book stores) have a very limited menu of what they think kids are capable of understanding and handling. If you go into any Christian bookstore in the children's section, it is limited to:

- Basic Bible stories
- Fruits of the Spirit
- Ten Commandments
- Armor of God
- Obedience to parents
- Emotions like fear

Where is the relevance and challenge of growing and overcoming in the Lord? The point of the story of Noah's Ark, that we hear so much about, is that Noah heard the voice of God and saved his entire family. That is a goal worth seeking—to be spiritual in our day to day life, so we will know how to be spiritual in crises. We cannot raise children to be champions by just telling them about past champions. They must have their own encounters with God and decide to live for Him to the point that they hunger to know and serve Him.

Hearing the voice of God is the very first token of our inheritance of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Walking with God always means doing what He is doing. He even says that without Him we can do nothing. Who on earth would invite a child into his workshop and then say, "Don't touch my tools. Just watch!" That child will get out of the workshop quickly—first, because he does not want to get in trouble and second, because the workshop will be boring. It is important to apprentice our children to the Master. Children's ministry needs to train and release workmen in the Kingdom. God wants Spirit-filled children to live Spirit-led lives. Wherever the Holy Spirit lives, He is at work. There are a number of testimonies on my web site of even preschoolers who heard and obeyed the Lord. One of them involved healing. A two year old named Naomi reached out and laid her hand on the heart of a lady her parents were praying for. The lady was to go in and have heart surgery the next day. Although Naomi was not speaking clearly at the time, her parents say that what came blurring out of her mouth sounded like tongues, not baby talk. The next morning, the lady went for her surgery. They took one more test before the surgery began but found nothing wrong. They sent her home without an operation. Two other mothers testify of their children backsliding around five years old and then coming back through encounters with the Lord. One child, named Beatrice, went with me to minister at a children's conference. She received such strong prophetic words for the adults there, that it renewed her faith. She went home and began rejoicing and recording new songs on a small recorder. Her whole family began singing them and brought me the tape.

Children are people! Challenge sparks destiny and the striving to enter into it. Many times the Bible tells us to strive toward excellence. No gift is born mature, even as no child is born mature. But in this generation we can train the gift as we raise the child. They can grow up knowing God, talking with and hearing God and speaking for Him. The Holy Spirit is seeking children to worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

Is children's ministry at the top of our list or are we burying it still? Radical revelation is being given but it will take radical people to receive it and to pass it on. Those who yield to God's assignment to harvest the Regeneration Generation will receive a special anointing and opportunity to live on the cutting edge of God's move as He finally gets His way on earth. We have to be willing to be stripped of old ideas to bring fruit on the earth. It is like stripping an ear of corn. We think that we have changed because we feel one leaf stripped off but there are layers and layers of ideas that did not include children or even concentrate on God's destiny. We were layered up with desires and thoughts about our own destiny and feelings.

If God wants to recruit our kids for a mighty destiny, He first must recruit us. Peter and John and Andrew and Matthew all had parents and teachers. As young men, they were ready to leave all and follow the Messiah. Who put that into them? —those who were their "PowerClub leaders"—voices declaring destiny over their generation and training them to use the tools of destiny. What you teach the child, the adult will live. The only reason that children would ever leave the church is because they have never *been* the church. They have been a part of the pew, not part of the power.

We need to place children's ministry at the top of our priority lists. We need to enlist our best, most spiritual people to be trained in reaching children. These would be the people who are not living for today and who are looking to see **God's** destiny fulfilled on earth. He is preparing a generation of heroes that are like the first generation that built the church. This generation will be alive for the second coming and they will be ready to face the challenges—if we are diligent to train and challenge them **now**, as children. We have heard the boast by some religions that if they have a child until age seven, they will have them for life. We have also heard about the many children's camps of the Muslims who are training their children to kill, even using cartoon characters. This is a sad twisting of Proverbs 22:6: Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is grown he will not turn from it.

Father God had to have the twelve apostles or we would not be here as members of His church. Today, he has to have apostles and prophets to complete the plan for His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. That has been his goal and destiny since earth was created—to come and dwell with men in peace. In order to do that, a war must be won. Men and women of courage must be raised. They are a people who will follow the Lamb to establish Him as the Lion. A King will reign in Zion. His way will be known upon the earth. God chose you to this destiny and has placed apostles, prophets and teachers in your path so that you may train them and prepare them for the most demanding and rewarding times of all history. You are the heroes who are called to raise heroes.

2. Redefining Children's Ministry—notes

If you have time, you can read prophecies from Prophet's sheet at back of manual.

(Object Lessons: Sponge, pan of water, medium-large stone, unshucked ear of corn)

- Survey—How many adults would you like to return to sit in a 5th grade class?
- Is a Picture of most Sunday Schools

If something is not challenging and relevant, it is boring.

- in America the statistics say that as many as 70% of young people leave the church when they are old enough to make their own decisions and never come back.

- The Regeneration Generation is born in anticipation of change
(show whirling color spinner)

- The world gives activities that meet their needs for passion
- These are the adults who will manifest Jesus in authority
- We need to equip and release harvesters & miracle workers
—*WHILE THEY ARE LISTENING*)

- BARNAS STATISTICS:--not cultural but developmental (same for all cultures)
- Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions by George Barna
- p. 46 "Research shows that development of a child's world view and moral beliefs starts as early as age two."
- By 9 years old, the moral and spiritual foundations of a child's life are laid.
- Anyone who wants to influence children must begin when they are open-minded.
Foundations are solid. Once they are laid, if wrong, they must be broken down before right can be re-laid.

p. 34 "The probability of some one embracing Jesus as his or her Savior was 32 percent for those between the ages of 5 and 12 ; 4 percent for those in the 13-18 range; and 6 percent for people 19 or older. In other words, if people do not embrace Jesus Christ as their Savior before they reach their teen-age years, the chance of their doing so at all is slim."

- Amazing that the church is not running after the kids.
- We do not wait until teens to teach secular skills
- Monday Dec 1, 2003—Christian Aid PrayerLine
- "China has more children than the entire population of the United States. Studies have shown that 80% of Chinese Christians believed in Christ before they were 15 years old, even though Sunday Schools were illegal. Special training sessions are now being conducted in Bible Schools to prepare workers for child evangelism.
- Once kids are teens, foundations are set—Kids are sponges for love & truth

(Object lesson: In a pan of water, have a sponge and rock. Pull sponge out and squeeze the water visibly out. Pull the rock out and let it drip.)

- P. 38 In a spiritual survey given to 13 year-olds and adults, the differences between the beliefs of the 13-year-olds and the adults was the same or generally slightly different. THAT MEANS THAT BY 13 a person's adult belief system is set.
- p. 47 "The greatest hope for the local church lies in raising godly children."
- Age of learning = age of accountability
James 4: 17. Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. By toddler age

our children know that they are obeying or disobeying.

Too much of kids ministry is teaching about other people and what *not to do*.

10 Commandments, Noah's Ark, Bible Heroes are not inspiring when heard over and over

focus on the past rather than the present

We must teach what *to do now*—how to live in the Kingdom *now*.

Secular school puts kids in position for natural success

- Secular teachers are held accountable to parents and govt.
- Church should be conscious of children's progress.
- Only the Kingdom of God lasts forever
- Our children are our future and reward
- The best people in the church should invest in the children
will be eternal reward for them and the children

- Read Fucia Pickett testimony in sermon article.
PA ministry called for ministry to their children

Finding destiny comes by giving destiny.

You have anointing; we give you tools

- God will call children; we must disciple them.
Challenge makes God real

We must redefine children's ministry by the challenge!

- We challenge them to do their best in school
 - ◆ in sports
 - ◆ in music

We invest our resources in good teachers and coaches

- We reward them for meeting each challenge.
- No reward for football or secular studies in heaven
 - ◆ merely pleasing man, not the eternal God.
 - ◆ Great challenges and assignments are ahead for the church
 - ◆ Jesus looking for champions
 - ◆ Every champion has a champion for a coach
 - ◆ Cannot raise a champion on oatmeal—need a good diet
- Church world in general have a very limited menu to feed kids
 - ◆ (including parents, curriculum publishers, and Bible book stores)
 - ◆ Go into any Christian bookstore in the children's section and it's limited to:
 - ◆ Basic Bible stories
 - ◆ Fruits of the Spirit
 - ◆ Ten Commandments
 - ◆ Armor of God—Obedience to parents—Topics like fear

- The point of Noah's ark is that Noah heard the voice of God and saved his whole family and started a new civilization
 - Hearing God's voice is worth seeking
 - ◆ Must live spiritually day to day in order to meet crises
 - ◆ Can't talk and get champions, must show
 - ◆ Children must have personal encounters with God
 - ◆ Take them to the workshop, let them use the tools.
 - ◆ Apprentice kids to adults who are skilled
- Even preschoolers can hear God

Testimony of Naomi at two, praying for the heart problem lady

8 year old who backslid from 5 and was revived by ministering to adults

Children are people!

Give challenge to strive for excellence

No gift is born mature, must be exercised and practiced

Raise the child and train the gift at the same time

Challenge sparks destiny!

Is children's ministry at the top of your priorities?

A radical revelation takes a radical people to receive and pass it on

Kids ministers will harvest and train *The Regeneration Generation*

Must have our old ideas stripped away

Shuck the corn as you talk about stripping idea, personal desires, feelings of inadequacy...I'm not called....etc.-Pull the leaves away, one by one to show God stripping wrong ideas away

God wants to recruit kids, so must first recruit us

What we teach a child, the adult will live.

Children only leave the church because they never *were* the church

Just part of the pew, not part of the power

- Put Children's ministry at the top priority
- ◆ Enlist the most spiritual, best people
- ◆ those who are not living for reward today
- ◆ Who want to see **God's destiny** fulfilled
- ◆ To raise a generation of heroes like the first church generation
- ◆ Who can face great challenges.
- ◆ Catholics and Muslims recognize God's truth that children receive
- ◆ Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is grown, he will not turn from it
- ◆ God needed the first 12 apostles and needs strong workers today
- ◆ His goal is to come and live with men in peace
- ◆ Must win a war to do that

- ◆ Apostles of today will follow the Lamb to establish Him as King
- ◆ God is challenging pastors and children's workers to train and challenge children
- ◆ to prophesy,
- ◆ lay hands on the sick and see them healed,
- ◆ to preach the gospel and involve them in all areas of ministry.

- God has chosen us to mentor
apostles,
prophets,
teachers,
evangelists,
pastors,
mothers,
businessmen,
doctors
and Christians of all kinds
who will face the most demanding and rewarding times of all history.

He has called you to be a champion to coach champions

It takes a hero to raise a hero!

3. Children as a Mission Field

Getting a Clear Picture

According to the International Data Base of the U.S. Census Bureau International Programs Center, 3 out of every 10 people in 2002 were under the age of 15. Calculated, this 30% figure is 1.8 billion people under 15 who are alive in 2002. That leaves 4,200,000,000 people over 15.

Research by the Barna Research Organization (www.barna.org) reveals that a person has approximate 32% chance of receiving Christ between the age of 5 and 12. 32% of 1.8 billion equals 576,000,000 potential salvations in the children of the world. In the remaining adult population, the potential percentage of adults who will receive Christ is between 4 – 6 %. At the highest percentage of 6%, the possibility of salvations in that group world-wide is 252,000,000 (.06 x 4.2 billion). The ratio is 2.29 child salvations for every one adult salvation (576/252=2.29).

From one third of the world population, will come 2/3rds of the new converts to Christianity.

Famous American evangelist, Dwight Moody was asked after a meeting, "How many people got saved in your meeting last night, Moody?"

Moody's quick response was, "Two and a half!"

"Two and a half?" came the surprised question. "Oh, you mean two adults and one child!"

"No!" Moody retorted. "Two children and one adult!"

"How do you figure?" the party asked.

"Why, it's because the children have their whole lives to live for the Lord," said Moody, "whereas the adult's life is half over!"

Children below twelve years old are similar to one large culture. They easily play with each other. If you put a number of children from different nationalities in a large room together, it will not take long before they will begin to interact. If there are games to play, they will begin to play together, forgetting their differences and enjoying the universal culture of childhood.

Part of the reason for the unity of culture in childhood is because God made all human beings to follow a predetermined pattern in their developing years. This pattern progresses until their thirteenth year. For generations, many cultures, knowing nothing of this research, have had rites of passage into adulthood at twelve or thirteen years of age.

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, *Modified from Erik Erikson's stages of psychosocial development*

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 0-2 | Learning Basic Trust |
| 2-4 | Learning to say "No" and achieve independence |
| 4-6 | Learning to Take Initiative |
| 6-12 | Learning to Relate to Their Peer group, Socializing |
| 12-19 | Establishment of Identity—Establishment of what has already been received in their development |

In Matthew 18:3, Jesus said, "Except you are converted (changed) and become like little children, you shall not enter the Kingdom of God." The truth of his statement reflects God's knowledge that change is only effected when it reaches us at the deepest levels, in our foundations. Children believe easily; adults hardly. The following quote is from an update article on the Barna Research web site.

"Most Christians Were Young When Saved"

For years, church leaders have heard the claim that nearly nine out of ten Christians accept Jesus as their savior before the age of 18. If that statistic was accurate in the past, it no longer depicts U.S. society. The current Barna study indicates that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their savior do so before reaching the age of 13 (43%), and that two out of three born again Christians (64%) made that commitment to Christ before their 18th birthday.

Of those associated with a Catholic church, and who are born again, two out of three (66%) accepted Christ before age 13....Among Christians who embraced Christ before their teen years, half were led to Christ by their parents, with another one in five led by some other friend or relative.

Age of Acceptance Impacts Faith

The research indicates that the age at which a person accepts Christ as savior is related to various attributes of their spiritual life. People who become Christian before their teen years are more likely than those who are converted when older to remain "absolutely committed" to Christianity. ...Americans who embraced Christ during their high school or college years (i.e., ages 13 through 21) are less likely than other believers to describe themselves as "deeply spiritual."

Perhaps the most significant outcome of the research, in Barna's eyes, is the prevalence of decisions made during childhood. 'Families, churches and Para church ministries must recognize that the primary window of opportunity for effectively reaching people with the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection is during the pre-teen years. It is during those years that people develop their frames of reference for the remainder of their life – especially theologically and morally. Consistently explaining and modeling truth principles for young people is the most critical factor in their spiritual development.'"

**"What society does to children, children will do to society."
--African proverb**

Paul told Christians to "follow Him as He followed Christ". (1 Cor 11:1) That type of following is going on naturally with children. They are a mission field because they are needy for love. Children know that they are looking for some one to take the time to mentor them in the most important part of their lives-- in their inner life. They don't have the words for all of this. They just know they are hungry and desire to be fed emotionally and spiritually. Children become the teens of tomorrow who become the adults of the future.

The statistics for the beliefs of teenagers in America are staggering. And it's not just the unchurched. Our born again church going youth have some beliefs that may startle you. I don't know how much research has been done in other countries, but I do know that the world looks at America and tries to set its standard by the trends there.

July 8, 2003-Research

Barna noted, "less than one out of every ten churched teenagers has a biblical worldview. In other words, the result of their involvement at a church is that they can recite some religious facts, they made some friends, and they had fun. That's wonderful, but we also find that most of them have neither accepted Christ as their savior nor altered the basis on which they make their moral and ethical decisions in life. For most teenagers who have spent years attending church activities their faith is not integrated into who they are and how they live. Most of the young people who claim they developed an understanding of the Bible that enables them to make decisions based on biblical principles show no evidence of using that understanding in relation to the core beliefs and lifestyle choices that we studied."

2002-- By far the most common basis for moral decision-making was doing whatever feels right or comfortable in a situation. Just 7% of teenagers said their moral choices were based on biblical principles. ... In fact, the alarmingly fast decline of moral foundations among our young people has culminated in a one-word worldview: 'whatever.'

63% don't believe Jesus is the Son of the one true God.

58% believe all faiths teach equally valued truths

51% don't believe Jesus rose from the dead

65% don't believe Satan is a real entity

68% don't believe the Holy Spirit is real

83% don't believe an absolute moral truth exists*

9% of born again teens believe in absolutes

Barna, February 12, 2002 Americans Are Most Likely to Base Truth on Feelings

Barna's conclusion:

"When a majority of Christian adults, including three out of four born again Baby Busters, as well as three out of four born again teens proudly cast their vote for moral relativism, the Church is in trouble. Continuing to preach more sermons, teach more Sunday school classes and enroll more people in Bible study groups won't solve the problem since most of these people don't accept the basis of the principles being taught in those venues. The failure to address this issue at its root, and to do so quickly and persuasively, will undermine the strength of the church for at least another generation, and probably longer."

There are ministers swimming upstream against this tide of lies that have flooded our kids. Josh McDowell is one. He has introduced an exciting new church wide curriculum that ministers truth. And does any of this matter? We may prefer for our young people to embrace biblical beliefs, but what harm will come if they don't? Research consistently shows that what a person believes translates into attitudes and behavior. The vast majority of our young people have distorted beliefs about Christ and Christianity. Those with such distorted views are:

200% more likely to be disappointed in life
200% more likely to physically hurt someone
210% more likely to lack purpose
300% more likely to use illegal drugs
600% more likely to attempt suicide

1. "The Ethics of American Youth-202 Report Card" conducted and published by Josephson Institute of Ethics (Marina del Rey, CA Oct. 2002)

2. Barna Research Group, "Third Millennium Teens" (Ventura, CA: The Barna Research Group LTD, 1999) pg 49 & 51

It is up to us to walk into the world of child missions. We must call into life the potential power that God has birthed in children. Children do not say "I **am**." They say, "I'm going to be." Instead of challenging you with absolutes, they challenge you with what they "think" and they are willing to listen. They are willing to learn how to think. They are just looking to see if they are loved.

We are called to minister to the culture of children, to learn how they think in pictures and how they relate to the world by impressions and emotions. They will teach you to see them as people and to discern their spiritual needs. Let God awaken the heart of a child within you. Your love for children is the kiss of life for a generation of children born into a hard-hearted world. Many will have no touch of affection or communion of heart beside what you give them. But once they truly feel a heart to heart connection with love, they will seek it for themselves. God's promise is that every one who seeks finds. If we plant the seed, God will give the increase. If you identify with their weakness, they will identify with your strength. If you go as a missionary to them, they will become missionaries to other kids.

In a report on the Welsh Revival, is written, "History records that it was the young people, including children that made up the workers and evangelists in that revival. World famous Christian leaders would go to Wales thinking they would give leadership to this movement that was being run by the young, but awed by the presence of God, would just end up sitting quietly while the teenagers and children prayed, sang, and testified in the Spirit. Little children had their own prayer meetings and witnessed boldly to even the most hardened sinners."

The story is told of early revivalist Amy Semple McPherson that she had children preach regularly in her services and even appointed her son and daughter when under 12 to be pastors of children's church.

Charles Spurgeon, a famous American preacher of the 19th century, wrote, "Some people expect almost infinite wisdom in a child before they can believe him to be the subject of Divine grace. This is monstrous. Then, again, if a believing child should act like a child, some of the fathers of the last gen-

eration judged that he could not be converted, as if conversion to Christ added twenty years to our age. Of course, the young convert must not play anymore, nor talk in his own childish fashion, or the seniors would be shocked; for it was a sort of understood thing that as soon as ever a child was converted he was to turn into an old man. I never could see anything in Scripture to support this theory...At any rate, learn from the Master's words that you are not to try and make the child like yourself, but you are to be transformed till you yourself are like the child."

Children are full of destiny! God has great plans for them! Discern their gifts, tell them who they are and what they have from God and then train them into their destiny. Be a trainer to the Elijah's of the end time. Give them everything you have and everything you know. To have your youth renewed means that you hook up with the young eagles. It means that you learn child-likeness. It means that you integrate into "this generation that shall not pass away until all these things be accomplished." It means that by humbling yourself like a little child, you become the greatest of these, the servant of all. Those who recognize the times and turn to mentor the little Samuels, Elijahs and Davids of this end time, will share in their day, their time, their love and their reward!

October 11, 2004—Barna Update," Evangelism Is Most Effective Among Kids"

The World Aflame, MorningStar Publications, (1993)

Come Ye Children by Pilgrim Publications, Pasadena, TX 77501.

3. Children as a Mission Field—Notes

JUST TO GET A PICTURE **USE POWERPOINT or copy the information between the lines on a large sheet of paper or blackboard.**

U.S. Census Bureau International Programs Center
International Data Base

3 out of every 10 people in 2002 were under the age of 15= 1.8 billion

4.2 billion over 15.

Barna Research Organization : Between 5-12 has 32% chance of receiving Christ = 576,000,000 potential. salvations in the children of the world

Over 12 is 4- 6 % chance

06 x 4.2 billion = 252,000,000 potential. salvations in the adults of the world

2 1/3 children saved for every adult

From one third of the world population, will come 2/3rds of the new converts

Read Story

Famous American evangelist, Dwight Moody was asked after a meeting, "How many people got saved in your meeting last night, Moody?"

Moody's quick response was, "Two and a half!"

"Two and a half?" came the surprised question. "Oh, you mean, two adults and one child!"

"No!" Moody retorted. "Two children and one adult!"

"How do you figure?" the party asked.

"Why, it's because the children have their whole lives to live for the Lord," said Moody, "whereas the adult's life is half over!"

Children below twelve years old like one large culture.

All children develop in same pattern until their thirteenth year.

Many cultures have rites of passage into adulthood at 12 or 13

Use PowerPoint if Possible

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, *Modified from Erik Erikson's stages of psychosocial development*

0-2	Basic Trust
2-4	"No", independence
4-6	Initiative
6-12	Peer group—socializing
12-19	Establishment of Identity—They are who they are going to be and begin making a stand on what they have received as children.

Matthew 18:3, Jesus said, "Except you are converted (changed) and become like little children, you shall not enter the Kingdom of God."

Real change comes at a deep foundational level. God must bring us to humility.

The following quote is from an update from the Barna Research. **Read the following article:**
"Most Christians Were Young When Saved"

For years, church leaders have heard the claim that nearly nine out of ten Christians accept Jesus as their savior before the age of 18. If that statistic was accurate in the past, it no longer depicts U.S. society. The current Barna study indicates that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their savior do so before reaching the age of 13 (43%), and that two out of three born again Christians (64%) made that commitment to Christ before their 18th birthday.

Of those associated with a Catholic church, and who are born again, two out of three (66%) accepted Christ before age 13....Among Christians who embraced Christ before their teen years, half were led to Christ by their parents, with another one in five led by some other friend or relative.

Age of Acceptance Impacts Faith

The research indicates that the age at which a person accepts Christ as savior is related to various attributes of their spiritual life. People who become Christian before their teen years are more likely than those who are converted when older to remain "absolutely committed" to Christianity. ...Americans who embraced Christ during their high school or college years (i.e., ages 13 through 21) are less likely than other believers to describe themselves as "deeply spiritual."

Perhaps the most significant outcome of the research, in Barna's eyes, is the prevalence of decisions made during childhood. "Families, churches and Para church ministries must recognize that the primary window of opportunity for effectively reaching people with the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection is during the pre-teen years. It is during those years that people develop their frames of reference for the remainder of their life – especially theologically and morally. Consistently explaining and modeling truth principles for young people is the most critical factor in their spiritual development."

--African proverb—"What society does to children, children will do to society."

Amy Semple McPherson (American woman evangelist) had children preach regularly in her services and even appointed her son and daughter when under 12 to be pastors of children's church.

Charles Spurgeon wrote *Come Ye Children*. It is 160 pages of sermon excerpts all on training children in the truths of the gospel.)

Read:

"Some people expect almost infinite wisdom in a child before they can believe him to be them subject of Divine grace. This is monstrous. Then, again, if a believing child should act like a child, some of the fathers of the last generation judged that he could not be converted, as if conversion to Christ added twenty years to our age. Of course, the young convert must not play anymore, nor talk in his own childish fashion, or the seniors would be shocked; for it was a sort of understood thing that as soon as ever a child was converted he was to turn into an old man. I never could see anything in Scripture to support this theory...At any rate, learn from the Master's words that you are not to try and make the child like yourself, but you are to be transformed till you yourself are like the child."

Report on the WELSH REVIVAL AS WRITTEN OF IN The World Aflame, MorningStar Publications, 1993)

"History records that it was the young people, including children that made up the workers and evangelists in that revival. World famous Christian leaders would go to Wales thinking they would give leadership to this movement that was being run by the young, but awed by the presence of God, would just end up sitting quietly while the teenagers and children prayed, sang, and testified in the Spirit. Little children had their own prayer meetings and witnessed boldly to even the most hardened sinners."

OUTLINE NOTES:

Paul told Christians to "follow Him as He followed Christ". (1 Cor 11:1)

That type of following is going on naturally with children.

Children are a mission field because they are needy for love

The invisible part of us, our soul and spirit, are the real part of our lives.
Children know that without being told, and they are looking for some one to take the time to mentor them in the most important part of their lives.
They don't have the words for all of this. They just know when they are hungry and desire to be fed emotionally and spiritually.

Read this:

**CHILDREN BECOME TEENS WHO BECOME ADULTS BUT IT ALL STARTS
AS THE CHILDREN!**

The statistics for the beliefs of teenagers in America are staggering. And it's not just the unchurched. Our born again church going youth have some beliefs that may startle you. I don't know how much research has been done in other countries, but I do know that the world looks at America and tries to set its standard by the trends there.

July 8, 2003-Research

Barna noted, "less than one out of every ten churched teenagers has a biblical worldview. In other words, the result of their involvement at a church is that they can recite some religious facts, they made some friends, and they had fun. That's wonderful, but we also find that most of them have neither accepted Christ as their savior nor altered the basis on which they make their moral and ethical decisions in life. For most teenagers who have spent years attending church activities their faith is not integrated into who they are and how they live. Most of the young people who claim they developed an understanding of the Bible that enables them to make decisions based on biblical principles show no evidence of using that understanding in relation to the core beliefs and lifestyle choices that we studied."

2002-- By far the most common basis for moral decision-making was doing whatever feels right or comfortable in a situation. Just 7% of teenagers said their moral choices were based on biblical principles. ... In fact, the alarmingly fast decline of moral foundations among our young people has culminated in a one-word worldview: 'whatever.'

63% don't believe Jesus is the Son of the one true God.

58% believe all faiths teach equally valued truths

51% don't believe Jesus rose from the dead

65% don't believe Satan is a real entity

68% don't believe the Holy Spirit is real

83% don't believe an absolute moral truth exists*

9% of born again teens believe in absolutes

Barna, February 12, 2002 Americans Are Most Likely to Base Truth on Feelings

Barna's conclusion:

"When a majority of Christian adults, including three out of four born again Baby Busters, as well as three out of four born again teens proudly cast their vote for moral relativism, the Church is in trouble. Continuing to preach more sermons, teach more Sunday school classes and enroll more people in Bible study groups won't solve the problem since most of these people don't accept the basis of the principles being taught in those venues. The failure to address this issue at its root, and to do so quickly and persuasively, will undermine the strength of the church for at least another generation, and probably longer."

There are ministers swimming upstream against this tide of lies that have flooded our kids. Josh McDowell is one. He has introduced an exciting new church wide curriculum that ministers truth. And does any of this matter? We may prefer for our young people to embrace biblical beliefs, but what harm will come if they don't? Research consistently shows that what a person believes translates into attitudes and behavior. The vast majority of our young people have distorted beliefs about Christ and Christianity.

Those with such distorted views are:

200% more likely to be disappointed in life
200% more likely to physically hurt someone
210% more likely to lack purpose
300% more likely to use illegal drugs
600% more likely to attempt suicide

1. "The Ethics of American Youth-202 Report Card" conducted and published by Josephson Institute of Ethics (Marina del Rey, CA Oct. 2002)

2. Barna Research Group, "Third Millennium Teens" (Ventura, CA: The Barna Research Group LTD, 1999) pg 49 & 51

NOTES:

Walk into the world of child missions!

- call into life the potential power that God has birthed in children!
- children do not say "I **am**." They say, "I'm going to be."
- Instead of challenging you with absolutes, they challenge you with what they "think" are willing to listen
- They are willing to learn how to think.
- They are just looking to see if they are loved.
- Minister to the **culture** of children.
- Learn how they think in pictures,
- how they relate to the world by impressions and emotions,
- what they see as their main needs.
- Let God awaken the heart of a child within you.
- Your love for children is the kiss of life for a generation of children born into a hard-hearted world.
- Many will have no touch of affection or communion of heart beside what you give them. But once they truly feel a heart to heart connection with love, they will seek it for themselves.
- And every one who seeks finds.
- We plant the seed; God gives the increase.
- You identify with their weakness; they stand and identify with your strength.
- You go as a missionary to them; they become the missionaries to other kids.

Children are full of destiny!

- God has great plans for them!
- Tell them, discern their gifts and train them into their destiny.
- Train the Elijah's of the end time.
- Give them everything you have and everything you know.
- To have your youth renewed means that you hook up with the young eagles.
- It means that you learn child-likeness.
- It means that you integrate into "this generation that shall not pass away until all these things be accomplished."
- It means that by humbling yourself like a little child, you become the greatest of these, the servant of all.
- Those who recognize the times and turn to mentor the little Samuels, Elijahs and Davids of this end time, will share in their day, their time, their love and their reward.
- Go for the children!

4. The Josiah Generation by Becky Fischer

A tenderhearted eight-year-old boy named Josiah was placed on the adult throne of Judah to rule as their king. Although this child descended from the proud lineage of King David, he actually grew up in a very ungodly, dysfunctional home. It must have been dysfunctional because of the lifestyles his grandfather and father lived. According to the scriptural accounts, Grandpa Manasseh did abominable evils in the sight of the Lord including rebuilding the high places and altars of Baal, which historians tell us included rituals full of sexual perversions. He sacrificed a son in a fire to false gods, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spirits and mediums. It says he "seduced Israel to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed" (2 Kings 21:9).

Daddy Amon was no better than grandpa at modeling a godly, wholesome environment in spite of his heritage. It says that Amon "walked in all the ways that his father had walked; and he served the idols that his father had served, and worshipped them. He forsook the Lord God of his fathers" (2 Kings 21:21-22). If Social Services had known about this family situation, Josiah surely would have been yanked out of that home immediately and placed in foster care. There's no telling what Josiah saw and experienced by the impressionable age of eight. Some educators report that for the most part it's in the early years of childhood that our personalities and belief systems are set for life. The sins and habits of their parents would have already corrupted many children growing up in this environment.

But this child was of a different heart. From the very beginning of his reign we're told that Josiah "did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or the left" (2 Kings 22:2). It tells us that "while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David" (2 Chronicles 34:2). Knowing his background, it's a wonder that he even knew there was any other God than the ones his fathers had served. But he pursued the Most High God with all his heart, tore down the altars of Baal, destroyed the graven images, and burned the bones of the false priests on their own altars thus cleansing Judah of its shame. We're told that "before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him" (2 Kings 23:25). That's saying a lot considering King David was in the family tree.

What Josiah did not know at the time was that because of his grandfather's perversions, God had put a curse on Judah and vowed to destroy it. But in the process of restoring true worship to the temple of God, a priest stumbled across the Holy Scriptures. He rushed them to the young king and began reading to him. It was there Josiah learned of the curse on his nation and the boy-king tore his clothes in repentance and sorrow. As a result the Lord spoke through a prophetess to Josiah saying, "because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they would become a desolation and a curse, and you tore your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you," says the Lord. "Surely.. your eyes shall not see all the calamity which I will bring on this place" (2 Kings 22:19-20). He was told he would go to his grave in peace.

Why was Josiah so impacted by the reading of the scriptures? It was because the prophetic word that was read included his very own name. He learned that he personally had been appointed many years before his birth to be the one to restore the temple of God to its holy prophets.

“Behold, a child, Josiah by name, shall be born to the house of David; and on you he shall sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense on you, and men’s bones shall be burned on you” (I Kings 13:2). You could say he heard his name in the spirit and he collided with his divine destiny of restoring his nation to the Lord.

This story of Josiah is prophetic of what is about to happen all across the world in the lives of boys and girls in every nation. It’s no coincidence that Josiah became king at the age of eight. In the scriptures the number eight stands for “new beginnings.” When Josiah took the throne, there was a new beginning for his nation. The curse was temporarily broken because a child who reigned as king chose to pursue the Lord God. That he was a child in such an important position of authority speaks of the fact that God does not put limits on children when it comes to “kingdom business.”

There is a generation of children that is beginning to hear their names in the spirit—they’re made of different fabric than their fathers. Just as Josiah did, this is a generation that will have righteousness written on their hearts, and like Josiah will eagerly desire to do that which is right in the eyes of the Lord. Those that choose to serve Jesus Christ reign as kings and priests before the Most High God, and so these children are kings before the Lord. This generation of children will forsake the sins of their fathers, and with no godly example before them they will seek the true and living God at a very young age, eager to do His will. As they begin to rise up and tear down the practices and the perverse ways of the generations that have gone before them, the curses on their nations will be turned on their behalf. It will be a new beginning in the spirit for their nations.

Just like there was a prophetic word for Israel saying that a child would rid that nation of its idolatry and wickedness, the prophets of today are declaring much the same words. Here is an example:

“You said revival must take place in the church, but the Spirit of the Lord says, ‘I’m not going to do it any longer in the church. I’m going to do it within your schools and in your colleges. What’s going to happen,’ says the Spirit of the Lord, ‘is I’m going to take the ones that are marked with anger and those are the ones that I have marked as the evangelist of the colleges and evangelist of the schools. I’m going to go to the kindergarten schools. I’m going to the children, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 year olds and I’m going to fill them with the Spirit right there in child care. I’m going to fill them with my Spirit.’ Prayer and praise will suddenly be reinstated and God says they will not pray like they used to pray. ‘The dead old prayer to the dead old god is over,’ says the Lord. ‘They are going to pray to the Jesus that was raised from the dead. I’m going to bring my force and I’m going to raise them up in this end time,’ says the Lord.”

Says another:

“And even in this plan a whole move for child evangelism will be a great spoke . . . and so God will gather to Himself the children in the world. In these days, they’ll find the greatest purpose of all. God is reserving much anointing. God is searching out these little ones. And out of their mouths will come great, great authority, and great, great prophecy. Great events will happen among these little children. It’s a wonderful thing that God will do in these days. Oh, not just one place here and not just one place there. But it will be multiplied over and over in this nation and around the world. So the children will come, red and yellow, black and white, because they are precious in His sight. They will march together these little feet. They will march together in a heavenly beat. God will use these little ones as little keys and they will open great doors, and those that have been thought of as the off scouring of the world, God looks at them and the very gold in His heart.”

On a 2001 missions trip to Tanzania, East Africa, KIMI challenged the church leaders to begin reaching out to the street children, trying to impress upon them the untapped potential in them as mighty warriors for God. One church began immediately to bring some into the homes of the church members to tell them about Jesus. The pastor emailed me the next week saying, “We were amazed at how hungry they were for God.”

There are many “Josiahs” in our world today who are just waiting for someone to point them in the right direction. It’s going to take laborers going into those fields to gather the harvest. But Jesus said in John 4:35 “The fields are *white* unto harvest.” That’s a critical time to a farmer.

In countries where wheat is raised, one of the prettiest sights on the plains is fields of golden wheat waving in the wind. But it has to be harvested at just the right time. When the wheat is a rich, harvest gold, the farmers can cut the stalks of grain easily without losing any of the seeds. If the grain is cut too early, it is difficult to shake the seeds out of the hulls and harvesting is not very productive. But if the wheat is left too long in the field, the golden color begins to turn white, which means it is over-ripe. It’s difficult to harvest at that point because as soon as the stalk of wheat is bumped, the grains of wheat fall to the ground, and cannot be gathered. The harvest is largely lost at that point.

When Jesus said “the fields are white”, he was letting us know that the fields of humanity are over-ripe, and we are in danger of losing the crop. He was saying people are ripe to receive the gospel now, and that there is a window of opportunity in every life when their hearts are open and tender towards the gospel. One of those key times is during childhood. It’s going to take many laborers to bring in the Josiahs of today. They are hearing their names being called in the Spirit and their hearts are hungry and ripe to receive the Living Word. I’m convinced there are not just hundreds or even thousands of children and teens ready to receive the gospel, but literally millions who, given the chance, would stand up against the evils of their cultures and declare Jesus as Lord—the Josiah Generation. But it will take laborers to go and tell them that they are heirs to the Throne.

Josiah:

3 Things Make Him Prophetic for this generation

1. He was eight years old when he took the throne. Eight is the number of new beginnings. It was a new beginning for Judah when he came into power. As this millennial generation comes fully into its own in world societies, it will be a new beginning for us as well

2He was made a king as a small boy. God seemed to have no problem putting a child in a strategic position of authority, a place where children are not normally allowed. He sees our kids, this generation, as kings and priests and considers them able to take on spiritual responsibilities far beyond their years.

3. The name Josiah means “founded on God” or “foundation in God” Josiah was a forerunner from the same lineage that Jesus would eventually come from. Josiah was a spiritual forerunner of those who would become one with Christ—little Jesuses.

4. Josiah Generation—Preaching Notes

8 Years old when placed on the throne of Judah

Descendant of David

Grandfather was Manasseh

Built altars to Baal,

Sacrificed children-- he “seduced Israel to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed” (2 Kings 21:9)

Father Amon “walked in all the ways that his father had walked; and he served the idols that his father had served, and worshipped them. He forsook the Lord God of his fathers” (2 Kings 21:21-22).

Family and childhood dysfunctional

Had a different heart

From the beginning Josiah “did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or the left” (2 Kings 22:2).

“While he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David” (2 Chronicles 34:2).

Tore down the altars of Baal, destroyed the graven images, and burned the bones of the false priests

“before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him” (2 Kings 23:25).

Law of God found during temple clean-up

Curse on Judah discovered

Josiah spared seeing it come to pass.

“because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they would become a desolation and a curse, and you tore your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you,” says the Lord. “Surely.. .your eyes shall not see all the calamity which I will bring on this place” (2 Kings 22:19-20).

Saw his own name prophesied in scripture

“Behold, a child, Josiah by name, shall be born to the house of David; and on you he shall sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense

on you, and men's bones shall be burned on you" (I Kings 13:2).

Prophetic to this generation of boys and girls

"8" means new beginning

Child seeking God delayed results of parents' curses

God gives authority to God-seeking children

A generation alive today eagerly seek God

Different from past generations

Serve Jesus and reign as kings

Will tear down old practices

Will break curses and create new beginnings for their nations

(note to trainer..These prophets are not named by the author. You can substitute one of the prophecies, if you wish from the prophecy section at the back.)

One prophet has said, "You said revival must take place in the church, but the Spirit of the Lord says, 'I'm not going to do it any longer in the church. I'm going to do it within your schools and in your colleges. What's going to happen,' says the Spirit of the Lord, 'is I'm going to take the ones that are marked with anger and those are the ones that I have marked as the evangelist of the colleges and evangelist of the schools. I'm going to go to the kindergarten schools. I'm going to the children, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 year olds and I'm going to fill them with the Spirit right there in child care. I'm going to fill them with my Spirit.' Prayer and praise will suddenly be reinstated and God says they will not pray like they used to pray. 'The dead old prayer to the dead old god is over,' says the Lord. 'They are going to pray to the Jesus that was raised from the dead. I'm going to bring my force and I'm going to raise them up in this end time,' says the Lord."

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Tanzanians surprised to find children hungry for God
Many Josiahs are waiting to be harvested

Wheat is only ripe when golden—white is too late.

Childhood is time of being ripe

Josiah:

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Are you willing to stand with the generation that God wants to take a stand ***through?***

The Josiahs of today need priests to guide them and prepare them. God wants to use them and has already ordained their place in His plan.

Stand with me if you are willing to become one who will bring the Josiahs of today into their destinies!

5. The Joshua/Eli Factor

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." This is the summary of God's purpose in creating earth and the human race. Jesus taught us to pray and believe for its fulfillment. He *will* be on earth and He *will* rule in peace. Since the garden, all events on earth have been moving toward that conclusion, and many of us will experience it. What is our part? Are we in the day of preparation for change or the day of establishing change? Does God have a pattern in His process of bringing His Kingdom to earth? I believe that He does have a pattern, one that He wants us to follow. When God shifts history, He uses key members of an older generation to train the younger generation. Then He uses the younger men and women to break new ground. We see this pattern in the lives of Joshua, Moses' heir to ministry, and Eli, high priest in the days of the judges.

When Joshua led the Israelites into Canaan, his warriors were all much younger than himself. Every male twenty years old and above had died during the forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Now, these younger fighters took the promised land and transitioned Israel from a family to a nation. We could say that Joshua was a sort of youth leader. Likewise, Eli did the work of a children's minister by training young Samuel to respond to the voice of the Lord and function in the office of a priest.

The non-Levite Samuel became the first priest who held his office by calling and relationship. His words never went unfulfilled and God used him to institute the kingdom that David ultimately ruled. Joshua prepared and led the young Israelites, all of whom had been born in the wilderness, to take the land of Canaan. His first act was to restore them to covenant with God and a separation unto holiness. In Joshua 5:2 we read the account of how he circumcised all of the men and "rolled away the reproach of Egypt" off of them. Then he led them to victory. Both were leaders who created leaders who created change. They fulfilled their destiny by empowering others to fulfill God's destiny on the earth. John 15:16 says, "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain." Fruit remains when what you begin continues after you leave. Their fruit remained.

We do not usually think of these two men together but they had many things in common. Both men mentored younger men who established a new order in the lives of God's people. Both men endured long times of waiting on God in unfulfilling, dry times when it seemed nothing would change. Both had the care of the ark of God and loved the things of God above all else. Both were old before God used them significantly. Neither is reported to have had natural children who carried on their spiritual legacy. Both were important because their spiritual children did do great exploits. The Israelites brought the walls of Jericho to the ground and began the conquest of Canaan. King David completed the work by subduing the heathen elements left by former generations. Without the mentorship of Eli and Joshua, history would not have moved forward. They were predestined to the part that they were to play.

When God has a key generation to prepare, He picks their teachers and parents carefully. You and I, like Eli and Joshua, are positioned in God's timing to mentor a generation who will break ground in bringing the Kingdom of God to earth. On the horizon is a generation of Christians who will receive a generational anointing to make supernatural works and words to become a natural occurrence—a generation of power. It is important that we prepare them for action and alert them to expect and receive this anointing. God needs them in His plan as He needed Andrew, Peter, and Nathaniel to be in the foundation of the church. Do you know the name of Nathaniel's mother? His rabbi? Without his mentors, could he have been the first disciple to perceive and declare that Jesus was the Messiah? I think not.

Except for Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary, and Joseph, the parents and mentors of the "salvation generation" are nameless except to God. But each adult who touched the life of one child who would become a disciple of Jesus was a key player in the drama of God. Simeon saw a baby and proclaimed the Christ. We also need to see Christ in a child and prophesy destiny to them and their parents. Let us go even farther and be used to develop the potential in children and be part of God's victory. Knowing the times, we can be part of God's work.

Jesus was not sympathetic with those who refused revelation of their times and rejected Him. In Luke 11:52, He called them lawyers who took away the key of knowledge and hindered (revelation) of coming change. He even laid on them the guilt for all rejection of all prophets from Abel to Himself. This was because they refused the revelation of coming change and were not alert to move in concert with God. Paul reflected the heart of God later when he said to the Jews in Antioch, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of

everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.” (Acts 13:46) Those who were alert were harvested into the kingdom. Are we on the alert to the plan of God surrounding our lives? We have been harvested to become harvesters and the second coming will be preceded by another world wide harvest. Children are part of that ripe field and some are part of the harvest crew. There is a place for us to call children into the Kingdom and to train them to minister in the Kingdom.

We have been born for such a time as this, like Mordecai who raised Esther, Joshua who mentored an army and Eli who raised Samuel. We are to impart anointing, share our experience, and perhaps help them lead their first battles. We are to be examples of patience, maturity, courage and the living word of God. We are to train the “generation who will usher in the second coming of the Lord. Their victories and struggles are ours. Having survived our own days in the wilderness, we will walk with them into a land that we have looked forward to: the promised land of world-wide revival and harvest. God has a time and schedule for its establishment. He has a people to be used to establish it. This people will know that the kingdom is within them, even while everything outside of them is shaken. They will be so full of God that the kingdom of God can be revealed while the kingdom of man is shaking. This is what our children want—God—not control or organization or numbers. They want reality, fire and relevance to life.

For this to happen, they need their own experience of circumcision with God. He must be first. We will show them how. They need to expect God to do great things. We will give them this. We must open the door for great things in our children’s lives. This might require that we release our personal ambitions and concentrate on the ambition and destiny of God on the earth. He needs a pool of key players who are positioned to receive an anointing to exhibit the kingdom of God on earth and vindicate his glory. The destiny of God revolves around the generation who will finalize His plan. They cannot play their parts unless we play our part. Samuel would not have come into destiny without Eli. Canaan would not have been won without Joshua. Peter would not have answered the call of Jesus without preparation from godly mentors. Who was the teacher and parent who raised a fisherman who could say that nothing unclean had ever touched his mouth? They share the reward for Peter’s holiness and impact.

It is time to change our minds about children’s ministry. It is time for parents to be serious about spending spiritual time with their children. We cannot expect them to grasp what they have not been taught. It is time for churches to reorganize to include children in the vital life of the congregation. Children need to see that they are able to make an impact through the Holy Spirit and be trained to make that impact. The focus of children’s ministry needs to include training and practice in the supernatural gifts of God. Our enthusiasm needs to say to them, “We can do it, so you can do it!”

God is carefully choosing the actors in this end time drama that will climax in the return of Christ. Just as we will forever remember the first generation who introduced the church to the world, we will forever remember the last generation who finish up the work of God and introduced the kingdom of God to the world. God will vindicate His glory through them. They will likely be the workers Christ pays for working one hour while others have labored long in the heat. They will receive more and do greater works in a shorter time than preceding generations. They have favor. God has waited since the beginning for the generation who will play out His ending in the day of God’s destiny. May our leaders catch this understanding. They are the door to unlocking the consciousness of a congregation. They can also be the closed door that misses God’s call for this time.

He will raise a people who will overcome the devil as fully as Christ did. He will give them the grace and the signs and wonders to say, as Jesus did in John 15: 24. “If I had not done among them the works which no other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.” The world will see Jesus in the generation we mentor and in us, should God give us grace. The world will also hate them as they hated Jesus. Are you anticipating the change of the times? Are you preparing for it? Are you seeking to fit into God’s prophetic destiny as Simeons or Annas or parents of the regeneration generation? We are preparing the way for the fullness of time mentioned in Ephesians 1:10: “...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth in Him.” Some of these future heroes of the faith are born and some of them are yet to be born. None of them will become warriors for God unless the Joshuas and Elis of today begin to concentrate on finding them, mentoring them and releasing them into their destinies as ministers of the grace and truth of God.

Those you have fathered or mothered before now may not be exhibiting the fruit you sought to instill. The ones you have yet to meet and mentor *will* bear fruit. Find those whom God has reserved for

the end of time and pour all that you have and all that you are into them. We are to be about the Father's business in the age in which we live.

We must know the times and the seasons and center our lives around fulfilling the destiny of God in our generation. This means mentoring young people. Joshua, Eli, Mordecai, Anna, Simeon, Joseph, Mary, Zacarias, Elizabeth and their son, John the Baptist, found destiny by creating destiny in others. So must we. We must be forerunners, and must be heroes because it takes a hero to raise a hero!

. The Joshua/Eli Factor —Preaching Notes

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” =of God’s purpose in creating earth and the human race.

Jesus taught us to pray and believe for its fulfillment. He *will* be on earth and He *will* rule in peace.

- Since the garden, all events on earth have been moving toward that conclusion, and many of us will experience it.
- What is our part?
- Are we in the day of preparation for change or the day of establishing change?
- Does God have a pattern in His process of bringing His Kingdom to earth?
- uses key members of an older generation to train the younger generation.
- Then He uses the younger men and women to break new ground.
- pattern shown in the lives of Joshua, and Eli, high priest
- Joshua was a sort of youth leader.
- Eli did the work of a children’s minister
- Samuel not a Levite but became the first priest who held his office by calling and relationship.
- God used him to institute the kingdom that David ultimately ruled.
- Joshua led the young Israelites,
- Had to restore them to covenant with God and a separation unto holiness.
- circumcised all of the men and “rolled away the reproach of Egypt” off of them.
- Both were leaders who created leaders who created change.
- fulfilled their destiny by empowering others to fulfill God’s destiny

- John 15:16 - “You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain.”

Fruit remains when what you begin continues after you leave. Their fruit remained.

- **Things they had in common.**

- mentored younger men who established a new order in the lives of God's people.

- endured long times of waiting on God in unfulfilling times
- had the care of the ark of God and loved the things of
- were old before God used them significantly. Neither
- had natural children who carried on their spiritual legacy.
- spiritual children did do great exploits.
- Without the mentorship of Eli and Joshua, history would not have moved forward.
- predestined to the part that they were to play.

When God has a key generation to prepare, He picks their teachers and parents carefully.

- We, like Eli and Joshua, are positioned in God’s timing to mentor a generation who will break ground in bringing the Kingdom of God to earth.
- Coming is a generation of power
- we prepare them for action and alert them to expect and
- God needs them in His plan
- as He needed Andrew, Peter, and Nathaniel to be in the foundation of the church.
- Do you know the name of
- Nathaniel’s mother? His rabbi?

his mentors, prepared him to respond to Jesus

Most parents and mentors of salvation generation are nameless.

- each adult who prepared the disciples was a key
- Simeon saw a baby and proclaimed the Christ.
- We also need to see Christ in a child and prophesy destiny
- be used to develop the potential in children and be part of God’s victory.
- Must know the times, we can be part of God’s work.
- Luke 11:52--Jesus criticized lawyers who hindered (revelation)

- laid on them the guilt for all rejection of all prophets from Abel to Himself.

- They did not know the times.

- Did not move in concert with God.

Paul to the Jews in Antioch, ""It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles." (Acts 13:46)

- Those who were alert were harvested—

- Others were left behind

- Are we on the alert to the plan of God surrounding our lives?

- We have been harvested to become harvesters

- The second coming will be preceded by another world wide harvest.

Children are part of field and part of the harvest crew.

We must call and train children to minister in the Kingdom.

- We have been born for such a time as this,

- like Mordecai who raised Esther,

- Joshua who mentored an army and

- Eli who raised Samuel.

- We are to impart anointing, share our experience, and perhaps help them lead their first battles.

- be examples of patience, maturity, courage and the living word of God.

- train the "generation who will usher in the second coming of the Lord.

Their victories and struggles are ours.

- we will walk with them into a land that we have looked forward to: the promised land of world-wide revival and harvest.

- God has a time and schedule for its establishment.

- He has a people to be used to establish it.

- We will know that the kingdom is within, even while everything outside is shaken.

- so full of God that the kingdom of God can be revealed while the kingdom of man is shaking.

children want—God—want reality, fire and relevance to life.

- they need their own experience of circumcision with God.

- He must be first.

- We will show them how.

- They need to expect God to do great things.

- open the door for great things in our children's lives
- Release our personal ambitions and concentrate on destiny of God He needs a pool of key players
- The destiny of God revolves around the final generation
- They cannot play their parts unless we play our part.
- No Eli, no Samuel
- No Joshua, no Canaan
- No trainers, no Peter
- Mentors share the reward
- Change our minds about children's ministry.
- Parents be serious about spending spiritual time with their children.

Must be taught.

- churches to reorganize to include
- Children need to see that they are able to make an
- Must be trained to make that impact.
- focus of children's ministry needs to include training and practice in the supernatural gifts of God.
- Our enthusiasm needs to say "We can do it, so you can do it!"
- God is carefully choosing the actors
- we will forever remember the first generation who introduced the church to the world,
- we will forever remember the last generation who finish up the work of God and introduced the kingdom of God to the world.
- God will vindicate His glory through them.

Christ pays for working one hour while others have labored long in the heat?

- They will receive more and do greater works in a shorter time than preceding generations.
- They have favor.
- They will play out His ending in the day of God's destiny.
- May our leaders catch this understanding.

They are the door to unlocking or locking up God's call for this time.

- God is raising up a people who will overcome the devil as Christ did. Give grace and the signs and wonders to say,
- John 15: 24. "If I had not done among them the works which no other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father."

- The world will see Jesus in the generation we mentor
- The world will also hate them as they hated Jesus.
- Are you anticipating the change of the times?
- Are you preparing for it?
- Are you seeking to fit into God's prophetic destiny as Simeons or Annas or parents of the regeneration generation?
- We are preparing the way for the fullness of time mentioned in Ephesians 1:10: "...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth in Him."
- Some of these future heroes of the faith are born and some of them are yet to be born.

None of them will become warriors for God unless the Joshuas and Elis of today begin to concentrate on finding them, mentoring them and releasing them into their destinies as ministers of the grace and truth of God.

The children you mentor *will* bear fruit.

Conclusion:

Find those whom God has reserved for the end of time and pour all that you have and all that you are into them.

We are to be about the Father's business in the age in which we live. We must know the times and the seasons and center our lives around fulfilling the destiny of God in our generation. This means mentoring young people.

Joshua, Eli, Mordecai, Anna, Simeon, Joseph, Mary, Zacarias, Elizabeth and their son, John the Baptist, found destiny by creating destiny in others.

So must we. We must be forerunners, and must be heroes because it takes a hero to raise a hero!

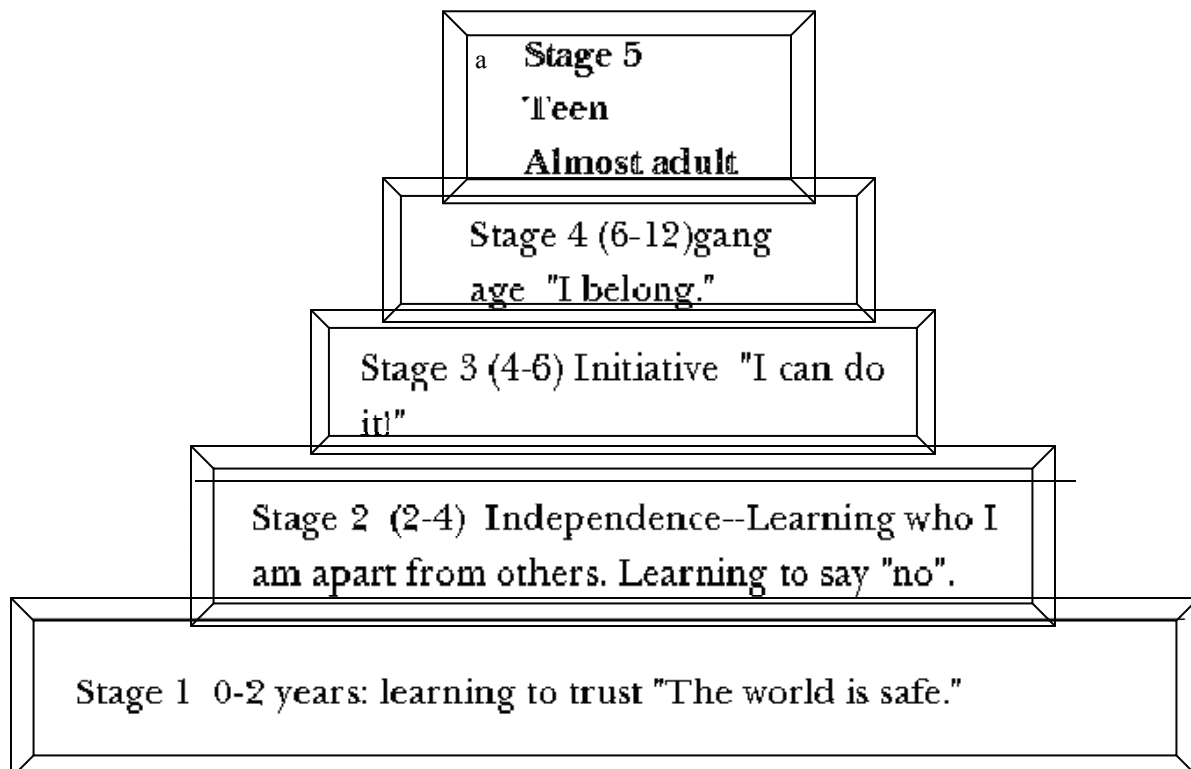
6. Conversion and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The first purpose of Kids in Ministry and PowerClubs is to open doors for adults to go to children and children to come to Christ. Our second aim is to share with children the keys of obedience that lead to discipleship. A child can truly be born again and become a disciple of Christ. Intellect is not the tool that we use to believe. Trust and surrender answer God's call. He came to earth so that man could come to heaven. Jesus sends us out to make disciples so that heaven can be experienced on earth.

Matthew 18: 3. (Jesus) said, Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Children are already in the state of heart (or closer to the state of heart) that can receive conversion. Conversion is a radical event that requires yieldedness. Our challenge as ministers is to seek those whom God already knows and has called and chosen. We do not know who they are so we throw the seed to all four types of ground described in the word. We do know, however, from research, that our chance of sowing into good ground is increased by ministering to children. In the Research book, Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions (p. 34), George Barna reports that the probability of a child embracing Jesus between five and twelve years old is 32%. Between thirteen and nineteen the chance is 4% and between nineteen and up it is 6%. What business man would invest to receive 4% return on his money if he could get 32%? What farmer would sow in a field where only 6% of the seeds would come up if he knew his best option would be to see 32% grow and reproduce?

Children are ready to receive and be molded but research also shows they begin sealing up their opinions of God by nine years old and that by the age of 13, natural and spiritual identity is set in place. Secular research agrees. This chart is a modified version of *Erik Erikson's stages of psychosocial development*. After age twelve, we are no longer dealing with issues that are foundational. Children are beginning to express their budding adulthood and are looking for people and ideas that agree with what they already believe. We need to win hearts when they are open. We also need to remember that conversion is a supernatural experience and emphasize that people are entering the Spirit realm when they come into the Kingdom of God.



This object lesson with help teach the supernatural at the same time as our need for conversion:

OBJECT LESSON: 4 pieces of cloth: sheer white, sheer red, black and gold

- God created the world and said that it was very good (white cloth)
- He came down and walked on the earth with man (gold cloth behind). He shined through every circumstance.
- But man chose to listen to the devil and disobey God (black cloth in between white and gold)
- God could no more shine through all the circumstances on earth. Sin darkens.
- God had to destroy the sin that separates man from Himself but the sin was in man. Instead of destroying all men, He put all sin inside of One Man, His son. Now some people have the blood of Jesus between them and God. (Red cloth in and black out)
- As they stay closer and closer to God, they come back into the place where the gold can shine through all of their circumstances. (show gold cloth showing through white sheer)

Here is a simple prayer patterned to help a child come “home” to God’s love:

Dear God, I believe that You came to earth as Jesus. I believe that You want me to be Your child. I also believe You took away my sins by letting Jesus die for me. I love you and now I want to live for you all my life. I pray to You now in Jesus’ name. Amen

Soon there will be many believing children looking to you to help them explore the realm of God’s Holy Spirit. This is the “gold” of our walk as we walk again with God as He purposed for us from the beginning. Our inheritance, now that we are under the blood, is to enjoy the gold. These believing kids will need a place to enjoy God on their own emotional and age-appropriate level. Among their peers they can see themselves stretch and grow without feeling like they are performing. At the same time, there is nothing offered to adults in the Gospel that is not offered to kids. Just as children learn reading and math so they can become working adults, so children trained in the gifts of the Spirit, begin to enjoy their Christianity. It becomes a relevant part of their lives in evangelism, healing, worship, intercession, prophecy and every other outlet of Christian body ministry. Without forcing in any way, but encouraging in many ways, it is our desire and call to open kids to communication with God through the Holy Spirit. The baptism of the Holy Spirit with supernatural speaking in tongues is the natural next step to salvation. (See Holy Spirit Scripture Hand-Out between sermon and preaching notes.)

This generation has been born into pivotal times in the destiny of God. God has put a hunger for the supernatural into them because of the times they are born in. They will seek to satisfy that hunger. The only proper and healthy way to satisfy that hunger is to feel at home and comfortable with the real supernatural. We must emphasize children speaking in tongues for a number of reasons.

- It is the easiest door into the Spirit realm of God. We feel Him join us when we yield to His Spirit’s overtaking of our speech.
- Speaking in tongues is always a two-way conversation. We feel God when we speak because He is speaking back to us in our own tongues. I knew this by revelation and then read it in Ruth Heflin’s book The Glory where she exhorts us to speak much in tongues because God feeds into our spirits the words and understandings that we are going to need in the future. Paul says, “I speak in tongues more than you all” (1Cor 14:18) and received more revelation than most.
- Speaking in tongues is another way to allow God to talk to others prophetically, without our intellect interrupting. He says “pray that you might interpret” (1 Cor 14:27). For that reason, we exercise the gift of interpretation, learning to discern and be confident in the Lord’s voice.
- Speaking in tongues is what the Lord uses when “we know not how to pray as we ought but the Holy Spirit helps us with groanings too deep for words”(Rom 8:26). There are lots of times in life when we hit things we cannot understand or fully express. We are never helpless because Holy Spirit helps us.
- It is fun. We can do something spiritual all together without anyone being spotlighted.

This outline is self-explanatory and will give ammunition as you communicate to others the need to present the baptism in the Spirit to children.

CHILDREN AND THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

By Becky Fischer

Necessary subject for kids, but is not talked about very much

- a. I'm disturbed to discover how few kids raised in Pentecostal churches are filled
 - b. The largest Pentecostal denomination has announced only 25% of their members are filled—what's wrong with this picture???
 - c. Kids will primarily get filled at kid's camp, not in the local church
 - d. Kids need the same power we do
 1. If it's valid or beneficial for adults, it's valid for kids
 2. Remind yourself of the purpose: power and boldness for witnessing. It expands prayer ability! Builds up our inner man! aids in worship
 - e. Common notion: "Kids are too young to understand," to which I say, "Do YOU understand this?"
2. Most common reason children's ministers don't lead kids into baptism is FEAR
- a. What if I pray for them and they don't speak in tongues
 - b. What if I pray and nothing happens?
 - c. Pride! Lay it down for the sake of the kids
 - d. Believe in God's ability over you inability—it's not you that's doing it!
3. Kids are the easiest people in the world to get filled
- a. Children's ministry is not in the spotlight—who's going to see you??
 - b. Kids don't know if you're doing it right
 - c. TALK CONFIDENTLY! Never talk your doubts in front of them
4. Personal observation—the longer you wait, the harder it is to get them filled!!
- a. Many parents say their child spoke in tongues before they spoke in English
 - b. I personally have no recollection of when I got filled; I just grew up speaking in tongues
 - c. The younger they are the easier it is
 - d. Older kids who have been raised around it are the hardest to get filled
 1. First they have assigned it to an adult activity that has nothing to do with them
 2. They try to figure it out with their heads, "I don't know how to do that"
 3. They don't see a need for it—what's it for? Why should I? I'm fine like I am
5. Preschool and early grades are ideal—they don't try to figure it out
- a. Don't force it, make them hungry
 - b. If no interest is showed, wait, be salty
 - c. Full teaching on who the Holy Spirit is, how He helps us, works with us, fire, water, oil, dove
 - d. Purpose of tongues—this is important
 - e. New converts on the street are easier than church kids
6. Biblical instruction—give instruction out loud to whole group
- a. Some will not go forward, but follow instructions and be filled in seat.
 - b. Has happened on several occasions
7. Controversial: Are you teaching them how to speak in tongues?
- a. First of all, it can't be taught
 - b. Some confuse helping kids over the hump of "make a sound"
 - c. You may get into trouble if you say, "Listen to me and repeat what you hear" That will backfire on you
 - d. It's better to encourage them to make sounds like a baby talking

- e. Hard cases stand with mouth locked shut. Not much you can do about that.
8. It's important to give your kids an opportunity to speak in tongues every week in your services
 - a. Get them to pray out loud—they will barely whisper.
 - b. They are afraid of sounding stupid—ASSURE THEM IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE A MISTAKE WHEN SPEAKING IN TONGUES
 - c. Vary volume--Playground voice / normal voice / whisper voice—they are in control of how they pray
 - d. Say "we're going to pray in tongues for one minute—five minutes" then time them.
 9. Teach the kids to get other people filled
 - a. Use your kids in the prayer line when you get other kids filled
 - b. Let them do some on their own but with some adult oversight
 10. Do they HAVE to speak in tongues when they get filled?
 - a. No---but from this perspective—it's not that God is withholding from them, or that it's not for everyone, etc.
 - b. Something is blocking them from speaking out—bad teaching, fear, feeling on the spot, normally shy in public; they've been told it's of the devil, mental block, trying to figure it out with their head, etc.
 - c. But the scripture is clear—if you ask you will receive.
 - d. We have to help them get over this hump, but never send them away from the altar saying they didn't get filled
 - e. Many times when they get alone at home, they will be able to cross over. Encourage them to do so.
 11. Like in our salvation when we share what we did with someone else, it seals it in our hearts.
 - a. Likewise, when we speak in tongues it seals the experience for the person
 - b. Will probably never be completely satisfied with the experience until they are able to speak in tongues.

A last word:

Worship

Worship is the individual's love song to God corporately expressed. We want to see the kids release what is in them as *their* song at a child's level. When children join adult worship services, they can get something out of it but rarely does a child put something into it. The "who's watching me" factor even stifles their naturally active dancing and moving. Children's meetings need their own worship time so children can express their hearts and grow in how they relate to God. No gift is born mature. Children need a worship atmosphere to experiment and practice the gifts of the Holy Spirit within them.

Corporate Ministry

One of the chief goals of children's ministry is to make kids in the Body of Christ active and comfortable partners in ministry with adults. They will *be* the adults in the Body of Christ in just a few short years. This takes a bit of stretching up for the kids and a bit of stooping down for the adults. Without training, however, kids will only watch. We encourage adults and kids to pray together, lay hands on others, partner with adults in outreach ministry and learn to have fun worshipping together. Jesus said, "Unless you come as a little child, you shall not enter..." (Mark 10:15). The call to bend is more on the elder than the call to stretch is on the younger.

6. Conversion and the Holy Spirit—notes

COPY HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM SCRIPTURE SHEETS ON PAGE 131 AND HAND OUT TO ALL PARTICIPANTS

Question: If we want to enter the Kingdom of God, do we strive to be more adult or more child-like?

If we need to believe like a child to receive the Kingdom, can a child believe like himself and receive?

Yes.

1. Faith is belief or surrender—not intellectual
2. Is an answer to a spiritual call.

The purpose of Kids in Ministry and PowerClubs is to open doors for adults to go to children and children to come to Christ.

EVERY CHILD AND every adult who come to Christ are answering a call.

Romans 8: 30. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Ephesians 1:4. According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5. Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

When God calls us, He calls us in a language and way that our spirits can understand.

Children are already in the state of heart (or closer to the state of heart) that can receive conversion. Conversion is a radical event that requires yieldedness.

We are seeking those God already knows are called and chosen. We do not know who they are so we throw the seed to the whole field. (4 types of ground)

WE have a better chance on finding good ground in the hearts of children.

Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions

George Barna p. 34

The probability of a child embracing Jesus between 5-12 is 32%
13-19 is 4%
19 up is 6%

By the age of 13, your spiritual identity is set in place.

Matthew 18: 3. (Jesus) said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Stages of development -**Copy on black board for all to see**

Stage 5

Teen

Almost adult

Stage 4 (6-12)gang
age "I belong."

Stage 3 (4-6) Initiative "I can do
it!"

Stage 2 (2-4) Independence--Learning who I
am apart from others. Learning to say "no".

Stage 1 0-2 years: learning to trust "The world is safe."

When you have won the heart, you have won the life.

To teach the supernatural at the same time as conversion:

OBJECT LESSON: 3 pieces of cloth: white sheer, black, red and gold. (hold in front of light if possible)

God created the world and said that it was very good (white cloth)

He came down and walked on the earth with man (gold cloth behind). He shined through every circumstance.

But man chose to listen to the devil and disobey God (black cloth in between
White and gold)

God could no more shine through all the circumstances on earth. Sin darkens

God had to destroy the sin that separates man from Himself but the sin was
In man. Instead of destroying all men with all sin, He put all sin
Inside of One Man, His son. Now some people have the blood of
Jesus between them and God. (Red cloth in and black out)

As they stay closer and closer to God, they come back into the place where
The gold can shine through all of their circumstances. (remove all but the gold
behind the white sheer)

Simple prayer to help a child come “home” to God’s love:

Dear God, I believe that You came to earth as Jesus. I believe that You want me to be Your child. I also believe You took away my sins by letting Jesus die for me. I love you and now I want to live for you all my life. I pray to You now, in Jesus’ name. Amen

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT is the normal next step to receiving Jesus as Savior

Give all sheets of scriptures on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Acts 19

1. And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,
2. He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.
3. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.
4. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.
5. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
6. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the normal next step in your conversion to Christianity.

Christianity is not a religion.

There are standards of righteousness but no rules.

You are not saved or “better” than some one because of deeper wisdom.

John 13: 35. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Love is impossible. It takes transformation by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus would not let His church be built on a foundation that did not include the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1: 4. And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

KIDS AND TONGUES

--easy to receive

--most important is love

Do they know that this gift is to be used to draw closer to Jesus?

Are they aware that God expresses Himself in three ways and
this is a deeper experience with God?

Do they know that going deeper with God is the key to doing the
works of God?

Do they see the baptism as a prayer avenue?

Baptism is a deeper entrance into the supernatural but the Holy Spirit comes in when we are born again.

Without speaking in tongues, kids can

Hear the voice of God

See visions

Lay hands on the sick

Preach the gospel

By speaking in tongues, kids can

Intercede for situations above their knowledge

Build up their faith and become stronger in God

Receive deeper revelation and prophecy

Learn the inside voice of God at a deeper level

The wisdom of a children's minister is to not hold back encouragement to a

Child to speak in tongues when he is ready and/or willing to take the

Next step

Do not require the child to speak in tongues when he is not really seeking or desiring them.

KIMI Amazing God curriculum builds foundation so children know what they are receiving.

GOD OFFERS SALVATION John 3:16

BUT DEMANDS MATURITY Ephesians 4:14...we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness by which they lie in wait to deceive, 15. but, speaking the truth in love, **may grow up** in all things into Him who is the head Christ

OUR JOB IS TO OFFER BOTH SALVATION AND THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT TO CHILDREN.

JESUS DEMANDED THAT HIS DISCIPLES RECEIVE IT IN ORDER TO RECEIVE POWER FROM ON HIGH. (Luke 24:49)

CHILDREN AND THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

By Becky Fischer

Necessary subject for kids, but is not talked about very much

- a. I'm disturbed to discover how few kids raised in Pentecostal churches are filled
 - b. The largest Pentecostal denomination has announced only 25% of their members are filled—what's wrong with this picture???
 - c. Kids will primarily get filled at kid's camp, not in the local church
 - d. Kids need the same power we do
 1. If it's valid or beneficial for adults, it's valid for kids
 2. Remind yourself of the purpose: power and boldness for witnessing. It expands prayer ability! Builds up our inner man! aids in worship
 - e. Common notion: "Kids are too young to understand," to which I say, "Do YOU understand this?"
2. Most common reason children's ministers don't lead kids into baptism is FEAR
 - a. What if I pray for them and they don't speak in tongues
 - b. What if I pray and nothing happens?
 - c. Pride! Lay it down for the sake of the kids
 - d. Believe in God's ability over you inability—it's not you that's doing it!
 3. Kids are the easiest people in the world to get filled
 - a. Children's ministry is not in the spotlight—who's going to see you??
 - b. Kids don't know if you're doing it right
 - c. TALK CONFIDENTLY! Never talk your doubts in front of them
 4. Personal observation—the longer you wait, the harder it is to get them filled!!
 - a. Many parents say their child spoke in tongues before they spoke in English
 - b. I personally have no recollection of when I got filled; I just grew up speaking in tongues
 - c. The younger they are the easier it is
 - d. Older kids who have been raised around it are the hardest to get filled
 1. First they have assigned it to an adult activity that has nothing to do with them
 2. They try to figure it out with their heads, "I don't know how to do that"
 3. They don't see a need for it—what's it for? Why should I? I'm fine like I am
 5. Preschool and early grades are ideal—they don't try to figure it out
 - a. Don't force it, make them hungry
 - b. If no interest is showed, wait, be salty
 - c. Full teaching on who the Holy Spirit is, how He helps us, works with us, fire, water, oil, dove
 - d. Purpose of tongues—this is important
 - e. New converts on the street are easier than church kids
 6. Biblical instruction—give instruction out loud to whole group
 - a. Some will not go forward, but follow instructions and be filled in seat.
 - b. Has happened on several occasions

7. Controversial: Are you teaching them how to speak in tongues?
 - a. First of all, it can't be taught
 - b. Some confuse helping kids over the hump of "make a sound"
 - c. You may get into trouble if you say, "Listen to me and repeat what you hear" That will backfire on you
 - d. It's better to encourage them to make sounds like a baby talking
 - e. Hard cases stand with mouth locked shut. Not much you can do about that.
8. It's important to give your kids an opportunity to speak in tongues every week in your services
 - a. Get them to pray out loud—they will barely whisper.
 - b. They are afraid of sounding stupid—ASSURE THEM IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE A MISTAKE WHEN SPEAKING IN TONGUES
 - c. Vary volume--Playground voice / normal voice / whisper voice—they are in control of how they pray
 - d. Say "we're going to pray in tongues for one minute—five minutes" then time them
9. Teach the kids to get other people filled
 - a. Use your kids in the prayer line when you get other kids filled
 - b. Let them do some on their own but with some adult oversight
10. Do they HAVE to speak in tongues when they get filled?
 - a. No---but from this perspective—it's not that God is withholding from them, or that it's not for everyone, etc.
 - b. Something is blocking them from speaking out—bad teaching, fear, feeling on the spot, normally shy in public; they've been told it's of the devil, mental block, trying to figure it out with their head, etc.
 - c. But the scripture is clear—if you ask you will receive.
 - d. We have to help them get over this hump, but never send them away from the altar saying they didn't get filled
 - e. Many times when they get alone at home, they will be able to cross over.

Encourage them to do so.
11. Like in our salvation when we share what we did with someone else, it seals it in our hearts.
 - a. Likewise, when we speak in tongues it seals the experience for the person
 - b. Will probably never be completely satisfied with the experience until they are able to speak in tongues.

7. Gifts of the Spirit—Kids Know Supernaturally and Introduction (No Notes—only Sermons)

When we speak in our own language or move in our own skills, we are in control. We determine mentally what will be and our physical capabilities respond to our brain waves. When we operate in the Gifts of the S. we purposely give control to the Holy Spirit. We are no longer the one making an action. We are taking action that is welling up within us from another place of consciousness. It is not intellectual but it is actual. It is scientific fact that there are more of the type of cell in your brain within your gut than in your head. So, in a mysterious way, when people say follow your gut feeling, they are saying to follow the sense in your spirit.

Even though you become the follower rather than the originator of your action or speech, you are still responsible. For all that comes from the Holy Spirit through a person is coming by permission of the person. We can liberate or imprison the Holy Spirit. If that was not true then we could not be held accountable in the day of judgment. Paul says that we must all stand before the throne of God to give an account of what we have done in our bodies. Yet we know that the sons of God are those who are led by the Spirit. We can be led by the Spirit, which means yielding control to the Spirit of God and all His operations yet we are accountable for our following. So there is a relationship of sensitivity and obedience in yielding to God.

We are training children to do with God what we naturally train them to do with us while they are under our roof—yield. We nurture them so that they can move into independence. But our children must move into independence from parental control in *dependence* on the Holy Spirit. We are the children or sons of God who are led by the Spirit and we never mature into independence from our Father in heaven. We mature into total dependence on God. Jesus said that those who will be accounted worthy of that resurrection will be as the angels. In another place he says that angels never focus on anyone but the face of the Father.

Allowing God to mature the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in us is a necessary part of maturing into full dependence on God. Paul said, “For me to live is Christ.” “I no longer live but Christ live in me.” Opening up to the Gifts of the Spirit and maturing in them for your own benefit and the benefit of the Body is a matter of surrender.

Life in the Spirit while we are here on earth begins with life in the natural. The KIMI curriculum on Hearing God’s voice goes step by step by leading a child to see the way that they learned as a baby through their natural senses.

Many people spend their lives only aware of their natural senses.

Advertising and 98% of TV is aimed to stimulate our natural responses.

Majority of their time is taking care of our bodies and satisfying our souls.

The natural part of our life comes natural to us.

You do have to introduce a young child to the invisible world, however, and step by step draw them into familiarity with it.

To draw comfort from God, they must be connected to Him

The supernatural parts do not come naturally. They must be introduced and trained. Hunger for the supernatural is normal today The invisible world is in the movies,

Satan excites our natural senses;
God fulfills our spiritual senses.

There is a generation right now that is hungry and just waiting for us to introduce them to the Real.

We as the church, must deal with the distortions of sin

Church began with the whole package, but men distorted

Epistles deal with it

Constantine in 350 shut it down and made it a part of the state

Obedience to man and not God became the church way.

1550 Martin Luther made the declaration of independence from the tyranny of man

Since then there have been waves of restoration which are reintroductions to original truth.

Reintroduction to the fullness that is our inheritance

After salvation by faith came restoration of the truth of baptism of believers, then the establishment of presbytery government.

Every movement grew out of a revelation of God and His provision for us through Jesus' life. Christians paid a price to break into greater light.

Most recent in church history, we celebrate the Azusa Street revival,

The healing movement,

The Charismatic movement,

and the prophetic movement.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit,

healing, the gifts of the Holy Spirit

and prophecy have gotten acceptance in the general Body of Christ

. There is still controversy but there is progress.

However, none of these movements are introducing anything new

Jesus said, He that believes in me, the works that I do, he will do also. "—John 14:12.

The introductions have been made. It is time to get acquainted.

Our children are living in an age when the unseen world is being advertised and explored.

Hunger for the unknown is aroused.

If they cannot walk in the Holy supernatural, they will be helpless against the driving spiritual hunger inside of themselves. They want to connect with the world beyond.

I want us to look past the controversy of the gifts of the Spirit to the possibilities of the gifts.

God obviously tells us that we have them and that we are to use them.

That makes it a necessity, not an accessory, to our relationship to Christ.

Perhaps, the only new thread to the fullness which is not an introduction, is the movement to train children in the gifts.

I am not aware of a conscious, forward-moving effort to educate children in the supernatural in a step by step accountable way.

Part of the reason is that we, as adults, have just been moving into it.

Part of the reason is that we have not had a pattern or vision to follow in this area.

Can we train children to use the gifts of the Spirit?

The answer is yes. Just as the adults of the Body have had to learn, we can train children to be aware of their spirits and aware how the spiritual world works.

It is as much our responsibility to train our children spiritually as it is to train them to walk in this present world. They must learn to recognize the voice of the Lord and respond to Him.

Heaven is our future and our now reward.

We are calling them to experience God now.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are intuitive and not objective. For you to walk in the Gifts and for you to train kids in them,

We must be willing to be introduced to the Holy Spirit and begin to follow His leading

1 Corinthians 12: 7-11 . But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

These nine gifts of the Spirit provide channels for the Holy Spirit to touch lives. God wants to use children at their level and in their territory. He also wants them to feel His support when they have personal needs. We need the gifts of the Spirit to be a blessing and receive God's blessings. They are part of our inheritance.---And what does every parent seek to do with an inheritance? ---Pass it on to our children!

The nine gifts can be separated into three categories to make them easier to study:

To Know Supernaturally

Word of Wisdom
Word of Knowledge
Discerning of Spirits

To Act Supernaturally

Faith
Gifts of Healing
Working of Miracles

To Speak Supernaturally

Prophecy
Different kinds of Tongues
Interpretation of Tongues

Let's look at them. Some of the information I will use I have taken off of an internet site by a Reverend Claude Purser. (<http://members.cox.net/rev.claude/stdy11.htm>) He has put it into words and Bible study that I agree with.

To Know Supernaturally.

1. The Word of Wisdom

The Word of Wisdom is a supernatural manifestation of the Spirit, and exists on a plane far above natu-

ral wisdom. Sometimes an answer we need will not come by human wisdom, but God gives a specific Word of Wisdom at a particular time for a particular situation. Simple understanding:-- To get out of trouble or to stay out of trouble

Bible example of the Word of Wisdom: The Apostles deal with the controversy over the daily assistance to widows. (Acts 6:1-7)

Paul's insight and advice concerning his shipwreck. (Acts 27:10, 31, 34)

At this point, you may add your own known testimonies of children using the Word of Wisdom.

True Story from Pamela's PowerClub kids: Jeremiah was seven while living in Arizona. One day a neighbor came over to see his mother. Jeremiah began to preach to her, his mother says, and the woman began to cry and said, "You could be my pastor, my preacher." She began making changes in her life and going to church.

Word of wisdom—The Word of Wisdom implies a thought or utterance through a direct operation of the Holy Spirit at a given moment rather than an abiding deposit of supernatural wisdom. Jeremiah didn't have the ongoing ability to counsel an adult but he could be a channel of the Holy Spirit to speak into her personal situation as God gave him words. He could not have daily counseled this adult.

The church has a constant need for wise leadership. Problems will occur, and delicate situations arise among the most spiritual believers. The Word of Wisdom can be vital in meeting these needs.

2. The Word of Knowledge

Every Christian must endeavor to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord" (II Peter 3:18). The Word of Knowledge is a portion of supernaturally imparted knowledge to meet a particular need. The Word of Knowledge includes facts from God about people, places, things, and events that a person could not possibly know unless God revealed them to him.

This could be a need for healing, cleansing, order, direction or decision. All knowledge ultimately rests with the Lord, "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). It is therefore reasonable to believe that God can impart any part of the divine knowledge at any time, as He wills.

A Bible example of the Word of Knowledge

Peter's supernatural knowledge of the secret sin of Ananias and Sapphira. (Acts 5:1-10) Christ knew Satan had bound the woman for 18 years.

A child example: Birand, a child in South Africa, was praying with Becky a few years ago. He saw that the couple he was praying for was fighting in their home. She instructed him to pray the opposite, that peace would come to their home. They happened to have high position in the city. When the pastor visited them later, they began a new walk with the Lord. This same child was four years old when pulled on his daddy's sleeve one day in church and said that he saw two pictures and pointed to two people. He said that the man was in the house of a woman who was not his wife and the woman was in the house of a man who was not her husband. Daddy took the visions to the pastor who uncovered an affair.

Becky tells the story of Elijah, a child in the first ministry where I worked under her. She was preaching away and Elijah kept raising his hand and interrupting her. She finally acknowledged him and he just said, "My back hurts." That was a comment that had nothing to do with her ministry. The Lord had to give her a word of knowledge that it was a word of knowledge. She asked him whether it had hurt before

he came to PowerClub and he said, “no.” So she asked if anyone in the meeting had back aches or injuries. Several came up and got healed.

Discerning Of Spirits

The Discerning of Spirits is the ability on a particular occasion to ascertain whether a spirit or an action is of God, of the devil, or of the human nature. I John 4:1 admonishes us to “believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God”. The purpose of this gift is to detect what is true and what is false, what is holy and what is unclean or human. It is a protective gift, to direct our steps out of the way of harm. It is also a counseling gift, to deliver people who are being tormented.

Bible examples of Discerning of Spirits: Paul's rebuke of a spirit possessing a girl at Philippi. (Acts 16:16-18)

Child Example of discerning of Spirits: Glorious Shoo has a boarding school in Moshi, Tanzania for poor children. He once allowed a child to enter this school who had been kicked out of other schools. He was a great distress to the other children until they decided that he had a demon. They jumped him at one point, independent of the adults, and cast the demon out of him. The child now remains as a good child and student.

7a. Gifts of the Spirit, Session Two—Kids Speak and Act Supernaturally

Review: When we speak in our own language or move in our own skills, we are in control. When we move by the Holy Spirit, we surrender our control to Him. He becomes the originator; we become the responder. He gets the credit; we get the pleasure of being His vessel. The Holy Spirit works through a person by permission and through submission. He will look like the personality of the person. This makes us accountable to Him to grow in grace and maturity so that we truly express Him as He is—the expression of God on earth.

We are training children to yield to God in sensitivity and obedience. In God, maturity means dependence. Our goal is “for me to live is Christ”. Jesus said that a disciple is not greater than his master and everyone who is mature will be as his master. Our master said that he only did what he saw his Father do and said what he heard his Father say. That is why it is a necessity and not an accessory to know the Holy Spirit and allow Him His liberty. The church was founded on that liberty and every restoration is a reintroduction of original truth that Christ meant for us to have.

Last session we spoke of the three gifts of Supernatural Knowing: word of wisdom, word of knowledge and discerning of Spirits. We heard of children who operated in these gifts.

This session we will talk about **supernatural speaking gifts and supernatural acting gifts**. We are going to study the three gifts that enable speaking by the Spirit of God.

Prophecy

The Gift Of Prophecy is a specific message from God to the hearers in their own language. In general, Prophecy is an anointed utterance from God. It can consist of telling something before it happens or giving words that build up, comfort or edify a person or group of people. Prophecy will never replace the Bible or diminish its worth, but True Prophecy will always be in harmony with God's Word. Jesus tells us in Matthew 24 that we may know true prophecy by its fruit.

A prophet may prophesy, but not everyone who exercises the Gift Of Prophecy fulfills the office or ministry of a prophet. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

The Gift Of Prophecy brings edification, exhortation, and comfort to the church (I Corinthians 14:3-5). Prophecy does not replace or supercede doctrinal teaching or spiritual leadership.

Bible example of prophecy: Agabus in Acts 11:28, 29 --Read This prophecy prepared one people to go through trouble and prepared another to help them before the trouble came. They knew that God was with them, knowing their situation.

Add your own testimony of children whom you have **seen prophesy**.

True Story from Pamela's PowerClub kids: "I took my children to minister with me at a children's conference. They stood on the stage at the last session and we called out an adult who was willing for the children to seek words for them. When Beatrice's turn came, she said to the woman "I see you in India and there are footprints in front of you but you don't know how to walk in them." It greatly encouraged the woman because she had just been invited to go to India. This particular gift is the strongest point of my club. We live in an area where prophecy is the normal way. Pamela can confidently take my PowerClub kids out into a public ministry situation and know that they will leave a blessing behind."

When prophecy is normal group behavior, you do not have to deal with self-consciousness in the people to use it. If people, especially kids, do not have a chance to practice their gift often in the company of others, then there is a measure of self-consciousness that stifles freedom. Our place as the trainers of kids, is to make what Jesus gave us a natural response-to use any of the gifts when needed.

Tongues --Speaking with tongues means speaking miraculously in a language unknown to the speaker. The Bible reveals three different purposes or uses of speaking with tongues.

The first use is the initial evidence when someone is baptized with the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4, Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:6).

The second use is speaking to God in personal prayer (I Corinthians 14:2, 14, 15). The believer can speak in tongues in private devotion or in corporate worship when everyone is praying individually. In such a case there is no need for interpretation (I Corinthians 14:28).

The third use is addressing the church, coupled with interpretation (I Corinthians 14:28).

A Bible Example: Acts 2—evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit— The Apostles were given the ability to either speak in different known languages, or their hearers were given the ability to interpret whatever they heard into their own language without realizing that was happening. It says that every man heard in their own language. Whichever, it was supernatural.

1Corinthians 14:4 and **Jude 20** teach that praying in tongues builds us up personally. I believe that this is because the Holy Spirit expresses our hearts to God through our own tongues and then in return He gives us God's answers through our tongues. That is why we feel the presence of God; He meets us in the conversation and stores vital information in our spirits. This is how it builds us up in our most holy faith.

People spoke in tongues in Acts 2, at the saving of Cornelius' house and in Ephesus when Paul baptized the Ephesians into Jesus and prayed for them to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Children receive the baptism very easily and again, when it is the norm, they are quick to pray and experience the Lord that way. It becomes the normal way that they "build a nest" for the Holy Spirit to land and give them prophetic words.

Speak of where and how you have seen children pray in tongues.

Interpretation Of Tongues : By this gift a person does not merely translate but interprets the meaning of a message in tongues for the church. Mike Bickle of IHOP clarifies it. He says in one teaching that we are not searching out the words of the Holy Spirit but the burden of the Lord. An interpretation expresses the burden of the heart of God. What is he communicating in subject and strength of desire?

When a person brings a message to the church through the Gift Of Tongues, The Gift Of The Interpretation Of Tongues is used to edify the church

I Corinthians 14:13 Wherefore let him that speaks in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. 14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

I mentioned in my introduction that to use the gifts of the Spirit requires a measure of trust in the Holy Spirit, in your ability to hear Him and in the integrity of the kids you are training. You need to know that all of you are focusing on God and not just fooling around. The gift of interpretation of tongues is one of the most trust-requiring gifts. We know that it is a legitimate ministry gift. Paul teaches in 1 Corinthians 14: 26 - How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a **tongue**, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. 27**If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.**

There is no **Bible example** but there is Bible teaching on it. PowerClub kids and I practice interpreting

tongues. They enjoy it and are good at it. We know that all tongues have meaning. We are not speaking into the air or speaking to ourselves. Therefore, every time that we speak, we are expressing some meaning to God or receiving some answer from Him.

They began to catch the burden of their tongues this way: I would ask one of them to simply speak out in tongues. We didn't call it a message from God. We just know that we can speak our heavenly language any time that we want. One would speak. Then we would all be quiet and listen to the Lord in our own spirits. I would then go around and ask them to tell me one by one their first impression that they understood—whether a picture or a word in English. About 2/3 of the kids would receive similar impressions. When we pray in tongues before prophesying, there is an element of seeking interpretation of tongues. We listen for the burden of the Lord for a person so that we can prophesy encouragement to them. Last Three gifts of the Spirit are **Acting Supernaturally**: "Faith, Healing and Miracles".

Faith

The Bible says that everyone is given a measure of faith. The "Spiritual Gift Of Faith" is to be distinguished from even saving faith or the daily faith. It is faith which pleases God. Without it, it is impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11:6) The Gift Of Faith is a measure of faith above the faith that all of us have as children of God. It is a special faith imparted to us by the Holy Spirit of God, as are the other gifts of the Spirit, to meet a particular need. The Gift Of Faith surpasses all reason, looks impossibilities in the face, and turns them into miracles.

Bible Examples of the Gift Of Faith: The faith of the lame man in Lystra who had never walked. Acts 14: 8-10. The man had supernatural faith. Paul had a word of knowledge that activated his faith. Also see Paul's supernatural faith during his shipwreck. (Acts 27:25)

A **child example** in the Bible with supernatural faith was the Israeli girl maid of Naaman, the captain of the army of Aram. She said, "I wish that my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! Then he would cure him of his leprosy." (2 Kings 5) Jesus said that there were many lepers in Israel but Naaman was the only one who got cured. The faith for that began with a little girl. The adult followed her faith alone. The other adults in Israel had no faith for it. Yet, he did find the prophet and he did get healed.

A **child** in the ministry of John and Shirley Tasche went on a mission trip with them several years ago. In the meeting was a woman in a wheelchair. The boy prayed for the woman, which could be seen as an exercise of the gift of healing, but then he stepped further with supernatural faith. He grabbed her by the hand and began pulling her up and out of the wheel chair. I had lunch with Shirley Tasche as she repeated the story. She said she was shocked and thinking that they would have to do damage control. But the woman stood on her feet and walked.

5. Working Of Miracles

The Working Of Miracles is a supernatural release of God's power through a person's life to effect an immediate, supernatural event. It is a sign or wonder that humans cannot explain by an appeal to "natural laws". It can be a miraculous "coincidence" effected by God when we pray.

Bible examples of Working Of Miracles: Raising of Dorcas back to life. (Acts 9:40) –Peter raised her, Raising of Eutychus back to life. (Acts 20:10) –fell out of a window, Miracles in Paul's ministry at Ephesus. (Acts 19:11-12) "God did extraordinary miracles through Paul..."

Child Examples of Faith—David Hogan of Freedom Ministries in Mexico has been ministering and seeing miracles among the Indians there. He tells one story of two boys who came to his ministry and got saved. They returned home to their dad and excitedly told about their experience. He got extremely angry and spoke harshly. He also was a witch doctor. Within a short time, he took sick and died. The boys, only saved for a few days, stayed by him and prayed. When he died, one boy was ready to give up but the other one refused. He stayed and prayed and believed for his dad to come back. The dad did come back from the dead, but the testimony of what happened is as astounding as the testimony that his newly saved son prayed the supernatural faith to bring him back. Once he died, he said that he rose into a dark area above the earth. A man appeared to him wearing a gold robe and having a crown on his head. He showed him the whole earth and told him that he had to go back to learn the truth .

When he returned, he left his witch doctoring and now works with David Hogan.

We have a similar story told us by Zebadao, a World Vision minister in Tanzania. Two little girls in his ministry were diligent to pray when their mother died. While the girls were praying, one of them found herself in a vision at the gate of heaven. She told the angel that she met that she was there to get her mother. She said that the angel put a glowing ball in her hand and sent her back. She laid her hands on the mother's body when the vision was over and mom came back to the girls.

“Hope Against Hope”

There is a similarity in all of these testimonies: 1. The gift of faith was sent to people who were tenacious and not willing to let go of hope in a hopeless situation. 2. They each challenged God. Circumstances were beyond their control but like Abraham, against hope they believed in hope.

Romans 4: 18--**Against all hope**, Abraham in **hope** believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 11- So then, he is the father of all who believe. **The gift of faith is for children**

“Gifts Of Healing”

The Gifts Of Healing are plural. They refer to special healings of various types performed by God. All believers in the Lord Jesus Christ can lay hands upon the sick for their recovery. (Mark 16:18), and all elders in the church can anoint with oil for healing (James 5:14) Nevertheless, it appears that on certain occasions God operates in a special way to heal miraculously. When the Gifts Of Healing are in operation, God removes the cause of the disease or affliction and healing ensues.

Some of the many **Bible examples**: “Acts 5:15, 16 –They brought people; Acts 8:7 - Philip ...

Example of child healing: In India, Becky taught the children about healing and then called out for anyone in the audience who needed healing. A woman came up with a back problem that she had a long time trying to be healed. The children laid hands on her right after learning that they had that could. It took a little time of praying and Becky asked her to try to move in a way that she could not do before. After the second or third time, she found that she could and declared her healing. **In Tanzania**—As soon as the kids in St. Mary's Boarding School learned that they could pray for healing, we set them to praying for each other. There were kids who had ring worms that disappeared. **Add or substitute your own**

Children are candidates to be God's hands to heal. Tell them. Show them how. Use the KIMI curriculum on healing to lay the foundation of how and why and build the scriptural basis for it. Face their insecurities while you face your own. While I was teaching the Jesus, Our Healer curriculum, Krista expressed her insecurity and made me face the Lord on the subject.

The Fear of Nothing Happening—Pamela had one child ask, while being trained to heal, “What if nothing happens.” She asked the Lord for His answer and He replied with a question. “If you want to make a score in a ball game, where do you stand?” Pamela replied, “Next to the net.” He then said, “Tell the children you are positioning them so that when I throw them the ball they can score the goal.” We are to be trusting and ready in season and out of season. God is the Healer. God is the miracle worker. God wants to do miracles. God wants to heal.

There are faith levels still waiting for us as a Body. God is willing and ready to work more abundantly through more people. We are teaching children whom, I believe, are going to receive a generational anointing for miracles and healing.

Miracles are going to be normal in the end times—so normal they will be common. We and they need to know the Holy Spirit and His character, His aim and the witness of His Spirit. If it was possible, even the elect will be fooled by the multitude of signs and wonders.

The first time that we take off in an airplane, it is awesome and we are taking pictures. By the third time, we are just getting ready to sleep. Even amazing things become common. We must stay fresh and in anticipation. We are those who will position them to carry the ball. We will also catch it! When you come into children's ministry, you walk into the cutting edge of God's end time plan. There has been a great deal of waiting for action in the church. Just before Jesus came, there was also a waiting generation who believed in the coming Messiah before they saw Him. They were those who were truly on the cutting edge of God's plan for their time. They had eyes open to see Him when he came.

Tell the children to expect God to do great things. And if you think, "What if nothing happens?", then answer, "I am in position for it to happen! I am putting my heart out, I am giving my love away, I am trusting God, I am laying hands on the sick, I am seeking a word of wisdom, or a word of knowledge." God will meet me where I go. Encourage the kids to develop their gifts.

No gift of the Spirit comes to us fully developed. Just like a natural ability must be practiced, our spiritual abilities need to be learned and practiced. Your PowerClub is the perfect place for a child to learn and try new spiritual skills.

We set light-hearted atmosphere where children are not afraid to make mistakes or do something new. We expect children to progress step by step in their secular education. God wants them to progress step by step in their spiritual education. You are leaders of an awesome generation with a deeply spiritual destiny.

God will make you awesome mentors who can impart deep spiritual abilities to your kids.

You have stepped into an adventure. Go exploring and discover new realms with your children! The exciting discoveries that you will make will lead you and others closer to God.

It is His good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Let's take it!

8. Basics of a Children's Service

As KIMI PowerClub leaders, we want to see kids enjoying God and being used by Him to minister to the world. The KIMI pattern of children's ministry gives confidence and will prove to be a tool to keep us on track toward our ultimate goal in children's ministry. That goal is to bring kids into the presence of the Lord where they can become familiar with His voice and learn to use the spiritual gifts He has given to them.

There are variations on the format or pattern, depending on the setting for your club.

For a children's church setting in an institutional church:

1. jokes/ice breakers/guessing games & welcome
2. 3 or 4 action choruses
3. 2 active team games
4. announcements and offering (with a short sermon on the principles of giving)
5. sermon with object lessons and other helps
6. worship and activation, bringing children into the presence of God with opportunity to respond and/or minister

For a neighborhood PowerClub:

1. jokes/ice breakers/guessing games & welcome
2. 2 active team games
3. 3 or 4 action choruses or live worship. This may or may not lead into the deeper presence of God.
4. sermon with object lessons and other helps
5. worship and activation, bringing children into the presence of God with opportunity to respond and/or minister

In both cases, variation in games and details keep the meeting fresh. We want to maintain spontaneity and creativity. The pattern is a framework to help you move toward bringing children into close contact with God.

There are reasons for each step of a PowerClub meeting. The first step, to do simple ice-breaker games, or jokes is essential to draw the attention of the children away from playing and thinking about other circumstances outside of the meeting. It draws the attention of their hearts into the place of meeting and focuses it on the leader of the group. Laughter is a medicine (Proverbs 17:22). It also is an attention-getter and sets the atmosphere of a meeting. Beginning with simple guessing games, riddles or jokes puts the children in a group frame of mind as they seek together or separately to answer the questions. It creates laughter and produces a relaxed atmosphere. As the children participate in these activities, their minds settle down and connect to the place and people in the meeting. Examples of such activities are in the suggested in the PowerClubs Handbook.

When the meeting has begun in a good atmosphere, it is time to engage the children in active games. These games are to be more team-oriented. If you pick teams, there is a friendly competition that leads to cheering and laughter. In other games, several children are picked out from the crowd. Children begin to cheer and laugh as the players are eliminated until a winner emerges. Active games also release pent up energy in an acceptable way. Too often religious services for children are characterized with the "sit down and be quiet" atmosphere of a classroom. They identify their experience with God as restriction rather than liberty. Competitive games that are active relax hearts and get the children's minds into thinking patterns as they try to "beat the clock" or pass the object quickly or solve a skill problem. Our attention as leaders is to be on our inner senses and notice how the atmosphere of the meeting relaxes and energizes at the same time. When this point is reached, the children are ready to engage with God.

Worship should also be very active for children. They will not be ready to sit and soak in the

presence of the Lord at this point. They have been activated and now we direct their open hearts and active bodies and minds toward God. He loves them and is wanting to hear their voices and sense their bodies moving to rejoice in Him. You may use CDs, personal instruments, or just your voices to minister to God through the Holy Spirit. The advantages of each are discussed in the lesson on leading children into worship. In worship, keep the songs moving and use hand motions when possible. When you come into the presence of the Lord, tell them God is present so that they know what they are feeling. Eventually, encourage them to lead worship in some way.

Worship directs the hearts of the children toward God. The three first steps to this pattern of children's ministry have engaged the minds of the children from outside circumstances into the meeting, then from their own personal thoughts into relating to the other children as a gang. Finally, through worship, their minds are drawn upward beyond even the circumstances of the meeting. As they have sung words about God, He has come to the front of their attention. They are ready to learn.

A rule of thumb for teaching children is this: If you can truly teach them one new truth about God each time you meet, you have done your job. Truly teaching children means that you impart, *into their hearts*, new relationship to God. Your goal is to be interesting, lively and to capture the attention of their hearts. Use visual illustrations of what you are saying, including object lessons, drama and puppetry. Build week by week on a consistent theme. Review at the beginning of each lesson what was taught previously. Target your teaching style and vocabulary toward the ten to twelve year olds. The younger ones will gladly reach up to understand; the older ones will not have to stoop too far down to engage with the teaching. Maintain consistent discipline. You are the father figure in this ministry setting and are setting a "holy pattern" for respect and protocol in the presence of the Lord. Use positive reward. Set clear boundaries. Be aware of when you are losing their attention and change your approach to recapture their attention. Be real but be patient. Many factors from home life and personality affect behavior. No matter what is happening, you are the leader and must regain control without showing or receiving disrespect.

Discipline, or class order, should be the least important focus on this training, but we need to consider it. Many cultures are losing their grasp on the respect and honor needed for an orderly meeting. One of the negative promises of the Bible is found in Isaiah 3: 4: "4. 'I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. 5. The people will be oppressed...the child will be insolent toward the elder...' This condition of society is warned about again in 2 Timothy 3:2. There are symptoms in our day, especially in western society, that this condition has come. We need to set clear boundaries for behavior in the children of our meetings and draw out their loyalty by our love. Here are some Guidelines and Rules for discipline:

Guidelines for Discipline

- Make a place where your expectations are reasonable
- Enforce them consistently, unwaveringly and kindly

Tell them the rules

1. When the meeting starts all are to follow the adult leader.
2. When we play the games, all are either playing or standing and watching. (No one is to go off and do something that is not related to the meeting and then wander back in.)
3. In worship time, we all worship.
4. During the teaching, we pay attention.
(Helping the children pay attention includes using visuals, drama, puppetry, and keeping their interest.)
5. During the prayer time at the end, each one should be participating. The meeting does not end until the leader dismisses the children. Some may want to leave before others; they should not disturb others if they are in a time with the Lord.
5. At first we give one verbal warning, then a second warning by taking them aside out of the group. If they disrupt a third time, then we dismiss them for the day. They may not come back into the meeting until next week when the same rules will apply.

Discipline can be the most difficult aspect to handle because the natural state of children is "in motion". In a sense, games are a tool of discipline. They release children's natural energy and enable their minds to listen (for a while). Rebellion or obedience is the fundamental choice of the Gospel.

Games and fun encourage obedience by relieving the sense of “law” and outside standards and giving the children the chance to make their choice to obey out of love. They want to be a part of something that is “fun”—that is, aimed toward them rather than making them aim toward something. Children want to know *most* whether or not you love them. Loyalty takes time to build and obedience from the heart is out of love. One way that we let the children feel that we are aiming for them is to switch activities often, keeping the activity interesting and moving. The most important foundation of class order, however, is a good, loving relationship with your children. Children will most respond to attitudes. Research has shown that 58% of what we “hear” is from body language, 30% is from tone of voice, and 12% comes from words. Emotions are very important in the life of a child. When we deal with emotional pain in children, we must win them over by firmness by setting clear boundaries and kindness by expressing our hearts with gentleness.

Finally, make room at the end of the sermon for prayer, questions, interaction and time with God. The children need time to encounter God. It is up to you to set this atmosphere and draw them into participating in this altar call. Each teaching has a theme. The altar call should activate the children in the theme of the teaching. If you have taught on healing the sick, then you can have the children come up and lay hands on a person who truly is sick. Another thought would be to have each turn to their neighbor and simply practice laying hands on them while speaking words of healing. You need to model this skill for them. If possible, put music on that sets an atmosphere that encourages their response. More information is included in the section on the art of altar calls.

As you lead children through a PowerClub meeting, you have a goal. First, you want to draw them into deeper relationship with the Father through His Holy Spirit. In a number of ways, you are aiming to open the children to experience God. Next, you are teaching the basic (and sometimes deeper) truths of God. You are then practicing to discern the gifts and callings of each child. Your position is not only teacher but prophet as you speak into the child’s life and tell them God’s personal plan for them, encouraging them to take steps to fulfill it. You become an equipper of the saints as you teach the children how to work and walk in the gifts of the Holy Spirit within them. Lastly, you release the children into ministry. It is your privilege to create the atmosphere and opportunities for them to practice releasing themselves into the supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit in a safe place.

Your personality and approach will help build their expectation and view of God. If you are happy and open, they will relax and begin to trust. If you are bland, their minds will wander. If you are critical, they will rebel (internally or by actions). Just as we have experienced God coming down to meet us on our level, our blessing is to come down to kids at their level. We become childlike, look them in the eyes when talking, and bend down to their level to listen to what they have to say. We listen for truth in their talk, affirm it, and take time to correct their misconceptions with love. We speak at their level—not using big words. Our teaching segments are not too long and incorporate object lessons and visuals. Children learn by seeing and touching, indeed through all five senses. Children are valuable and worth the investment of our time. We take personal responsibility for whether or not they learn. We are mentors, personally involved in their problems, strengths and need. We plant hunger for God in them by modeling it before them.

The purpose of teaching a pattern for a children’s meeting is to help you lead children step by step into the Lord’s presence and relate to the culture of children. There truly is a universal culture of childhood. From preschool to twelve years old, kids from different cultures still have more in common with children of all cultures than they have in common with the adults of their own culture. They are still soft ground in which to plant, ground that will bring forth 30, 60, and 100-fold return. We do not want to miss our opportunity to take that ground for the Lord of the Harvest. Your training is preparing you to bring the child-kernels wheat into the barns and prepare it to be fresh bread for the Kingdom.

8. Basics of a Children's Service--Notes

(People need to see a demonstration of this pattern—either during this session or at some time when you minister to children.)

Ultimate goal As KIMI PowerClub leaders, we want to see kids enjoying God and being used by Him to minister to the world.

The KIMI pattern of children's ministry gives confidence

That goal is to bring kids into the presence of the Lord where they can become familiar with His voice and learn to use the spiritual gifts He has given to them.

There are variations on the format or pattern, depending on the setting for your club.

For a children's church setting in an institutional church:

1. jokes/ice breakers/guessing games & welcome
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4. sermon with object lessons and other helps
5. worship and activation, bringing children into the presence of God with opportunity to respond and/or minister

- In both cases, variation in games and details keep the meeting fresh.
- maintain spontaneity and creativity.

The pattern is a framework to help you move children into close with God.

Reasons for each step

First, simple ice-breaker games, or jokes –

- draw the attention of the children away from playing and thinking about other circumstances outside -into the place of meeting –

- focuses it on the leader of the group.
- creates laughter and produces a relaxed atmosphere
- Laughter is a medicine (Proverbs 17:22)
- It also is an attention-getter
- Sets the atmosphere
 - Puts children in a group frame of mind
 - Connects their minds to the area
 - Examples of activities in PC Handbook

Second, active games. They are

- team-oriented.
- friendly competition
- cheering and laughter.
- Children begin to cheer and laugh
- also release pent up energy in an acceptable way
- Too often religious services for children are characterized with the “sit down and be quiet” atmosphere of a classroom.
- Negates past experience of God identify as rather than liberty.
- Active competitive games relax hearts and exercise minds
- Leaders, listen and notice (sense) atmosphere of the meeting
- relaxes and energizes at the same time.

When this point is reached, the children are ready to engage with God.

Third--Worship

- should also be very active for children.
- They will not be ready to sit and soak in the presence
- They have been activated and now we direct their
- open hearts and active bodies and minds toward God.
- use CDs, personal instruments, or just voice

- advantages of each are discussed the in lesson on leading children into worship.
- keep songs moving and use hand motions
- When you come into the presence of the Lord, tell them to notice how they feel, so that they will learn to sense when His presence increases.
- Eventually, encourage them to lead worship in some way.
- Worship directs the hearts of the children toward God

Review to this point

- three first steps to this pattern of children's ministry have
 - ♦ Engaged the minds of the children from outside circumstances
 - ♦ Then from their own personal thoughts into relating to group.
 - ♦ Finally, through worship, their minds are drawn upward

Fourth—Teaching

- teach them at least one new truth about God each time you meet
- impart, *into their hearts*, new relationship to God.
- be interesting, lively
- Use visual illustrations & including object lessons, of what you are saying, use drama and puppetry.
- Build week by week on a consistent theme.
- Review at the beginning of each lesson
- Target your teaching style and vocabulary toward 10-12 year olds
- Maintain consistent discipline
- are setting a "holy pattern" for respect and protocol in the Lord's presence
- Use positive reward. Set clear boundaries.
- Be aware of when you are losing their attention and
- Change your approach to recapture their attention.
- You are the leader and must gain control of the meeting atmosphere without showing or receiving disrespect.

Discipline

Many cultures are losing their grasp on the respect

Isaiah 3: 4: "4. "I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them.
5. The people will be oppressed...the child will be insolent toward the elder..."

2 Timothy 3:2. There are symptoms of perilous times...disobedience

games are a tool of discipline.

- release children's natural energy and enable their minds to listen
- Rebellion or obedience is the fundamental choice of the Gospel.
- fun encourages obedience out of love
- Loyalty takes time to build
- switch activities often, keeping the activity interesting and moving
- most important foundation of class order is good, loving relationship
- Children will most respond to attitudes.
 - o 58% of what we "hear" is from body language
 - o 30% is from tone of voice
 - o 12% comes from words.

Emotions are very important in the life of a child.

with emotional pain in children, we must win by with gentleness

set clear boundaries for behavior in the

Guidelines for Discipline

- Make a place where your expectations are reasonable
- Enforce them consistently, unwaveringly and kindly

Tell them the rules

1. When the meeting starts all are to follow the adult leader.
2. When we play the games, all are either playing or standing and watching.
(No one is to go off and do something that is not related to the meeting and then wander back in.)
3. In worship time, we all worship.
4. During the teaching, we pay attention.
(Helping the children pay attention includes using visuals, drama, puppetry, and keeping their interest.)
5. During the prayer time at the end, each one should be participating. The meeting does not end until the leader dismisses the children. Some may want to leave before others; they should not disturb others if they are in a time with the Lord.
5. At first we give one verbal warning, then a second warning by taking them aside out of the group. If they disrupt a third time, then we dismiss

them for the day. They may not come back into the meeting until next week when the same rules will apply.

Fifth—Altar Call

- The anointing of the sermon sets an atmosphere for meeting God
 - At end of the sermon have prayer, questions, ministry, time with God.
 - children need to encounter God.
 - We make this happen
 - The altar call should activate the children in the theme of the teaching
- More information is included in the section on the art of altar calls.

PowerClub's ultimate goal.

1. draw them into deeper relationship with the Father through His Holy Spirit.
2. teach the truths of God
3. discern the gifts and callings of each child.
be a prophet as you speak into the child's life
4. release the children into ministry.
5. create the atmosphere and opportunities for them to practice supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit in a safe place.

PowerClub's ultimate draw to children is a light-hearted personality and approach to build their expectation and view of God.

- If we are happy and open, they relax and trust.
- If we are bland, their minds will wander.
- If you are critical, they will rebel (internally or by actions)
- God meets kids on their level
- Progression of games into God's presence respects them as kids
- Look them in the eyes when talking
- Bend down to their level to listen to what they have to say
- Listen for truth in their talk, affirm it,
- Take time to correct their misconceptions with love.
- Speak at their level—not using big words.

Use all five senses.

Conclusion: The purpose to have a pattern of children's ministry is to help you relate to the culture of children.

- There truly is a universal culture of childhood.
- From preschool to twelve years old, kids from different cultures still have more in common with children of all cultures than they have in common with the adults of their own culture.

They are still soft ground in which to plant, ground that will bring forth 30, 60, and 100-fold return.

Do not miss our opportunity to take that ground for the Lord of the Harvest. Your training is preparing you to bring the wheat into the barns and prepare it to be fresh bread for the Kingdom!!!

9. Using Games to Reach a Child's Heart

(This session begins or ends with demonstration of games. The adult trainees participate and usually enjoy responding very much to the action. This also puts them in touch with the principles taught in this lesson concerning games as a part of children's ministry.)

Where are we taking our kids? We are taking them into the Kingdom of God, which is righteousness, peace, and **joy** in the Holy Ghost. (Romans 14: 17) Many of our children are not given the opportunity to go to a church. Church must come to them so they can find the God of love. You cannot leave love or joy out of children's ministry and expect it to be effective. The first two fruit of the Spirit are love and **joy** in Galatians 5: 22 and the first two purposes of children's ministry are to demonstrate the love and joy of the Lord. Love reaches down to us where we are. Joy reaches into us so that we can receive the love. Games are essential to our purpose.

Games open the door of relationship in children, causing them to relate to each other and to the leaders without words while breaking down the barrier between ages. The laughter generated through games opens hearts and provides healing. "A merry heart does good like a medicine," says Proverbs 17:22, and "He that is of a merry heart has a continual feast," says Proverbs 15:5. Joy, or a merry heart, feeds the soul with love. When you lead the children in games before you ever try to teach them something, you are saying to them, "It is O.K. for you to be a kid. I accept you as you are." In the process, the child unconsciously begins to accept you as you are.

Children playing games can look chaotic. Balls may be flying while children are running with voices shouting, cheering and laughing. All looks like disorder but it is bringing order. The children are focused together toward one goal. They are acting in unity to play according to the rules. Those who are watching are joining in the activity by vicariously "playing" with the chosen participants, rooting for them to win.

We open with simple guessing games or the telling of jokes. Opening games, or ice-breakers, actually call the meeting to order by focusing the attention of the children into the place where they are sitting. Children come to the meetings from other activities and environments. By spending time at the beginning of the meeting with laughter, the minds of the children are drawn to the meeting.

Next, two fast and active games will draw the children together as a team. Kids love to compete and to laugh. Games release energy that otherwise would be tension during a teaching. Physical action releases physical tension. Vocal shouting and yelling fills a need to be seen and heard without disrupting otherwise quiet times. Games make the statement that it's o.k. to be a kid. They make the meeting personal to them, unique from the adults' service. In a church setting, they create good childhood memories of church as "their place".

Games can present problems to some people. It can be an overcoming for adults to relate to play and to take it as a serious part of ministry. Games can also be noisy. Games need room to play. The game needs to match the area in which it is played. Some games need much room to play, such as relay races. Some games are messy and require protection of clothes and clean up. Kids love to get messy with permission, such as with eating games. (None of these problems is a problem to a kid. They will gladly work around the requirements if they are given the opportunity to play.)

In a two hour service, games should take about 20 minutes at the beginning of the service. They are heart-openers and the first step to connecting the children to God's presence. They help make possible a solid flow of worship and then teaching. In family worship times, they can create a bond between parents and children, even breaking down walls of relationship that may have been caused through family stress. In a home school or homework session they serve as a reward, mental break or emotional refreshing from the stress of concentration.

Rewards are a part of most games. Children look forward to them because they will have a chance to win or celebrate a winner, whether a team or an individual. The Scriptures speak often about rejoicing in others' victories and rejoicing in our own. The children may be playing a simple game but even while it creates laughter, it speaks into the inner part of our lives that we must give our utmost in our efforts and be overcomers. You may want to give sweets to the winners of games, but a special hand-clap toward the winner or winners will be appreciated as much as sweets. Any small thing that a child gets extra becomes a reward—even attention. Be consistent in the way you give and what you give. Do not try to make rewards big or you will get into a competition of getting even bigger treats. You do not want to focus on *getting* but on *enjoying* the game. Have fun blessing the children,

and use sound judgment.

The PowerClubs Handbook includes a section on the principles of creating games with several examples of each type. This summary will just give you an overview.

Simple guessing games or jokes open our meetings. You may write the name of an animal, a color, or a number on a small piece of paper and then hold it behind your back. The child may ask one question about the animal (i.e. does it have fur? Etc.) and then must guess. Tell the range of the numbers from which they can guess (i.e. from 1—10). If a color, they may guess all. Remind them to listen to which guesses have been wrong, so they can think of a different one. All will clap for the one who guesses correctly. Jokes can be found in children's joke books or over the internet. Web sites are noted in the PowerClub Handbook.

For your active games, keep in mind that each type of game is suited for specific areas. Large or outside areas can accommodate relays and games that involve throwing an object for a distance. In one type of relay, the children stand in a line and pass a ball over the head and then under the legs until it reaches the person at the back of the line who then runs to the front. The first line of children to complete all people running from back to front wins. A throwing game might go this way: One person stands a distance away holding a cup, bucket or other properly sized container. Facing him is another person with a ball or other soft object. If the person can throw his object into the container, the other person steps back. Two teams might do this at the same time. Points are given for the distance achieved in throwing. The team with the most points wins. Another throwing game is simply to have children throw bean bags toward a hole or into a bucket placed at a challenging distance. The team with the most hits wins.

Most kids delight in messy games. These are examples:

With water

1. Marble-toes – equal-sized basins are filled with water or something slimy. The children must pick up marbles with one foot by the toes only. The one with the most marbles after 30 seconds wins. If you are inside, be sure to have the floor covered with something waterproof.

2. Water balloon toss—for outside. Competition between teams of two. Each has a small balloon filled with water. They begin tossing the water balloon from a safe distance where they can easily catch it, but every time they successfully catch it, they must step back one step. Eventually, the balloon will slip out and break on the ground. The team who manages the farthest distance wins.

3. Squirt gun bath—One child sits in a chair with a dollop of whipped cream on his nose. His team mate stands about ten feet away with a squirt gun. You may have three or four teams. Those holding the squirt guns begin to squirt-wash the whipped cream off of the face of their team members. The first with a clean face wins. Be sure to do this outside or in an area that cannot be harmed by water. Cover the clothes of those sitting down by cutting a hole in a large plastic garbage bag so their head is through but their bodies are covered.

With food

1. Pudding or custard in a bowl—Contestants must eat with hands behind their backs. First one finished wins. Vary by hiding a piece of bubble gum at the bottom. They must find the gum and the first one who blows a successful bubble (one inch in diameter that stays up for the count of ten) wins.

2. Two equal teams have a favorite soda or juice in a large bowl (No more than 12 ounces per person.) Each has personal clean straw to drink until the bowl is empty. On the signal, both teams stick their straws in and suck. The team that finishes first wins.

3. grapes or a banana hidden beneath whipped cream—A line of individual contestants must eat the fruit with hands behind their backs. To do this, they must dig through the whipped cream. You may cut the banana in pieces or make it harder by keeping it whole.

For smaller areas, passing games work well. Almost anything can be passed from a hat to a bell. One person stands with his back to the children who are passing the object. If there is music available, then the one who cannot see the action stops the music intermittently. Whoever has the object must sit down. If there is a question about who had the object at the time when the music or clapping stopped, the one who is out is the person to whom the object was going.

To begin large meetings, you can bring an atmosphere of fun by tossing light beach balls into the audience and ask them to keep the balls up without touching the floor. Just the effort to keep the

balls up will break the self-conscious atmosphere of a new meeting.

Games set an atmosphere for a fun meeting, but we must set the atmosphere for fun games. By taking cheerful control of the room full of kids with a pleasant and upbeat attitude, you are saying, "I am in charge and you are going to have fun here." God is fun. He is a friend who sticks closer than a brother and he meets each one of us in a way that we can relate to Him. For a child, that means *play*.

9. Using Games to Reach a Child's Heart—notes

(Demonstration: Throw the balls in the air to the children/adults. Have them engage in play for a little bit by keeping a light object like a beach ball from falling to the ground then do about 15 minutes worth of different games.)

As they play the second game, after they are a little bit warmed up, ask them to notice their feelings as they are playing.

Romans 14: 17. For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and **joy** in the Holy Ghost.

Galatians 5: 22. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace,

1 Thessalonians 2:20 20. For ye are our glory and **joy**.

- I. Reasons for games: Games are the open door to relationship to children
 - A. Relating without words
 - 1. Breaks down the barrier between our ages w/o changing position
 - 2. Opens our hearts and their hearts to laughter
 - a. Proverbs 17: 22. A merry heart doeth good like a medicine
HEALS
 - b. Proverbs 15:15 .he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast FEEDS THE SOUL W/ LOVE
 - B. Brings order even though it looks like disorder
 - 1. Kids are focused together on one point
 - 2. They begin to act in unity to get the ball or other play thing moving
 - 3. They are vicariously “playing” with the chosen participants, rooting for them to win
 - 4. If you use at the beginning, it “breaks the ice” (i.e. relaxes social stiffness)
 - C. Games release energy that otherwise would be tension during a teaching
 - 1. Physical action releases physical tension
 - 2. Vocal shouting and yelling fills (legally) a need to be seen and heard
 - D. Make a statement that it's o.k. to be a kid
 - E. Makes the service personal for them, separate from the adults' service
 - F. Adds to good childhood memories and “flavor” of unchosen activities
(folks usually insist on kids coming to church)

II. Problems with games

- A. May be an overcoming for an adults to relate
 - 1. many have lost their sense of play and feel awkward
- B. Can be noisy--a problem in close quarters
- C. Some games need room to play such as relay races
- D. Some games are messy
 - 1. Kids love to get messy with permission
 - 2. Eating games
 - 3. Need proper clean-up facilities if use messy games
- E. None of these problems is a problem to a kid

III. Timing with games

- A. Should be about 20 minutes in a 2 hour service.
- B. At the beginning
 - 1. In the middle you want a solid flow of worship and then teaching
 - 2. In a home setting or home school situation, can precede or be a break to a teaching time
 - 3. Can be a reward for good effort

IV. Rewards

- A. *Any* small thing that a child gets extra becomes a reward..
 - 1. Try to be consistent. Establish what is a reward
 - 2. Do not try to make rewards big or you get into a competition of getting bigger
- B. Are not always needed but they feed a child's need to feel special

V. "Ice Breakers" for the beginning of a meeting with kids who don't know each other

- A. Make two teams. Throw a ball into the audience. Tell them to keep it up and going. Each drop on the floor counts a point. The team with the least points gets to go first when the games start (or other reward)

B. Jokes

- 1. Riddles, knock knock jokes—puns
- 2. Kids will begin to bring their own

C. Guessing games with a written item behind back

- 1. colors
- 2. animal
- 3. number—etc.

VI. Games for large areas (You can read the full description in the article.)

A. Relays

- 1. Under/over pass a ball
- 2. Vaseline on the nose, pick up a cotton ball on knees and sniff off

B. "Catch" games

- 1. nerf ball catch in cut off gallon milk jugs

C. Bean Bag games

VII. Messy games

A. With water

- 1. Marble-toes – picking up something with toes (rocks?)
 - 2. Water balloon toss—Play catch and gradually walk farther away. Each has the same number of balloons to break. Last one wins.
 - 3. Squirt guns squirting whipped cream off of a kids face (shaving cream doesn't work because gets in eyes and tastes bad)
- 4. Relay: Hold a Styrofoam plate with small hole cut out over face, slightly away from nose. Sit in chair., others lined up behind. One is squirter w/ squirt gun. Victim must sit in the chair until he is hit in the nose, then can pass the plate and another sits in the chair.

B. With food

- 1. pudding in a bowl. Must eat with hands behind back *

2. Teams have a favorite soda or juice in a large bowl (No more than 12 ounces per person. Each has personal clean straw to drink until the bowl is empty. Team that finishes first wins

3. grapes hidden beneath whipped cream. Eat w/hands behind back

VIII. Games for smaller areas

A. "Passing" games

1. boiled egg on spoon person to person—first team to complete up the line wins

2. musical bell—pass from person to person while music plays or some claps. When the clapping or music stops, they are out.

3. Can pass *anything* while a sound is being made

Conclusion:

Games set an atmosphere for a fun meeting, but we must set the atmosphere for fun games. By taking cheerful control of the room full of kids with a pleasant and upbeat attitude, you are saying, "I am in charge and you are going to have fun here." God is fun. He is a friend who sticks closer than a brother and he meets each one of us in a way that we can relate to Him. For a child, that means *play*.

10. Leading Children into Worship

Leading children into the presence of God means leading them into the worship of God. As a PowerClub leader you will find yourself becoming a worship leader. This is not difficult assignment. You are well able to bring the presence of God to kids and to bring kids into the presence of God. Before we outline the principles of leading children's worship, however, let's explore why we lead children into worship.

Children are spirit beings. They *need* to relate to God. Even before they know Him, the time of childhood is famous for relating to the spirit world. Children's books are full of fantasy and imagination, which is an attempt to reach into the unseen. God is seeking people to worship Him in the unseen Spirit realm. That includes children. Children are aware that they are more than the body they can see and want to explore the realms of the unseen. That includes God. Our job and privilege is to guide them into the right realm of the Spirit—the Holy Spirit. “God inhabits the praises of His people,” says Psalm 22:3. That psalm is teaching us that music is a path into and down from God's Spirit world. Music of His Spirit draws our spirits up to God, and God reaches down through music to touch us. All of us, including children, need to “feel” God. It is an emotional witness to His reality.

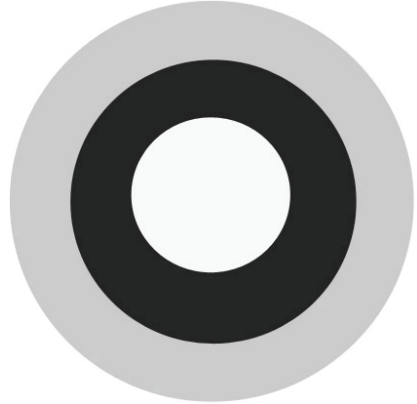
Through the mind, will and emotions that make up their souls, kids release their spirits to worship. Since it is their souls doing the releasing, worship music for kids needs to appeal to their internal rhythm. That rhythm is not a waltz. God has bred into the generation born to these times a rhythm that matches His own intensity. He is preparing for the final battle and eventual return to earth. The groanings of the earth are getting stronger and the children born today are born with an internal rhythm that mirrors that anticipation. Seek music that lifts up Christ with the rhythm of the times.

Worship **will** happen to everyone. Our inner man aches to be filled. Children are no exception. If they do not fill that ache with God then they will fill it with some other spirit, and there are many other spirits presenting themselves for worship today. In John 4: 13 Jesus told the woman at the well, “Whoever drinks of this water shall thirst again. But whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.” Worship in the Holy Spirit satisfies and replenishes us. As we worship, we are not drained dry but filled full. Another reason that children need to worship is that children need to learn how to act in the presence of God. Anyone granted an audience with Queen Elizabeth, is schooled in proper etiquette. She is a real queen and there are real ways to act and not act in her presence. Although it is unlikely that we would be sent to the gallows for misbehavior, we would be soon escorted out of the reception room if we acted up. It is the same for our Father. We will only enjoy His presence so long as we respect Him as He is. Children who do not learn to recognize and respond to God are short-changed in their walk in the Kingdom. They can only relate to people.

Once we agree that children do need to worship God, we must learn how. Our first overcoming is to understand the principle of human rhythm. Because worship music up to 40 years ago was quite traditional, it is hard for some people to believe that today's often loud and fast-paced worship is “really” worship. But it is. A new generation that can be called “the regeneration generation” is dancing to a dif-

ferent rhythm. Who they are cannot be expressed in old ways. The tempo of their souls is fast and their attention span is short. This is one reason we usually grasp their attention with games at the beginning.

Once we have their attention, begin with fast, upbeat music. This draws attention to the Lord and unloads even more energy. Approximately three fast songs will draw them upward. Think of the court of God as three circles. We start in the outer circle with fast music that is praise and gives our souls and bodies expression. As we move closer, the music changes to songs that concentrate on God and His qualities (the second circle). At the end of the meeting, we will use songs that help our souls and body be quiet so that our spirits can experience the presence of God (the inner circle). An adult service will go from outer to inner court each time. In children's services, we might wait until the end to go all the way in, so that we can leave the children with a sense of God's presence.



Younger kids love to engage their bodies with hand motions. Perhaps, you can take advantage of professional worship music from CDs. You would have control over the volume and your hands would be free to do motions to the songs. The disadvantage of worshipping to CDs is that you are less flexible in creating your own spontaneous songs, you must carry extra electronic equipment, and you must have your worship program preprogrammed.

It is possible to use a live worship team. They need to be well-practiced and to be lively and child-oriented in their approach. If you play an instrument, it is also possible to lead the worship yourself. The advantages of using live musicians is spontaneity. The disadvantage is that your hands are not free. You cannot leave the music to attend to any discipline needs nor can you lead hand motions to the songs. Ideally, if you have live musicians, they will include some of the children from your ministry. Children who play instruments will have a place to practice and be inspired to grow as musicians and to develop in teamwork. Using children on the worship team encourages children that their contribution is worthwhile and helps them mature. The disadvantage is that it takes time to develop a worship team. Practice and scheduling takes time. Growing as a team takes time and patience. Many small ministries do not have the number of adults needed to oversee or train a worship team.

When you write your own songs, simplify them for younger children. Children can also participate in leading the singing while making up their own worship songs. They can lead others by singing a line and then having the others repeat it. Most PowerClub leaders lead the worship with the help of a few children, using either CDs or if no electricity is available, by singing familiar songs.

As you lead the worship, you will be looking for certain things to happen. First, you will sense if the Lord's presence begins to come in. This will depend on a number of things: your personal intimacy with the Lord, the children's relationship with the Lord, and the number of distractions in the environment (disinterested children, bystanders, heat or cold, etc.). If you sense Him, try to lead the children into His

presence with a slower song. Be very sensitive to how far you can take them. The quiet presence of the Lord is unfamiliar at first. If you have a restless group, some children will hinder others. Have adult volunteers who gently steer the disinterested children in the right direction or at least keep them from disturbing those who are worshiping. If you cannot take this group into His presence, be content with praise.

Having noted that, let me explain that there are two different approaches to worship in children's ministry. It might be natural to go into the deeper presence of God at the beginning. After a time of soaking you may then go into the lesson, following with an activation. Some PowerClub leaders purposely avoid going very deep at the beginning of the meetings. They want the children to be hungry for His presence after the teaching and so reserve that time for the deeper worship songs.

In any case, the end of the meeting is reserved for the Lord. At the beginning, we aim our activities to capturing the energy of our children's bodies, the attention of their minds and the affection of their souls. At the end, we are fully engaged with connecting their spirits to the Spirit of God. He is the reason for PowerClubs. Knowing God, hearing His voice and obeying Him is the fulfillment of our lives. We come to know God by encountering God during a time when our spirits are open.

There are obstacles to this goal. Children are naturally self-conscious, and worship is becoming God-conscious. Children are "gang" oriented from 6 years and up; they are susceptible to looking to see what others are doing to see if they are "right". Looking to the invisible is a new thing to most, therefore it can feel uncomfortable. The childish response to that feeling of being uncomfortable is to mock or be silly. Finally, you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink. There will be some children who just do not want to worship. Leading children into worship makes it necessary to be led ourselves into new depths of God-consciousness and out of self-consciousness. It requires us to stretch into levels of hearing God's voice and into new realms of creativity. This is challenging but exciting. We will experience our own growing pains, but we will also experience new growth. On top of that, we will be rewarded by seeing children go where previous generations did not really believe that they could go—right into the throne room of God to talk to their Father! In spite of obstacles, the majority of children will follow you right into the presence of God where they will see visions and hear His voice. He will become real to them and they will become strong witnesses to His reality to others.

10. Leading Children into Worship

- Leading children into the presence of God means leading them into the worship of God.
- As a PowerClub leader you will find yourself becoming a worship leader. This is not difficult assignment.
- You are well able to bring the presence of God to kids and to bring kids into the presence of God.
- why we lead children into worship.
 - Children are spirit beings.
 - They *need* to relate to God.
- the time of childhood is famous for relating to the spirit world.
- Children's books are full of fantasy and imagination,
- = attempt to reach into the unseen.
- God is seeking people to worship Him=includes children.
- Children are aware that they are more than the body they can see
- want to explore the realms of God.
- Our job and privilege is to guide them into the right realm of the Spirit—the Holy Spirit.
- “God inhabits the praises of His people,” says Psalm 22:3. =music is a path into Spirit world.
- Music of His Spirit draws our spirits up to God, and God reaches down through music to touch us.
- All of us, need to “feel” God.
- It is an emotional witness to His reality.
- kids release their spirits through their souls to worship.
- Souls have an internal rhythm of the end times—intense.
- Worship **will** happen to everyone
- Must fill it with the right Spirit.
- In John 4: 13 Jesus told the woman at the well, “ Whoever drinks of this water shall thirst again. But whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall

never thirst.”

- Worship in the Holy Spirit satisfies and replenishes us.
- Children taught how to walk in the Kingdom through worship.
- There is protocol in knowing how to act with God.
- how.
- The tempo of their souls is fast and their attention span is short.
- grasp their attention with games at the beginning.
- begin with fast, upbeat music-- Approximately three fast songs
- draws attention to the Lord and unloads even more energy
- Object lesson: Have 3 circles of rope. One about 4 meters in diameter, the next about 3 meters and the smallest just small enough for you to stand in. As you explain the progression from outer to inner, walk in the circle you are talking about)
- 1st circle is fast music that expresses the children’s souls
- 2nd circle is slower music that worships the character and deeds of God
- 3rd circle is music that worships God for who He is, a “soaking” place where His presence causes us to encounter Him
- Younger kids love hand motions.
- Can use CDs.
- Advantage: control of volume and hands are free to do motions Disadvantage: less flexible in creating your own spontaneous songs,
 - must carry extra electronic equipment,
 - must have your worship program preprogrammed.
- live worship team
 - must be well-practiced, lively and child-oriented
- Can lead worship yourself.
 - Advantage: spontaneity.
 - Disadvantage: hands are not free.
 - cannot attend to discipline needs
 - cannot lead hand motions to the songs.
- Include some of the children in leading worship
- Advantage: Children mature.

- Disadvantage: takes time and more adults
- When new songs,
- simplify them for younger children.
- Children also make up own worship songs.
- Can lead others by singing a line and then having the others repeat.
- Be aware of worship progress
 - First, sense if the Lord's presence begins to come in.
 - depend on 1. your personal intimacy with the Lord,
 - 2. the children's relationship with the Lord,
 - 3. the number of distractions in the environment
- If you sense Him,
- try to lead the children into His presence with a slower song.
- Be sensitive to how far you can take them.
 - The quiet presence of the Lord is unfamiliar at first.
 - Have adult volunteers gently work with the disinterested children
- If you cannot take this group into His presence, be content with praise.
- Two different approaches to worship in children's ministry.
- Go into the deeper presence of God at the beginning.
 - After a time of soaking you may then go into the lesson, following with an activation.
- Avoid going very deep at the beginning of the meetings.
 - reserve that time after the sermon for the deeper worship songs.
- At the beginning
 - capture the energy of our children's bodies,
 - the attention of their minds
 - the affection of their souls.
- The end of the meeting is reserved for the Lord.
- fully engage with connecting their spirits to the Spirit of God.
 - He is the reason for PowerClubs.
 - Knowing God, hearing His voice, obeying Him is fulfillment of our lives.

- We know God by encounters when our spirits are open.
- obstacles
- Children are naturally self-conscious
- worship is becoming God-conscious.
- Children are “gang” oriented from 6 years and up;
- Looking to see if they are “right”.
- can feel uncomfortable
 - might mock or be silly
 - some children do not want to worship.
- Leading worship requires us to stretch into new levels of maturity &
- we will also experience new growth.

Conclusion

Leading children into worship makes it necessary to be led ourselves into new depths of God-consciousness and out of self-consciousness. It requires us to stretch into levels of hearing God’s voice and into new realms of creativity. This is challenging but exciting. We will experience our own growing pains, but we will also experience new growth. On top of that, we will be rewarded by seeing children go where previous generations did not really believe that they could go—right into the throne room of God to talk to their Father! In spite of obstacles, the majority of children will follow you right into the presence of God where they will see visions and hear His voice. He will become real to them and they will become strong witnesses to His reality to others.

11. Object lessons and Illustrated Sermons

(For this sermon, have a number of object lessons visible on a table before you as you teach. Use them as visual examples of what you are teaching.)

There is a true western proverb that says "Children learn what they live." More than we realize, we live out experiences and then form our beliefs. We walk through life from babyhood to adulthood and along the way, develop into the people who will one day finish life and stand before the God who created us. That is why, when we are teaching children, we want to infuse as much life as possible into the Gospel. Children learn best by experiencing the life of what you are teaching through their five physical senses. Research has shown that they will remember 10% of what they hear, 50% of what they see but 80% of what they both see and hear. They will remember 90% of what they see, hear and participate in.

There is a saying that "Seeing is believing". Object lessons and visual demonstrations of truth help children grasp abstract concepts. We are learning to bring the Gospel to life so that people can receive revelation. The Gospel is so simple that it can be presented in pictures. We want to help people understand and live the Reality of the Bible

God was the first to use object lessons to reveal truth. He stationed two angels with swords of fire at the entrance of the Garden of Eden to prevent access to the Tree of Life. The impression this picture leaves on the heart says much about His holiness and leaves no doubt about the separation between life and sin. The Lord says in many ways throughout the Bible that He hates sin and that it separates Him from man. The first illustrating drama of His separation from sinning man is the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden. A fiery sword placed at the gate also said, "You may not enter the blessings because of sin." A serpent, used to tempt Eve, became a symbol of sin for all time. Psalm 91 promises that we can tread on adders. A bear could have been possessed by Satan to tempt Eve. A snake better pictures the qualities of sin.

Jesus Christ was, himself, an object lesson. He said, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father." He was here to illustrate and demonstrate the Invisible. God's drama illustration of the pain and damage of sin and the reality of judgment has never been improved upon. The Crucifixion of Jesus illustrates, in detail, that sin means death and God is love. Even the encounter of God with the Israelites at Mt Sinai was a staged show to illustrate God's preeminence over all other gods. Once He had thoroughly illustrated His holiness, He invited the elders up onto the mountain to see His gentleness. They all ate with God before Moses went up to receive the stone scroll of the Ten Commandments. To this day, we use the expression "carved in stone" to mean that something is unchangeable. Jesus said, "No man has seen the Father except He who came down from the Father." The only way to see the invisible God of love is to look at the object lesson: Jesus, the son of God and son of man. God presents Himself in pictures. We must do so also.

We are training children to understand and interact in the realm of the Supernatural, the realm of God's Spirit. Most children, however, have only been trained to recognize their natural senses. Secular school develops their intellect. Musical training develops their natural ear and physical abilities to produce music. Sports training develops their physical agility, skills and ability to work in teams. We must use all that they have already learned to increase their hunger for and ability in the things of the Spirit. Spiritual training alone will go with them into eternity.

Paul used sports as an illustration in 1 Corinthians 9:24., secular poetry in Acts 17:28 and false idols in the same passage. God made John the Baptist to illustrate extreme separation from the world. Ezekiel laid on his side to lay siege to Jerusalem, a prophetic illustration of what was to come. The Holy Spirit to this day, is represented as a dove.

Here are some other illustrations of the Bible.

- David slaying Goliath -- what one small child with faith can do to a large problem.
- The child who gave 2 loaves and 5 fishes that were multiplied to feed thousands -- how a child's small contribution is very large in the eyes of the Lord.
- We understand that a camel cannot go through an eye of a needle, so we see we cannot enter the Kingdom of God and hold on to this world.
- Peter sent to a place of natural provision (the sea) to find supernatural provision (tax money)
- Others
 - o faith is like a grain of mustard seed,
 - o the harvest is like wheat in the field,
 - o death to self-love is like a grain falling into the ground.
 - o If we see a splinter in our brother's eye, we have a log in our eye.
 - o I am the vine—you are the branches,
 - o communion table—bread for his body, wine for the blood, [illustrates a difficult concept of eat my flesh and drink my blood],
- old wineskin—new wineskin,
tongues of fire on day of first baptism of the Holy Spirit

God places value on object lessons. As you use the object lessons that are given to you in the KIMI curriculum, you will begin to think visually as you work with children. You will also think of ways to create visual illustrations in order to show the concepts of knowing and hearing God.

(From this point, for the time you have allotted, demonstrate a number of object lessons from the KIMI curriculum)

Conclusion:

Object lessons begin from a natural understanding in order to open hearts to Supernatural revelation. They are essential in children's ministry because

- They give illustration and help understanding which leads to faith.

They keep the meeting fresh by

adding physical objects to direct the children's eyes and minds.

grasping attention which avoids boredom and potential discipline problems

encouraging children to participate

Use the object lessons in the KIMI curriculum as you teach the children in your ministry. You will see an increase in their understanding and ability to use what you are giving them!

11. Object lessons and Illustrated Sermons—Notes

(For this sermon, have a number of object lessons visible on a table before you as you teach. Use them as visual examples of what you are teaching.)

“children learn what they live. More than we realize, we live out experiences and then form our beliefs.

- Children learn experientially –by what their five senses as they move through life.
 - Starts as a baby and into childhood
 - We bring “life” to the Gospel with visuals and impact 5 senses
 - Research says we remember
 - ✦ 10% of what only hear
 - ✦ 20-50% of what see
 - ✦ 65-80% of what both see and hear
 - ✦ 90% of what they participate in
 - ✦ Gospel is so simple—can be presented in pictures
- “Seeing is believing” = seeing helps believing

- God was first to use visual illustration
 - 2 Angels at Garden gate = separation from life and holiness & sin
 - Serpent = nature & poison of sin --Ps 91, we tread on it
 - Jesus –object lesson of Father “If seen me, then seen the Father”
 - Crucifixion –damage & judgment of sin
- Drama at Sinai—illustrated power & then gentleness at meal

- Training beyond the natural
 - School , sports, music develop natural talents
 - Only spiritual training is eternal and has reward
 - Must seek and strive—Paul used sports for illustration
 - John Baptist = separation
 - Ezekiel illustrated endurance
 - Illustrated Sermons in the Bible
 - ✦ David slaying Goliath -- what one small child with faith can do to a large problem.
 - ✦ The child who gave 2 loaves and 5 fishes that were multiplied to feed thousands -- how a child’s small contribution is very large in the eyes of the Lord.
 - ✦ We understand that a camel cannot go through an eye of a needle, so we see we cannot enter the Kingdom of God and hold on to this world.
 - ✦ Peter sent to the familiar sea to find the unfamiliar tax money

Others

- faith is like a grain of mustard seed,
- the harvest is like wheat in the field,
- death to self-love is like a grain falling into the ground.
- splinter in our brother’s eye, log in ours,

- I am the vine—you are the branches,
 - communion table—bread for his body, wine for the blood, [illustrates a difficult concept of eat my flesh and drink my blood],
 - old wineskin—new wineskin,
- tongues of fire on day of first baptism of the Holy Spirit)

(From this point, for the time you have allotted, demonstrate a number of object lessons from the KIMI curriculum)

Conclusion:

Object lessons begin from a natural understanding in order to open hearts to Supernatural revelation. They are essential in children's ministry because

- They give illustration and help understanding which leads to faith.
- They keep the meeting fresh by
 - o adding physical objects to direct the children's eyes and minds.
 - o grasping attention which avoids boredom and potential discipline problems
 - o encouraging children to participate

Use the object lessons in the KIMI curriculum as you teach the children in your ministry. You will see an increase in their understanding and ability to use what you are giving them. The following are examples of transforming invisible concepts to visual illustrations.

Visual Illustration Chart

Spiritual Concept	Natural Sense "Mirror"	Visual Bridge
Bitterness in our Hearts	Taste—lemon juice on q-tip	Each one taste
"Eyes & ears to see"-Jesus asks us to have them.	Ability to pay attention to new information.	Turn a child around and around until he is dizzy. Child focus and grasp
Quiet in the presence of God	Intimacy, Quiet	Have child cover eyes so must look inside
Sound mind	Emotional Rest	Take 2 clear bowls of colored water. Stir one with violently, leave other quiet.
Power	Free movement	spin a paper plate freely on finger or pencil tip in hole
Love	Security	Wrap a doll tightly in cloth
Circumcision of heart	Vulnerability to God	Cut the top 1/3 of an orange peel off and expose the fruit underneath.
Unforgiveness	Feeling of burden	Carry a heavy knapsack on back
	Feeling of bitterness	One figure is in prison, one person marches as guard. We are in prison as long as we keep some one imprisoned.

12. Puppetry

If you want an instant audience, walk into a room with a puppet. Immediately, you will have people around you. Children relate to puppets as friends on their own level and look up to them as such. They remember the personality of a puppet and expect the same character every time the puppet is used. Puppets make great teachers. Children will repeat scriptures after puppets without feeling they are being taught and can retain up to 70% more information when they receive such visual reinforcement. You can ask a puppet a question that you want to answer for the benefit of the children listening.

A puppet is a man-made figure whose movements are controlled by a human being. The person operating may be behind a screen or the puppeteer may be visibly moving the puppet as in ventriloquism. They may be simple or elaborate. They have been used for thousands of years and have been found in tombs of Egypt and Greece. Most likely, puppets were first used in religious ceremonies. Puppets can be used to combine entertainment, education and ministry and they make good ministry partners.

Puppets are also valuable in ministering to deeply troubled children. Police departments use them in family problem investigations. Abuse victims are sometimes questioned with puppets. Hard questions can be addressed to the puppet that might be hurtful to the child. A puppet ministry in North Carolina, USA, regularly visits the juvenile prisons. The children who come to the meetings generally come with hardened hearts and facial expressions, but they leave having experienced the love of God. Laughter, as we have taught in this training, is a key to opening the heart to receive from God.

The least time-consuming way to incorporate puppetry is by using a single puppet to “discuss” the subject for your meeting. Spontaneous discussion with the puppet over the upcoming lesson can raise interest in the children. Another way that a single puppet can be used is to teach scripture. The puppet can say the scripture in various ways and the children can repeat afterward. Your puppet friend can also open or lighten up a meeting by just plain being silly. Children get an opportunity to be kids and laugh.

In writing skits, a puppeteer must write the skit with grace and humor. The puppets must respond consistently with the same personality traits. If the puppeteer has developed “a relationship” with the puppet and can humorously converse, the puppet becomes a ministry partner who can come out at various times in the meeting as the leader has need to draw the children into response.

Our focus as PowerClub leaders is to lead the children into God’s presence and train them to minister in the Spirit. Working puppets into your meetings can be a creative addition. Are you willing to take the time to learn new skills and develop new talents?

Skills that are needed include

puppet mouth manipulation

Drop your thumb and keep fingers still. Allow the jaw to open. Do not flap the upper mouth open. We talk by dropping our jaw. (Everybody try this.) We do not open the top of our mouth to talk. (demonstrate) Make sure that the wrist remains bent and the fingers are pointed toward the audience. This makes the puppet believable. Keep the head still, the jaw dropped and make eye contact with the audience.

Practice “syncing” puppet’s mouth with the words of the skit or music

For the most realistic appearance do not drop your thumb as far as it can go on every syllable. Use your own jaw movement as a guide.

Use the larger mouth movements for expressions that require surprise or other strong reaction.

A common mistake is “reverse” mouth sink because the puppet is closing his mouth when he should be opening it. It appears to be “biting” words.

Puppet Body Manipulation

Learn how to place your hand in the puppet.

Position the puppet so that your audience can see its face when it turns to talk to you.

Bend wrist and point hand toward the audience to make good eye contact.

A full body puppet is best supported with the legs over one arm while the hand of the other arm is inside the mouth.

Practice until all the details become “second nature” and do not need to be thought about. Then the dialogue, song and message can be the focus of concentration.

Use a mirror to practice.

Body Movements, most of the time, should be deliberately bold and exaggerated.

It is possible to over-animate the puppet but usually, the puppet is not moving enough.

You can show surprise with a “drop dead” effect—as though the puppet is fainting.

Head movements show many expressions

- Tipping to the side for curiosity

- Head back for surprise

- Notice human exaggerated responses

Puppet Character Development

Every puppet has his own personality.

Discover it and add movement and voice type to express it.

Discovering” a character of a puppet comes as a gift of discernment from the Lord as to how He wants to use a puppet and what part of ministry this puppet will

play.

Use combination of facial features, skin tone, costume, voice type, and speed and type of body movement to “create” a character or personality for the audience to relate to.

The whole time the puppet is seen, it should seem alive to the audience.

Writing Puppet Skits

Keep it short (about five minutes maxim).

Writing should be simple, easy to understand, and most often use humor.

A serious subject for a skit should be about something that already has the children’s concern so they will be attentive.

Pre-recording the skit on a cassette tape and then playing over the sound system helps in delivery. There are fewer things for the puppeteers to think of at one time.

The gift of ventriloquism can be an asset in children’s ministry. With a vent puppet you have a ministry partner that can talk to you.

You can have your puppet ask questions that you would like to ask a child to ask and give the Lord’s answer.

Children identify with the puppet as a friend who is close to the minister—some one “on their side”.

You can teach the puppet and at the same time teach the child.

You can deal with difficult subjects like abandonment or death or sorrow by talking to the puppet as you would like to talk to the child.

Puppets, like people, have different personalities and the child learns that it is good to be different.

HOW TO DO VENTRILOQUISM

What it is - Your mouth speaking without your lips moving—an illusion that something is real

German word for ventriloquism is “Bauchreden”. It means “stomach speech”.

You push air up from your abdomen or lungs

Throat muscles in voice box vibrate together like strings on an instrument

The illusion of the puppet talking comes because the puppet’s mouth is moving and yours is not.

Attention is on the puppet and it’s movements

DEVELOPING LUNG SPACE – DEEP BREATH, FILL LUNGS AND LET OUT SLOWLY—2.
LET OUT THE SOUND “EEEE” UNTIL AIR IS USED UP.3. TIGHTEN STOMACH MUS-
CLES AND DO MORE QUICKLY

All but 7 letters in English alphabet do not require lips

Put smile on face and finger on lips to tell if your lips move and speak

A C D E G H I J K L N O Q R S T X Z

Practice in front of mirror at home

III. Difficult letters

B - replace with letter D (tongue tip quickly brushes behind teeth. D sound is strictly on roof of mouth behind teeth.) Blue Bananas Bake Better.

F – replace with sound of TH (Keep tongue behind teeth and let air through)
Fat flies are fidgety.

M – replace with sound of the letter N (place tongue more flat and full behind teeth. N sound is tongue mid-roof of mouth) Many monkeys make money.

P – replace with the sound of the letter T (Pop your tongue over the inside of your teeth while saying “T”) Parrots play with puppets.

V – replace with the sound of THEE (almost tickle your tongue as you allow air to pass over your tongue with teeth slightly separated) Very valiant vehicles

W – replace with sound of (forcing air up) OO from the back of your mouth cavity (close down on the back of your mouth cavity while you make a sort of OO sound)
Whales waiting in water to wiggle.

Y – position tongue full in mouth so that tongue is against both sides of inner teeth. Curve the tongue and then sort of closing the back of mouth, force air over with an OO sound that turns into a “why?”

Yesterday, Yogas like yellow yogurt.

Create a puppet voice

Must be different from your own voice

(MAKE SOCK PUPPETS)

Open and close mouth for each syllable to look realistic

Tune your ears to cartoon voices (voices that capture a child's attention)

Puppet voices are exaggerated

2 kinds of characters: animals and people

animals start with the natural sound of the animal

Seven basic voice types

Guttural voice – parrot “awk”

produced in the back of the throat and is sort of gargling with a rolling “r” sound

Can sound growling or threatening in a lower pitch

Can make throat scratchy or damage the vocal chords because you make them vibrate too much

Goofy voice

lower the pitch and slow down the tempo

give sloppy diction

Whispered voice

your own voice with a lot of breath over it.

Good for soft feminine characters

4. Try accents

IV. Audience interaction

Puppet patterns are available from the following web sites.

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The patterns can be printed out or saved and downloaded onto a CD.

There is much potential in puppetry for PowerClubs International, so we include this overview in our training.

12. Puppetry--Notes

(There is much potential in puppetry for PowerClubs International, so we include this overview in our training.)

- If you want an instant audience, walk into a room with a puppet
 - Children relate to puppets as friends on their own level
 - remember the personality of a puppet and expect the same every time the
 - Puppets make great teachers
 - Children will repeat scriptures after puppets
 - Retain up to 70% more information with visual reinforcement.
 - You can ask a puppet a question that you want to answer
 - Definition = a man-made figure whose movements are controlled by a human being.
 - Behind screen or ventriloquist
 - been used for thousands of years and have been found in tombs of Egypt and Greece.
 - Most likely, puppets were first used in religious ceremonies.
 - can be used to combine entertainment, education and ministry and they make good ministry partners
 - valuable in ministering to deeply troubled children.
 - Police departments use
 - Used effectively in juvenile prisons.
 - Laughter is a key to opening the heart to receive from God.
 - least time-consuming is by using a single puppet
 - Can help teach
 - just plain being silly. Children get an opportunity to be kids and laugh.
 - In writing skits,
 - write the skit with grace and humor.
 - The puppets must respond
- the puppet becomes a ministry

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13. Drama and Storytelling in Children's Ministry

Drama is a visual illustration. While a picture may be worth a thousand words, a drama can be worth ten thousand words. Attitudes, decisions, and Bible stories can be explored through acting them out. Storytelling is somewhat like a one-man drama. One person illustrates a point by telling a true or made-up story. The blessing and the problem with drama and storytelling is that they both depend on the whole-hearted participation of people. They both require extra thought in the writing or forethought of the material to be presented. They require times of practice before the meeting and they call for extra effort during the meeting. To be effective, a drama or story should be well presented.

The Bible is dramatic. News reports have been circulated that the new Chinese government of Hong Kong, is considering making the Bible x-rated, restricted for 18 year-olds and older. They cite its graphic content. Barring the fact that this is a ploy of the enemy to keep truth out of the hands of those who would receive it, the fact is true. God is dramatic and He reports the drama. The description in the Bible is done briefly and without turning our attention away from the spiritual principles of the story, nonetheless we are impacted by those stories that stir our emotions. Even the story of David and Goliath, if considered fully, is very graphic. David took a sword and cut off a head; a great slaughter followed.

Impacting children with truth can be enhanced by drama skits. Researchers tell us that people remember 50-60% more of what they see over what they hear only. Is that perhaps because what we see more deeply impacts our hearts? In Numbers 12: 6, God says, "Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream." Vision and dreams are the drama language of the spirit world. As God's vision-dramas touch our hearts' doors to draw us into new revelation, it is possible to do the same here on earth with skits and stories. They stimulate the imagination of children and build their faith. They can also give revelation.

One of our enemy's most effective tools against this generation is drama. What your mind receives, your heart is invited to believe. What your heart believes becomes the fruit of your life. The media of today is diligently preaching violence, betrayal and deception. The expectation of harm is being integrated into the fabric of children's hearts. Some producers may believe that they are simply using this fear as entertainment, but a Biblical principle is at work in reverse. Jesus said in Mark 11: 23, "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says...and does not doubt in his heart, but believes... he will have whatever he says." You will have whatever you expect. Expectations are believed suggestions.

Part of our assignment is to bring divine vision and positive expectations to the children in PowerClubs. We are building expectations of grace, divine protection, provision, courage and faith. By exploring God's heart attitudes, His doctrines and examples from scriptures, we illustrate that God will do for us what He has done for others. Drama also draws children "out of themselves". Should they be withdrawn in their attitudes, watching a skit breaks down barriers and makes a way for them to be vulnerable

without having to be the center of attention. Spirit touches spirit in an anointed skit. Imagination becomes reality for a moment, and emotions are impacted.

How important are emotions? All of the fruit of the Spirit are emotions except for faith. Even faith is tied to emotions as the key to control them. Good and evil drama uses this fact. We are motivated by our emotions which are ruled by our faith. If our faith is rooted in something other than the word of God, we are destined for a fall. Jesus spoke this dramatized parable in Matthew 7:24-27: "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. Now everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." This is practically a script.

To speak to your children, pick a conflict that is relevant for your kids. All drama involves conflict. By participating through watching, the audience participates in the conflict and in the solution. To deepen their understanding of the lesson you are teaching, pick a pre-written skit from the back of the lesson or write your own around the subject. The size of the drama skit must fit your room size and your group size. Children, ages ten and up are your better actors. Easier skits require less practice. Longer dramas require much practice and are enhanced by costumes. Pantomime is a special type of drama that requires no words, but expresses an obvious theme.

To stage the skit, make sure that everybody's face can be seen while they are part of a scene, that players are not bunched together, and that no one walks in front of another person while they are talking. The general rule is that actors do not talk directly to another person. They stand at a forty-five degree angle from each other, making eye contact off and on. Use props and costumes as it is possible, making sure they can be easily seen by all in audience. In expressing your theme, remember that 50% of the received expression comes from body movement, 30% comes from the inflection in the actors' speech, and 20% of what your audience receives comes from the actual spoken words. You may demonstrate this to yourself by looking in the mirror, slouch and say with a frown, "I love you." What you see is what you believe. You see the dejected posture, the negative facial expression. The words fall to the ground.

Here are some drama exercises to get you in the mood and give a little revelation about how drama works:

1. EXAGGERATE

--Portray angry or happy feelings. Notice the difference in your feelings and in the atmosphere of the room where you are.

2. SPEAK CLEARLY FROM ABDOMEN

--Let your breath push your voice to a new level of volume as you breathe from your belly.

3. IMAGINE THE PERSON YOU ARE PORTRAYING AND “BECOME” THEM TO OTHERS

--Pick a character in the Bible or from a personal situation. Try to think like them, act like them and talk like them.

4. KEEP THE ACTION MOVING

--Walk like the character you have chosen. (old man - shuffle, child – skip, etc.)

5. AIM YOUR VOCABULARY IN SPEECH TOWARD 10-12 YEAR OLDS

6. EXPRESS THE THEME OR VERSE OFTEN

--Example: The Good Samaritan was kind in many ways, in attitude, words posture, etc.

7. WHEN IN PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE, WORK AS A TEAM

--All must stay in character, whether talking or not. This keeps the audience identifying with the struggle.

To prepare for presenting a drama or a story, there are a few steps to consider:

1. Choose a theme from current life issues or scripture.
2. Choose a prewritten drama, skit, pantomime, or narration that fits your theme
3. Write an original skit or story. Write the theme, expand to an outline, then to a script.
4. Chose the actors or story teller.
5. rehearse until you are confident that the theme will be well expressed.

Short skits can usually be rehearsed just before the meeting.

Longer dramas take separate rehearsal time.

Stories need to be told with eye contact to the hearers. The story teller must know the story well enough to not be focused on the written story.

It is important that players are confident in their performance. Children are distracted by self-consciousness in the players.

Emphasize key phrases, words or actions that convey truth.

6. Pray that God will make it alive with His anointing.

A last comment on story telling: We tell each other stories all the time. We are each, in our own way, a story teller. The key to being a public story teller is partially in “feeling at home” in the story that you have to share. Make it your own, in gestures, expressions, vocabulary and expression of voice. Tell your story out of your own experience and through your own heart’s response. Use animated, but not exaggerated, gestures. The advantage of painting a word picture rather than acting it out is that there is only one person who needs to rehearse. If done well, the imagination of the hearers will be awakened and they will find themselves becoming part of the story, identifying with the characters. This leads to a sense of sharing among the participants. One professional story tell gives this testimony: “I became a performing storyteller, hungry for that experience of helping people listen together, each in their own

way, gradually becoming part of something larger than themselves.”

The following are class practice suggestions.

Story with narration	If you have the “Awesome God Skit” from the KIMI curriculum <i>The Great Commission</i> , act it out following the directions for actors included on the CD. This skit requires only actors. All of the speaking is prerecorded along with musical back ground.
Pantomime	Visualize and then act out without words, the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke, chapter 10--(Riding, being beaten up, lying on ground, priest and Levite passing by, Samaritan picking up and carrying him, gratitude on the face of the wounded man, the Samaritan pointing up to a cross and then back to his own heart) (exaggerated movements are good in pantomime. They stir the imagination.)
Mime or Pantomime	The devil comes to a child and makes a motion to harm him while an adult stands by and laughs or appears disinterested. Jesus, comes near the child. He reaches His arms out. At first the child looks up, angry, and refuses to come. Then he yields and goes to Jesus who puts His arms around and loves the child. Then He gets up and goes back to with Him and stoops down and helps Him. The child looks up with a smile and they walk together.

There are many themes of heart and action that can be portrayed through drama or storytelling. Your creativity is only limited by your time and imagination. As you become more and more comfortable in the strategic pattern of ministry used by PowerClubs International, you will find opportunities to add drama, puppetry and story telling into your meetings. They are fun tools to increase revelation

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- o "worth ten thousand words"
- o Attitudes, decisions, and Bible stories can be explored through acting them out.
- o Storytelling is one-man drama.
- o illustrates a point by telling a true or made-up story.
- o The blessing and the problem with drama and storytelling is that they both depend on the whole-hearted participation of people.
- o require extra thought in the writing or forethought
- o times of practice before the meeting
- o extra effort during the meeting.

To be effective, a drama or story should be well presented.

The Bible is dramatic.

- reports - Chinese government of Hong Kong, law making the Bible x-rated, restricted above 18 year-olds
- o a ploy of the enemy to block truth
- o God is dramatic and He reports the drama.
- o The description in the Bible does not turn our attention away from the spiritual principles
- o we are impacted by those stories that stir our emotions.
- o David and Goliath is very graphic.

David took a sword and cut off a head; a great slaughter followed.

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- people remember 50-60% more of what they see over what they hear only.
- Is that perhaps because what we see more deeply impacts our hearts?
- In Numbers 12: 6, God says, "Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream."
- o Vision and dreams are the drama language of the spirit world.
- o As God's vision-dramas touch our hearts' doors to draw us into new revelation, it is

possible to do the same here on earth with skits and stories.

✦ They stimulate the imagination of children and build their faith.

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This is an example of a script in scripture

Relevant Drama

- pick a conflict that is important to your group
 - All drama involves conflict.
 - the audience participates in the conflict and in the solution.
 - can pick a pre-written skit from the back of the lesson or write your own around the subject.
 - The size of the drama skit must fit your room size and your group size.
 - Children, ages ten and up are your better actors.
 - Easier skits require less practice.
 - Longer dramas require much practice and are enhanced by costumes.

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Practical tips:

- Make sure that everybody's face can be seen while they are part of a scene,
- that players are not bunched together, and that
- no one walks in front of another person while they are talking.
- The general rule is that actors do not talk directly to another person.
 - They stand at a forty-five degree angle from each other, making eye contact off and

on.

- o Use props and costumes as it is possible,
- o make sure they can be easily seen by all in audience.
- o 50% of what we receive comes from body movement,
- o 30% comes from the inflection in the actors' speech
- o 20% comes from the actual spoken words.
- o demonstrate to yourself by looking in the mirror, slouch and say with a frown, "I love you."
- ✦ What you **see** is what you believe.
- ✦ posture, facial expression speak
- ✦ The words are secondary

Drama Exercises:

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--Portray angry or happy feelings. Notice the difference in your feelings and in the atmosphere of the room where you are.

2. SPEAK CLEARLY FROM ABDOMEN

--Let your breath push your voice to a new level of volume as you breathe from your belly.

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--Walk like the character you have chosen. (old man-shuffle, child-skip, etc)

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7. WHEN IN PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE, WORK AS A TEAM

--All must stay in character, whether talking or not. This keeps the audience identifying with the struggle.

Steps to prepare for presenting a drama or a story

1. Choose a theme from current life issues or scripture.
2. Choose a prewritten drama, skit, pantomime, or narration that fits your theme
3. Write an original skit or story. Write the theme, expand to an outline, then to a script.
4. Chose the actors or story teller.
5. Rehearse until you are confident that the theme will be well expressed.
 - Short skits can usually be rehearsed just before the meeting.
 - Longer dramas take separate rehearsal time.
 - Stories need to be told with eye contact to the hearers. The storyteller must know the story well enough to not be focused on the written story.
 - It is important that players are confident in their performance. Children are distracted by self-consciousness in the players.
 - Emphasize key phrases, words or actions that convey truth.
6. Pray that God will make it alive with His anointing.

Story telling

- We are each, in our own way, a story teller.
 - o We tell each other stories all the time
 - o For public story teller -- “feel at home” in *your* story
 - o Make it your own, in gestures,
 - ✦ Use animated, but not exaggerated, gestures, expressions,
 - ✦ vocabulary and tone of voice.
 - ✦ Tell your story out of your own experience and through your own heart’s response.
 - ✦ The advantage of story over drama—
 - o Only one person who needs to rehearse.
 - o Must do it well.
 - o awakens imagination
 - o Others identifying with the characters.

- o This leads to a sense of sharing among the participants.

One professional story tell gives this testimony: “I became a performing storyteller, hungry for that experience of helping people listen together, each in their own way, gradually becoming part of something larger than themselves.”

The following are class practice suggestions.

Story with narration: If you have the “Awesome God Skit” from the KIMI curriculum *The Great Commission*, act it out following the directions for actors included on the CD.

This skit requires only actors. All of the speaking is prerecorded along with musical back ground.

Pantomime: Visualize and then act out without words, the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke, chapter 10 (Riding, being beaten up, lying on ground, priest and Levite passing by, Samaritan picking up and carrying him, gratitude on the face of the wounded man, the Samaritan pointing up to a cross and then back to his own heart) (exaggerated movements are good in pantomime. They stir the imagination.)

Mime or Pantomime: The devil comes to a child and makes a motion to harm him while an adult stands by and laughs or appears disinterested. Jesus, comes near the child. He reaches His arms out. At first the child looks up, angry, and refuses to come. Then he yields and goes to Jesus who puts His arms around and loves the child. Then He gets up and goes back to with Him and stoops down and helps Him. The child looks up with a smile and they walk together. There are many themes of heart and action that can be portrayed through drama or storytelling. Your creativity is only limited by your time and imagination. As you become more and more comfortable in the strategic pattern of ministry used by PowerClubs International, you will find opportunities to add drama, puppetry and storytelling into your meetings. They are fun tools to increase revelation to your kids.

14. Altar Services as an Art Form

In the Scripture, we read that the Lord knows the end from the beginning and so orders His responses to people. As we lead our PowerClub meetings, we also are anticipating the end of the meeting from each beginning. KIMI Ministry creates a place for kids to meet and interact with God, teaching them to hear God's voice, see visions, get prophetic words, learn to pray and intercede, heal the sick, worship, and etc.

We do this on-purpose, deliberately, every single service. It is important that they interact with God directly. This can include we, as adults, laying hands on them, giving them prophetic words, and praying over them—but not every time. The training they receive in PowerClubs is meant to be released through them into their homes and places of ministry. Before they can be comfortable ministering outside of their meeting areas, they must be respected and given opportunity within the meetings to express the gifts of God to each other and the attending adults.

Even in the church, most kids have never heard God's voice or felt His presence. If this is so with our PowerClub kids we have failed in our efforts to disciple them.

Encounters with God occur at the end of our services, so PC services are designed on purpose to start at a high, outgoing tempo and to gradually slow into a quieter, more reflective atmosphere. We have one goal in mind—to lead these kids into the presence of God at the end of the service. From the teachings themselves to the tone of our voice, we are to aim toward leading the lambs to the Lion. We want them to have real God encounters so they go out of the meeting saying “God is real. Jesus is real.”, and “Christianity is relevant to my life.”

It doesn't happen by accident, and it really is an art form! Altar calls for children have been traditionally restricted to just salvation calls. The trip to the altar to get saved is very impacting. The problem is that we only get saved once, but we are to be changed from glory to glory. The Word even says that we are being saved, so the process is ongoing even after that first trip. Change and empowerment must become a normal, sought-after part of every Christian life—including our kids!

To learn the art of bringing change at an altar call, all leaders involved in your PowerClub should take turns each week in giving altar calls. This will build the skill and sense of how to conduct effective altar calls. The burden will not be on any one person and all will be allowed to grow in this spiritual art of sensing the direction that God wants to go and bringing that direction to the children. Your kids will come back every meeting when they are encountering God. Deep in our hearts we have a place that desires to encounter the One who made and knows us. It is critical that every member of the team know what to do and how to do it. That's what this class is all about. The leadership of a PowerClub is about connecting Jesus and His children. We do not want that result to depend on any one person.

Too often we have settled for a simple closing prayer and then dismissed the children to play, feeling that we have had a good meeting. The definition of religion is “the lack of creativity”! If we do the same thing every week, or only have one or two types of altar calls—even getting prophetic words and seeing pictures—it will become religious tradition. Always be stretching your spiritual life-goals and the goals for the spiritual life of your children ever higher. Our God is a creative genius! Spend just as much time praying over and planning altar time as you do your lesson. Try new things often, just to stay out of a rut. Many other well-known ministers often spend hours in preparation asking God what they are to do at the end of their services. That is why they have such powerful moves of God with signs and wonders following! We can take a lesson from them.

Here are some examples that have been used with the KIMI curriculum. When the North Dakota PowerClub was studying the Blood of Jesus, on the lesson of pleading the blood, the leaders took a large red cloth representing the blood, and had the kids stand underneath it to show they were protected and “under the blood.” When we talked about the high priest sprinkling blood on the mercy seat for the sins of the people, we dimmed the lights, turned on a light inside the glory cloud on our mercy seat, and had the children walk by it, dip their fingers in food coloring and sprinkle blood on the mercy seat for their own sins. Then we had them go sit alone and pray and talk to God. When we talked about the veil of the temple being torn in two allowing us to go into the presence of God, we had the kids walk between the two halves of our curtain and approach the mercy seat with Jesus standing behind it in the high priest's costume but with the crown of thorns on his head. They were to go pray quietly after that. When we talked about the high priest being anointed on his right ear, thumb and big toe, we had the kids come forward and did the same to them.

We've had other times where we have worshipped with music, then just sat and listened to hear what God would say to them. We've had the kid's minister prophetically over their peers as well as adults. We've had lessons on healing the sick, and had them dip their fingers in a bottle of oil and anoint someone who is sick and pray over them. We've had times of soaking prayer. We've had times of using the flags and banners and dance in worship. One time God revealed that during the preaching kids were getting words of knowledge by feeling pain in their bodies where they didn't normally have pain. When we had them come forward there were healings that took place as a result.

At other times, we have had the kids take a Bible, give them a specific scripture chapter to read, and then have them get alone and just read quietly to themselves. We taught them that God would speak to them with a scripture just popping out at them, and it happened that night. Many kids had the experience of hearing God speak to them through the words of the Bible. We have had lessons on the throne of God and coming in to his courts with praise and into his gates with thanksgiving. We built a gate around a throne and had the kids walk through the gate and kneel at the throne of God to pray. One week we told kids that God also speaks to us through our five senses, including smell and taste. We had kids minister over a lady and one kid smelled cherries. It happened to be her favorite food, and she ate cherry everything and had just been telling God that week how much she liked cherries. She was set free from bondage that night as the kids ministered to her.

Not all altar services have to be quiet and somber. When studying that Jesus rose from the dead, we danced and celebrated while singing He's alive!

Be Creative!!!! These principles will aid you as you pray over and plan your time to bring the children into the presence of God:

Your altar time needs to relate to what you preached about. As you prepare your sermon, ask the Holy

Spirit to show you what would be the most effective altar call to tie into it.

Music is a critical part of setting the atmosphere. Carefully select ONE worship song where the lyrics tie in as closely as possible to your sermon's theme. Have it playing in the background.

Use object lessons or visuals in your altar time like you do in your sermons.

Turn the lights down to keep them focused and to add to the ambience of His presence.

Don't pray long boring prayers. Keep your prayers short, or you lose the kids. Altar times do not have to go more than 15-20 minutes to be effective.

Give clear instructions and repeat them several times so they understand what it is you want them to do and why.

Don't drag it out, especially if no one is responding. Keep your eyes open so you can see how they are responding. Check the atmosphere. Is there an anointing present or is it flat? Everybody has flat nights once in awhile.

Don't expect them to instinctively know how to pray or to worship. You may have to give them detailed instructions like "OK, raise your hands and close your eyes so you can concentrate on God."

Frequently at the end, if there's time, give the kids a chance to share what God has said to them, what they saw, what they were feeling, etc. this is VERY important.

I repeat: RELIGION IS THE ABSENCE OF CREATIVITY. It can even just be laziness not to try to give special attention to this area of ministry.

The altar services are probably the most significant parts of our weekly services. Again, it's what set us apart from most other children's ministries. It's one of the biggest things that make these kids want to come back week after week.

IT'S A SIN TO BORE A KID IN CHURCH!

14. ALTAR SERVICES AS AN ART FORM—Notes

By Becky Fischer

God looks at things from the end to the beginning

We do also

KIMI Ministry creates place for kids to experience God at the end of a service
teaching them to hear God's voice, see visions, get prophetic words,
learn to pray and intercede, heal the sick, worship, etc.

- is on-purpose, deliberate,
- every single service.
- Important:--They interact with God directly
- Can include we as adults laying hands on them, giving them prophetic words, praying over them — Not every time
- Must release *the kids* to use their gifts

- Most kids never heard God's voice or felt His presence
- If PowerClub kids don't hear Him, we have failed
- Encounters with God occur at the end of our services.
- kids come back when they are encountering God
- Services are designed on purpose to start at high to gradually slow it.
- one goal in mind—to lead these kids into the presence of God at the end of the service.
- From the teachings themselves to the tone of my voice- leading the lambs to the Lion.
- They have real God encounters
 - so they say God is real,
 - Jesus is real,
 - Christianity is relevant to my life.

- It doesn't happen by accident! And it really is an art form!

- Altar calls for children - traditionally restricted to just salvation calls.
 - Only get saved once but changed many times.

- All ministers take turns each week in altar calls,
 - So all know how to conduct effective altar calls
- It's critical that every member of the team know what to do and how to do it. That's what this class is all about.

THE DEFINITION OF RELIGION IS THE LACK OF CREATIVITY! I

- Do not repeat same altar calls
 - it will become religious tradition
 - Our God is a creative genius!
 - spend just as much time praying over and planning altar time

- o try new things just to stay out of a rut.

Todd Bentley, Stacey Campbell,

- other well-known ministers spend sometimes hours before their services asking God what they are to do at the end of their services.
- That's why they have such powerful moves of God with signs and wonders following! We can take a lesson from them.

Examples of Creative Altar Calls:

1. Studying the Blood of Jesus (the lesson of pleading the blood)
took a large red cloth representing the blood, and had the kids stand underneath it to show they were protected and "under the blood."
2. high priest sprinkling blood on the mercy seat for the sins of the people,
--dimmed the lights, turned on a light inside the glory cloud on our mercy seat, and had the children walk by it, dip their fingers in food coloring and sprinkle blood on the mercy seat for their own sins. Then we had them go sit alone and pray and talk to God.
3. talked about the veil of the temple being torn in two allowing us to go into the presence of God,
--had the kids walk between the two halves of our curtain and approach the mercy seat with Jesus standing behind it with the high priest's costume on and the crown of thorns on his head. They were to go pray quietly after that.
4. talked about the high priest being anointed on his right ear, thumb and big toe,
--we had the kids come forward and did the same to them.
5. times where we have worshipped with music, then just sat and listened to hear what God would say to them.
6. had the kid's minister prophetically over their peers as well as adults.
7. lessons on healing the sick, and had them dip their fingers in a bottle of oil and anoint someone who is sick and pray over them.
8. had times of soaking prayer
9. had times of using the flags and banners and dance in worship.
10. One God showed that during preaching, kids were getting words of knowledge in the forms of pains in their bodies where they didn't normally have pain. When we had them come forward there were healings that took place as a result.
11. have had the kids take a Bible, give them a specific scripture chapter to read, and have them get alone and just read quietly to themselves. We taught them that God

would speak to them with a scripture just popping out at them, and it happened that night. Many kids had the experience of hearing God in the Bible.

12. had lessons on the throne of God and coming in to his courts with praise and into his gates with thanksgiving. We built a gate around a throne and had the kids walk through the gate and kneel at the throne of God to pray.

13. told kids that God also spoke to us through our five senses including smell and taste. We had kids minister over a lady and one kid smelled cherries. It happened to be her favorite food, and she ate cherry everything and had just been telling god that week how much she liked cherries. She was set free from bondage that night as the kids ministered to her.

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Frequently at the end, if there's time, give the kids a chance to share what God said to them, what they saw, what they were feeling, etc. This is VERY important.

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IT'S A SIN TO BORE A KID IN CHURCH!

15. Teaching kids Scripture—notes

There is no sermon with this session. The most effective way to teach this class is to show several different ways to teach a scripture. Bring a scripture ready to teach from your experience.

Most Important: BE CREATIVE

1. Break the verse apart. Typically, younger kids will do better with smaller sections.
 2. Make up motions to go with the words.
 3. make up your own tune for the verse.
 4. Write the intended memory verse on pieces of paper
 5. Read the verse out loud to the group or class.
 6. Ask the group to repeat the verse with you.
 7. Remove one key word from the line of words or phrases
 8. ask one child to volunteer to read the verse with the missing word.
 9. Allow one boy and one girl to quote the verse.
 10. Remove another word and repeat previous step.
- Continue until children can say verse from memory.

Another method:

1. Have 2 teams of children line up holding the verse written in words or phrases in order.
2. Scramble them all up, then challenge the teams to get back in order. Cheer the winner.
3. Have all children then repeat the verse.
4. Scramble them out of order again but this time choose children to repeat the verse without seeing it put back in order.

Drums Help: 1. Start a rhythm with a drum. Fit the rhythm of the verse to the rhythm of the drum. 2. Say a phrase, have the children repeat the phrase as you have rhythmically said it. 3. Turn it into a worship “rap” song.

Add your own ways. _____

16. Different Forms that A Children's Discipleship Group Can Take

A PowerClub or any children's discipleship group is a place of life, love and training in the supernatural life of God. There are many different frameworks that can contain that assignment.

In India we have many groups. This is a partial list of the places and ways that the kids meet.

- In an apartment with 5 children
 - In a home with 5-7 children
 - In a church during adult teaching time with as many as 40 children
 - In a slum school room with as many as 60 children
 - Before a church service from 7:30 am to 9:00 am with 10-15 neighborhood children
 - In a free preschool held at a church with about 30 children
 - In a Christian school with around 150 children, meeting once per week with the whole school in attendance.
 - In a homeless shelter for orphan boys with 12 to 20 children
- In personal homes, ministering to the members of one family

In Africa all of our 13 groups (with approximately 885 children) meet in fields and empty lots. The groups average from 50 to 120 children each.

In Holland one PowerClub meets in a rented public building and has about 20 to 30 children.

Another one meets in a personal home and is made up of about six older children.

In America there are two functioning PowerClubs.

One is a church of children that meets in its own building, serving approximately 100 children and some families.

One is a children's house church that meets from house to house bi-weekly, serving approximately 22 children.

As you assess your situation and the situation of the children whom you want to reach, you may choose a framework in which to set your club. The pattern of ministry will remain the same, but the boundaries of noise and activity level will differ for each situation. The level of outreach that you do depends on your personal vision and capacity. The common denominator will be that each group of children will learn to know and respond to the voice of God, will enjoy His presence, learn to minister in His gifts and live in the fruit of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

17. Who is Called to Children's Ministry?—Notes only

I. All called to Great Commission.

A. many say, "I'm not called" to....

1. must go outside of your comfort zone
2. closest mission field in all of the world is the children
 - a. the most potential-filled, discomfoting, unusual group
 - b. a culture all in themselves -- world-wide culture!
 - c. looking for the same needs to be met.
 - d. looking for the one thing they were created for- love
3. God only can fill - created His pleasure; He can satisfy them.

B. Children do not know *what* they are looking for,

1. looking to fill an ache in their breast
2. yearning to connect heart to heart--born for covenant
3. we were born for love that will not disappoint
4. Most do not find that until we meet Jesus.

C. We have the love of God within your heart to be shed abroad

1. children are the nation to go to
 - a. children are a mission field --a culture different
 - a. Love is the best teacher.
 - b. The goodness of God leads us to repentance.

D. Growing = repentance.

1. sinful from birth - our needs met above any other needs
2. selfish love meets a child
3. grown-up not learned to love with God's love.
4. Child is wounded and not taught love. I
5. To learn unselfish love = crux of all education.
 - a. build a computer but cannot build a family = failure.
 - b. control and airplane but cannot control your mouth,
 - c. If you know all mysteries and have faith to move mountains but cannot love
 - d. process of repentance childish give-me love to an adult I-will-give-to-you love.
 - e. safe to love
 - f. God is love
 - g. Beyond what we see is a love too great to be overcome by what we see or feel.

E. Called to children's ministry? = to mission work? = to love?

1. Yes. Children are everywhere.
2. the mission field most receptive
 - a. to be loved into repentance.
 - b. have imagination to allow faith to grow
have hope where the seed of faith can be planted and watered.
 - d. good ground -- not yet so stony

F. (Matthew 28:19,20 19. *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20. and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*")

1. means every culture, and
2. God targeting key people to specifically harvest fields of children in the nations and train **them** as harvesters.
 - a. Latter Rain ministries: 86% of Christians are saved before reaching 15 years. – 10% between 15-30 – 4% after 30
 - b. Christian aid survey of Chinese Christians Dec. 2003 prayer brochure: 80% of Chinese Christians received Christ before age 15
 1. Sunday school/teaching children illegal
 2. Now instituting training for child Evangelism
 - c. Winkey Pratney, Fire on the Horizon: The average age of conversion in America today is 15 with 80% of all conversions take place by the age of 24.
3. The Harvest = children

- G. God calls to the mission field – would you go
1. unfamiliar culture
 2. live among them
 3. learn their ways and language
 4. use lessons that were relevant to their culture
 5. children are—a culture, a mission field.
 - a. learn to reach a foreign culture
 - b. a different way of thinking
 - c. breeching a language (understanding) barrier.
 6. all children = one culture, one nation, one mission field.
 - a. preoccupied with the same basic needs
 - b. can put children from different cultures up to about the age of 12 together and they will get along
 7. need people to go to this field of children
 - a. to harvest and train children as indigenous ministers
 8. adults = uncomfortable
 - not called to move to a different land and learn a new language
 - b. forgotten what it is to be child-like
 - c. Our lives have gotten complicated
 - d. gone through trials
 - e. lost joy
 9. Joy is the main characteristic of child-likeness
 - a. relief of salvation = joy.
 - c. our life course reversed from death to life.
minister to children = reverse your course from
severity to child-likeness
ministering to children is ministering the joy of the

Lord to yourself.
e. *You* gain strength.

II. Children's ministers who "accidentally" ended up in children's ministry

A. Glorious Shoo

1. head of children's ministry for the Assemblies of God in Tanzania,
2. Bible school in Kenya - evangelist - asked the children to stay back - didn't believe that children could be saved.
- older man, asked him to allow the children to come - They got saved. - Glorious showed up the next day for the discipling meeting - he just began preaching to the kids like he would adults. - They began falling out of their seats, slain in the spirit and speaking in tongues. Glorious -changed forever. - runs a school, a training center for children's workers and travels throughout Tanzania the world,

B. Becky Fischer

1. owned a sign company in Bismarck, North Dakota - attended her church - worship team - frustrated. - new children's pastor still was not hired. - the children were playing and paying no attention to the adult preaching -knew that kids needed to have their own ministry - dug in the closet for old left puppets and supplies - called her senior pastor to dinner - proposed to establish new children's ministry until a real children's pastor came. She would step down. - She stepped up. Now Becky Fischer is director of KIMI concerned w/ the billions of children world-wide.

C. Me.

- 1991- 1993 Bible Club in home but not a children's minister.
1997- children's discipleship and intercession group – but not a children's minister.
1997 - 1998 - minister to drug addicted women - jails - became frustrated
- ladies didn't grow - went to ministry school.
1999 – 2000 - near end of ministry school - Becky was teaching a special service with her kids to the adults - Holy Spirit impacted me - was drawn back to the children's room - did not want to
God was about to teach me how important kids are to Him. But now I am in—for life

D. Childhood is the time when

Seed planted in Spring.

Basic natural needs met

Minds receive the answers and beliefs to meet our spiritual needs.

Adult told he must be converted in heart after his conversion in spirit and become as a little child.

The heart of a child is a heart after God.

seekers and learners.

love, acceptance, knowledge, purpose and security.

say, "I'm going to be." -- not "I am"

expect to learn and change.

want to mature.

are pliable.

they know they are children who are still “becoming”, not adults
who have
arrived.

Are just looking for some one to invest in their lives and help them be-
come what they are to be.

- a. invest money in a business that would grow
- b. reap the benefit of the production.
- much reward in the Kingdom = the kids.

d. Jesus said - receives one of these little ones who believe in Him, receives
Him.

E.. our entrance into the Kingdom depends on how childlike we are

1. Allow God to use children to change our hearts.

We become what we look at.

receive the ways of child-likeness.

We become the ones who say, “I am *becoming*—not I am.”

You are well able

to be the hands and heart of Jesus to them,

to let them know that they are loved by God even if they cannot feel the love of
man.

to meet them on their level,

to talk the language of their culture and

to understand how to relate to them in love.

I call the older people among you

It takes maturity and patience to be child-like.

Young adults are at the age where they are busy - concerned with the things
of their own

children of your own, they are your first priority.

Other people’s children, abandoned children, hurting children, take time
own children must not feel abandoned or hurting.

Careful that the church does not mean a place of abandonment to them if
it took their parents away when they needed them.

A few parents may be able to raise other children in the things of the
spirit without neglecting their own but this is a mighty grace of God.

we who finished raising our own children = freest to invest

He is calling His grandparents in the Body of Christ to take the little ones un-
der their wings.

Grandparents = a generation of preparation.

John the Baptist is a picture of our patience.

spent long years in the wilderness to prepare himself to prepare an en-
tire generation to receive the coming of the Lord.

his joy was fulfilled to see the bridegroom, the greater one, step up into
his place.

This is *our* joy, if we can see it.

fulfillment is coming to all who partner with the Lord’s plan for Fulfillment--
the coming of the day of power.

The day of the spirit of Elijah.

Turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the Fatherless generation

Bad thing - turn it into a God thing.

Jesus was a child who knew that he didn't live with his real father.

Age 12 statement before Joseph

family that he knew was not fully his

Jesus had to learn how to touch his heavenly Father to meet his needs.

Samuel who was like so many of today's children.

did not choose his birth circumstances.

did not choose the place that he would live or who would raise him.

mother left him with a stranger

He was a little street child at that moment in his heart

One moment he had a father, Elkanah, and a mother, Hannah.

next moment he had no one but a surprised old man

One moment he was a son. The next moment he was a servant.

Samuel had grace to bear it and divine Grace had him

Other Children in Bible who were not raised by parents

1. Joash 2 Kings 11:2 stolen from Athaliah's slaughter
raised by priest, to be king

2. Moses given up by mother and raised to be a king

3. God has kings and priests in the remnant of chosen children.

They are desperate to connect with the Father who will never leave or forsake them.

Also - a remnant of surprised older people

called to care for and train this last generation.

Eli the high priest was one of them.

loved the things of God but had not been a successful father. Men in his

generation, including his own sons, were "lovers of their own selves,

covetous, boasters, proud...having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof..."¹ right under his own nose in the house of God.

what can happen when a father puts ministry before fatherhood and does not give his little children love, acceptance, security and call them into their purpose in life

If you have children, they are your first ministry before any other ministry in the house of the Lord.

We learn to love before we learn to walk. Children who have not been fathered often behave unloving, unacceptable, seeking false security and comfort and throwing their destiny to the wind.

Eli was prepared to be judged by God for his sons' failures. He was resigned and said, "Let the Lord do what He will do" when he made Samuel tell him of God's word to him.

God is not through with the grandparents who have children that have failed the Lord. In spite of Eli's inadequacy and failure as a father Eli loved God and the things of God.

So even as God wiped out his corrupted blood line of priests, he preserved the substance of his priesthood.

He gave him Samuel to mentor.

There are many Elis who have given up who need to know it is just now time to get started.

There are many Samuels who would learn to cherish the things of God at the feet of an older person who would take time to care for them.

Children's Potential

Spiritually capable of anything that adults are

When Samuel heard the voice of the Lord, he was God's minister, not just a child.

Eli insisted on hearing the word of the Lord.

One more way we know that Eli loved God

loved the things of God even

never denied the warning words of the prophets sent to him;

could not deny his inability to change his grown children.

Adults willing to hear God through a child.

They can go places and speak into lives that would be closed to us.

When you see them powerfully move in the Spirit of God, lay hands on the sick, intercede in prayer, prophesy, and preach, you will never again question the value of ministry to children or ministry **through** children.

Reached maturity still looking for the call of God are - hearing the call of God to pour out our lives into the children who will bring in the Kingdom Age.

And who knows but that we have been frustrated to prepare our hearts for such a purpose as this?

Frustration changes into the passion of desperate faith.

Samuel's mother was a victim of frustration - failure - dependent on God for fulfillment.

discouraged old Eli to mentor this little priest who would bring Israel out of the days of the judges into the age of the Kingdom of David.

Are you desperate for God to use you?

call is out for priests who will mentor the generation that will be most responsible for bringing Christ back to earth.

Eli was not expecting that call; he was resigned to failure.

His sons would not listen to him.

Eli could see only his impotence.

He could not see the greatness of God's redemption

God is a redeemer and wants to redeem every negative

Frustration is fuel to desperation and desperation moves men.

Eli trained Samuel in all the duties of the priesthood and prepared the one who would bring Israel out of the days of judges and into the days of the Kingdom of David.

After Eli's death we hear of Samuel, of the tribe of Ephraim, offering the sacrifices that only a priest can offer.

God was so fed up with the system He had set up under the law, that he instituted a separate line of prophet priests—a priesthood of relationship. And he used Eli to train the first one.

Years down the line, no one questioned Elijah's right to offer the bull on Mount Carmel. And today, we look for a day of Elijahs—a day of prophetic priests offering the sacrifices of God and delivering the word of the Lord.

Every Elijah was once a child.
 And every Elijah needs an Eli.
 The adult is in the child and the child is the foundation in the adult.
 Are you an Eli for the Elijahs of this generation? Are you hungering for the age of empowerment?
 Pour out to the kids.
 The children of this generation are being empowered not because they are better or more gifted than previous days.
 It's simply a matter of timing. The coming of the Lord is more near than when we first believed.
 The people of the end times are being graced with the kind of power needed for a time when the reaper catches up with the sower. Children are receiving expanded vision and expanded expectations of life.
 Invest your life experience and spiritual maturity into that good soil.
 Learn to relate to them, to be playful.
 Go to the playground and swing. Do whatever it takes to downsize your self image and recapture simplicity.
 Be willing to change. Know that your age is to your advantage—not to your disadvantage.
 Submission means getting under another's mission and pushing up. Get under the kids. Volunteer to minister to the children in your church. If you go to a house church, approach the leader and offer to take the kids into another room to teach them.
 Look around your neighborhood and begin praying for the Lord to show you how to draw them to your home.
 be a mentor and a healer of today's children.
 meet them heart to heart.
 Children's ministry is really building people in a simple culture.
Be the love they need. Even a small dose will counteract the poison of the enemy.

Paul told Christians to "follow Him as He followed Christ".
 That type of following is going on naturally with children.
 Children are a mission field because they are needy
 The invisible part of us, our soul and spirit, are the real part of our lives.
 Children know that without being told, and they are looking for some one to take the time to mentor them in the most important part of their lives.
 They don't have the words for all of this. They just know when they are hungry and desire to be fed emotionally and spiritually.

Walk into the world of child missions.
 call into life the potential power that God has birthed in children.
 children do not say "I **am**." They say, "I'm going to be."
 They do not demand that you meet them on the ground of what they already think.

They are willing to learn how to think.
 They are just looking to see if they are loved.
 Minister to the culture of children.
 Learn how they think in pictures,
 how they relate to the world by impressions and emotions,
 what they see as their main needs.
 Let God awaken the heart of a child within you.
 Your love for children is the kiss of life for a generation of children born into a
 hard-hearted world.
 Many will have no touch of affection or communion of heart beside what
 you give them. But once they truly feel a heart to heart connection
 with love,
 they will seek it for themselves.
 And every one who seeks finds.
 We plant the seed; God gives the increase.
 You identify with their weakness; they stand and identify with your
 strength.
 You go as a missionary to them; they become the missionaries to other
 kids.
 Children are full of destiny!
 God has great plans for them!
 Tell them, discern their gifts and train them into their destiny.
 Be an Eli to the Elijah's of the end time.
 Give them everything you have and everything you know.
 To have your youth renewed means that you hook up with the young eagles.
 It means that you learn child-likeness.
 It means that you integrate into "this generation that shall not pass away until
 all these things be accomplished." I
 t means that by humbling yourself like a little child, you become the greatest
 of these, the servant of all.
 Those who recognize the times and turn to mentor the little Samuels, Elijahs
 and Davids of this end time, will share in their day, their time, their love
 and their reward.
 Be an Eli!

Some Prophetic Words

Kim Clement Feb 24, 2007

A Year for Children

God says, "I am focusing this year upon your children." God said, "I am focusing this year on your children; your children: the voice of simplicity, the voice of simplicity, childlike faith, childlike joy, and childlike music. I want everything else out of the way," says the Lord. "Suffer the little children, and forbid them not to come to Me, for such is the Kingdom of God. I am going to take your children in kindergarten, I am going to take your children in colleges, and I am going to take your children in prisons and raise them up and give them a voice not only in this Nation, but to the world," says the Lord.

DON POTTER—February 10, 2007

This is the one move of the Spirit that will carry us rather than us carry it. God will align the fathers so that the young ones who carry the burden of the Lord's presence will actually make it and not die. The scriptures say and when God helped the sons of Levi to carry the burden of His own presence, then the priests began to make sacrifices. It's on the shoulders of the sons... It is the next generation who carry the burden of His presence. But they cannot carry it unless the sacrifice has been made for them and that comes through the fathers. It all seems simple doesn't it, but just to get that thing to come together is like trying to change a country. So it will come through a supernatural change—a change in the Spirit. At first it will be a few and then many others will come. They will ask simple questions like, "What the heck is this?" and others will say "Are you crazy? This can't be the God of religion."

And you say, "It's funny you say that. It isn't! It's the God of the heavens, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It's the real God, not the one we made up to force everybody into compliance." At first there will be a great reckoning between the fathers and the sons. There will be a long period of crying and repentance as the fathers ask forgiveness for what they have led and what they have allowed you to believe. And the sons will begin to fall on their faces and cry out to God and ask for forgiveness for their ambitions, for their self-reliance. And they'll ask for guidance, for wisdom and the old men will download their strategies and they will stand with the young ones. And with that chord, they will not be broken. The burden of His presence will be carried in a song because the word "burden" means song. If you look up "song" when it refers to singing to God, it uses the word burden. God will be transported from place to place in the song of the next generation. Fathers must take their place. Amen?

Wherever this breaks out in this country it will break out like a plague. It will effectively change the color of the nation. It is like a dye that does not weaken with number. You can drop it in one cup of water or in 1000 gallons and it will make it just as red. This better news than we have heard in a long time and it will cost everything. Bring it on, don't you think? Father, we do not know what we ask and we have no clue the magnitude of the price, but whatever it is, it is much better than just waiting and being bored by not knowing what is next and making up stories about where we are. We need your presence in us, through us, among us and never depart. We beg for no visitation but a habitation, that you take charge of your body and you awaken the fathers and that you break their hearts and that you bring them to a place of brokenness before those they failed to lead. And me, as an older man, I ask forgiveness of the younger ones. I'd love to say we did a good job, but we did not. We failed. We failed to be truthful; we failed to say "I don't know". One of the most powerful sentences we can say is "I don't know the answer to the question you have brought to me. Please seek with me. Let us seek the answer. We failed but we will not keep failing. We will rise up. And as I begin this night, hearing "Please forgive us." It will not be the first time or the last, for it will come to the tongues of many, even to the highest officials in the land. And when that repentance breaks out, the revival is right on its heels because it is the combination that God has been waiting for, when the hearts of the fathers are turned to the children and the hearts of the children are toward the fathers. We pray this in Jesus' name and that you would seal it in our hearts Lord God that no one would steal these words or this seed. We take into ourselves your heart, O God and hold on to it as precious and hold on to it as more than precious. And say that this will not be stolen. I will build a wall of praise around it and it will not be torn down or stolen from me. I will hold on until it is

complete. We hold it in Jesus name, our Lord and Master.

Bill Hammond Birthing God's Purpose, pg 81-92

"There is not just a youth revival coming but a youth revolution! You are going to the public schools, private schools, church schools, and home schools. A revolutionary revival is coming to schools from kindergarten through college. You will invade all areas of the world with supernatural kingdom of God. Many will get activated by becoming involved in intercessory prayer walks, Bible studies, and spiritual renewal meetings. You the "Transition Generation." Your group will be the generation that will fully manifest the Saints Movement, become the Army of the Lord, and bring forth the "Kingdom Establishing Movement" which will finalize the restoration of all things, releasing Jesus to come from heaven and take dominion over all the earth.

"Jesus is still saying today that we should allow the children to come unto Him for He is going to use them mightily. Jesus is excited about this age group, for they will be the ones to bring Him back as King. Even now God is going to sovereignly visit the teenage and junior age children, moving them into the Holy Spirit realm of visions and supernatural visitations. They will prophesy very specific things and heal the sick. They will receive such revelation of Jesus that it will cause them to lose all fear of the devil and evil spirits. They will know that the smallest child of God cleansed by the blood, clothed with the robe of righteousness and the garment of praise can whip the biggest demon hell has to offer. They will be little David's, boldly going against and defeating great Goliath's

Rick Joyner The Harvest, p. 34 "One of the most extraordinary characteristics of the harvest will be the youthfulness of the laborers. Teenagers will be the backbone of the revival, and pre-teens will be some of its greatest evangelists. Young children will cast out demons, heal the sick, raise the dead, and divert raging floods with a word. Some will actually take dominion over entire hospitals and mental institutions, healing every patient in them by laying hands on the buildings. During the harvest the world will understand that "...the children whom the Lord has given me are for signs and wonders..." (Isaiah 8:18)

Kim Clement Prophecies April 16th, 2005,

America, I have taken you and I have set you aside. This shall be a great force that shall come from your children and will take the very enemy by his neck and strangle him. They will strangle him by changing the laws. They will strangle him by changing the rules of religions. They will strangle him by going into the White House and bringing righteousness, and going into the colleges and the universities, and schools will be turned upside down...An economy of grace has existed, but now there is going to be an overabundance of grace that is going to be granted to your children and to your children's children. Watch and see. I'll take them out of darkness and put light into them and send them back to darkness. And they will go as the lunatic that was delivered by Jesus, and Jesus told him to go back. He was the first one that was set aside as the missionary in that place. I'm raising up a whole troop of missionaries out of your children. I'm raising up missionaries that are going to go into the culture and they will take Babylon and say, 'You submit to us, we don't submit to you.'..

"The Daniels of this hour shall look at the King Nebuchadnezzars and the King Darius and they shall say, 'No, we will prove to you that our God is the only God.' Watch Me as I take the atheists and the agnostics and prove Myself. Because the angel has come to reveal the mystery as in Revelation 10. It has been spoken that there is an angel that says we have blown the final trumpet. Now the mystery that was spoken by the prophets of old shall be opened up for this generation to hear the secrets of God and take the kingdom by force..

"This generation shall go into battle against the faithless generation and the perverse generation, but the old order shall hold up their arms and pray and, when they get tired of praying, lift their arms up and allow them to keep their arms extended. For as long as the old generation drops their hands and stops praying, then the generation of Joshua shall stop winning the battles. ...It's not time to stop praying, it's not time to stop fasting, it's not time! It's time for you to hold up your arms so the battle can be won!

NITA JOHNSON Prepare for the Winds of Change, II

"At nine years of age, while I was playing in my backyard, I walked out of the natural right into the spiritual world. " As she was in the throne room of God, she was shown "the process of the

judgment of the last days." Since then, in her maturity, God has given her other visions and insights on what is to come. The end times will include what she calls the "manhood of man". We will come to the fullness of the stature of Christ. This is the time we are approaching. P. 92-93-- God will usher the Body through ..crises in the end times to generate healing and maturation ... "to bring completeness in Christ. This higher grace is the reality He will use to glorify His name among the nations." ... This will have an impact of such a nature as to create a generation of the most valiant and noble souls ever to grace this earth. God has typically had His men, but in this age, He will have His generation, a generation of born again Jews and Gentiles showing forth the excellencies of Christ."

Chuck Pierce from 21-day Prayer Focus—July 20, 2004

We need to train our children in the release of the anointing, discerning of evil spirits, and how to operate in receiving divine revelation from the Throne Room. I feel this is a time to train our children in a supernatural dimension that will give them authority in the days ahead on this earth. I do not want my children to be afraid of the supernatural. We find, in the first two chapters of Daniel, that he was trained to understand the supernatural; knowing how to receive divine revelation. He knew how to seek the Lord in almost any situation. The Lord is going to require us to parent our children like this in days ahead."

Patricia King

Infants, Children and Young Teens

The Lord is imparting powerful gifting on the infants and young children and teens (ages 0-14). These will be in a generation who are highly sensitive to the realm of the spirit. Many of them will be strong leaders.

Conception

The Lord revealed that from the months of September - December 2004, there will be an unusual amount of conceptions in the Body of Christ. Many of these babies to be born between the months of June - September 2005 will be girls and will be named HARVEST . Their birth and name will be a prophetic statement regarding the revivalists that are emerging to lead the Body into the harvest season.

Rick Ridings—Taken from Elijah List, 10/18/2000

Some who will receive this prophetic word are called to another of His end-time purposes - the youth and children's army for revival. Don't copy old wineskins of youth and children's ministry. The new model will weave together worship, intercession, and evangelism in a depth and intensity that will astound many, but which will bring in the great Harvest. As His Spirit is poured out on this generation, He will do a quick and intense work. Don't interfere with His "pressure cooker", as He allows them to go through breaking and sanctifying processes that are more intense, and at a younger age than what you experienced.

Aaron Hoover, the youth minister of First Assembly of God in Franklin, NC. —March 25, 2006

The Story of Caleb: All 11 of the leaders said we cannot do it but Caleb said, No we can do it, but I see us already there. God got mad because the people listened to the leadership of unbelief. He said He was going to kill every one, but ended up that no one over 20 years old will die. Out of the over-20, only Caleb (He had a different spirit.) and Joshua survived. When Caleb looked in the land, he caught the vision of God was doing. His spirit went into the promised land and he saw what God was doing. That is why he had a different spirit; he saw what God's Spirit was doing. The others saw the people in the land. Caleb saw God. God doesn't want a person to enter the land who has seen and wanted Egypt. The majority of the under 20s saw the power of God from youth. (God is still dealing with the teens and pre-teens. It only took 3 years to get to the first time of entering to conquer Canaan.)

He is showing us stuff in our spirit. He is literally getting ready to take us in. Our bodies may not be there, but our spirits have preceded us and have already gone. Right now we must take advantage of every moment to prepare ourselves so that when we go in, we will dig our heels in.

God is fed up with the religious spirit, those people who are concerned about their well-being instead of what God wants to do. In my personal ministry here, I felt like God is telling me that He is ready to make a shift, to take us into a place where He has wanted to take us. But if we don't get in line and get ready

for Him to use us we will be left behind and eventually will not be allowed to go in.
I am talking about a generation of Christians rising up that is different than any generation.

DAVE ROBERSON DECEMBER 16, 2001 He says, I'm feeling and hearing the absolute strongest charge I think I've ever heard concerning children and youth about raising them. And this is the wording now, this is the wording of El Shadai, the all-breasty one, that raising the children... These are the words that I heard on the breast of the Spirit: that in this generation there will be a wave of His glory and manifestation and absolute power that will take place in the midst of Holy Ghost-filled children that have yielded to Him. I've never heard such a strong charge as in He'll by-step, sidestep the hardness of many hearts that have been inoculated by deception and religion and take the innocence of these Holy Ghost-filled children to work miracles in our midst. And He'll find in their innocence what He could not find in the hardness of heart in those that took the trails of religion and deception and unbelief. For take heed, teach the children My ways, and the ways of My Spirit, for their understanding is stronger than you believe and their discerning more accurate than you first believed. Hear what the Spirit would say and teach them truth. Don't treat them as children concerning things of My Spirit. Look at their capacity in school. Do they not have the capacity to learn many things at a young age, including entire new languages? Know this, they have a capacity beyond what you believe them to have to learn spiritual things. And I charge you to learn of My school of the Holy Spirit that you may teach them My ways against the move that is to come in these last days. In the next decade, in particular the next five years, you're going to hear many things concerning children, many things concerning the moves of My Spirit in these last days, saith the Lord. For I do charge you, for I charge you saith the Lord, to be strong. It is time not to be weak but to be strong and pull your life together for My grace is resident. For you are what you do, pull your lives together that you might be an example. My grace is sufficient and My grace is here. And for you that will receive even this day, My grace in you will be magnified that when you take a step towards Me, I'll take many steps towards you. That you might receive My strength and My wisdom, and My understanding to be an example as you live before those little ones who live and learn by example. Be strong. For in these last days, I'll rally many to do what is not being done. For in their innocence, I find faith and obedience, saith the Lord. Be strong. For there's many things I desire to teach you. And for those who will hear, that there's coming a time soon when My teaching and those who hear My Spirit will take on a whole new level and a whole new truth to children. *Dave- I think God is telling us that our children are capable of receiving a lot more concerning spiritual things than we are teaching them in the churches, so lets all be real open. I think He wants the children in the moving of the Spirit, and I think He wants them doing praying. I think He wants them to do more than just puppet shows.*

DAVE ROBERSON-- JANUARY 23, 2005 What you do will be earmarked by signs and wonders, for this is My plan from the beginning. For have I not spoken of these things, for indeed I let many stand here and receive My foundation. For it is My desire to pour things out on this foundation that I have desired to pour out on others. So hold fast and know that in My visitation in these last days that children will become great benefactors of My signs and wonders and shall indeed be visited by Me in time before I return to affect the next generation.

LEON KOTZE Fresh Fire Ministries, Int.----- South Africa

Generation of Young Warriors

The devil always counterfeits what God wants to do. That is why he is bombarding our children with the occult. I believe that there is a generation of young warriors rising up that will never touch drugs, alcohol or cigarettes. Because they had a life changing touch from God, they know Him and they don't just know about Him.

The key to leading children in Revival is to be real and to be hungry for God yourself, as a parent, children's pastor or leader. Kids don't always follow what you say, they follow what you do. The great thing that I love most about kids is that they see right through you. They know if what you are teaching them is real or not. We have to lead by example. We live in a fatherless generation and these kids need people in their lives that will lead from the inside out.

This Move of God is not just for adults. In 1995 I was touched by the power of God at a Rodney Howard Browne meeting. At that meeting God stirred in my spirit that the move of God was not just for the adults but also for the children, and that we would see a new day now in children's ministry. I believe that God is raising up young prophets and evangelists— anointed vessels that will take the nations by storm for Jesus. Every child is born with a call and a purpose. Their purpose is to be all that God has called them to be.

God called Samuel in the night when he was just a boy. We live in a dark hour. More and more children bow down to the spirit of the world every day because they are hungry for the supernatural. They are hungry for reality. The world has an obsession with darkness and the occult. Every day our children are bombarded with the power of Satan when they look at the media or turn on their TV sets. God is calling the Samuel's of this world to arise. He is calling our children to rise up as anointed vessels in the middle of the night.

Primary school aged children are more open to the Gospel than any other age, and God wants to visit this generation with Revival Power. Many times they go to church and hear about a mighty God but they never see Him move in power. These children need the touch of God desperately. Never before has a generation been so hungry for revival.

I really believe that God is calling and raising up people in all nations around the world at this time to minister in a new way. A way that we have never been on before when it comes to children's and family ministry. I believe the time to just entertain is over and that God is saying get the kids out of the basement, take the limits of them and tell them that they are not just the Church of tomorrow they are also part of the Church of Jesus Christ today. Like I said before Revival is not just an adult thing. Children can be mighty in the hand of God and we hear reports from all over the world about children that are rising up in their destiny. God can and wants to use them to raise the dead, heal the sick, preach, pray and prophecy. They can hear the voice of God and God wants them to be lead by the Spirit. True Christianity is not just a religious thing we do on Sunday it's a living relationship with a living God. I believe that God is about to visit this generation and that we will hear incredible testimonies of impossible miracles that will happen because children and young people will become real in their Christianity they will no longer bow down to peer pressure or the Idols of this world. They will pursue righteousness and burn with passion. God showed me a picture of a sea of young people and children, thousands upon thousands standing alongside their families and each one had a fire in his heart and a fire brand in his hand and as one they marched and set the world aflame for Jesus. I believe that God is calling Samuel to arise in this hour. God has challenged me to challenge you to pray like never before in the Spirit for this generation. God wants to put a new mantle of His glory on this generation and we are not going to lose this generation to the enemy and his ways. We draw a line and we say to the enemy No more. We cry Lord bring back the children. We call them in the Spirit from the North the South the East and the west. For a long time we have heard that this generation is under attack. Its time we do something radical about it Its time to make a declaration in the Spirit. It's time for us to prophecy & declare the purposes of God over our children

JEAN DARNEL**Prophecy for Children's Workers**

The second thing I said to watch for is unusual manifestations of the Lord to boys and girls between the ages of 9-15. Jesus is going to appear to them. He's going to come to them in visions and dreams. He's going to make himself known to boys and girls who are in non-Christian homes, in homes of violence, in homes where there is no love, in homes where there is no family continuity and care and tenderness - but Jesus is going to come to these children - and they will start appearing.

They'll start coming to their teachers and to other people or other Christians that they will meet, and tell about their unusual dreams and visions of the Lord. The Lord is already doing it friends - so my word was as I went along, to Sunday school teachers and parents - don't play down what these children tell you when the Lord appears to them - when they come to you and tell you these unusual experiences. And some of these children won't have 'churchy language', you know, they don't come from Christian families, so they are not going to say it right, the way we are used to hearing it, but they will be telling about unusual experiences. When that time comes, give them the nurture and the wisdom and the love that they need, because they are future leaders in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and will become mightily used of the Lord.

That's good news, folks! Watch for it and wait for it. Start expecting unusual things to happen to the children you are teaching, because the Spirit of the Lord is preparing their hearts to receive the fullness of the Holy Ghost - to receive gifts of the Holy Spirit, to receive healing, to receive ministries of healing to others as the Lord uses these children."

**HERE ARE SOME SCRIPTURES TO READ THAT
TALK ABOUT THE
BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

*****MARK 16: 17**

*****ACTS 2: 1-18**

*****ACTS CHAPTER 10, VERSES 44-46**

*****ACTS 19:1-6**

*****1 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10**

*****1 CORINTHIANS 14:14,15**

*****JUDE VERSE 21**

*****ROMANS 8:26, 27**

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*****1 CORINTHIANS 14:14,15**

*****JUDE VERSE 21**

*****ROMANS 8:26, 27**

For beginning PowerClub leaders, this checklist can be helpful. Score yourself or have a good friend score you in your strengths in these areas. Always keep growing and have a good time!!

**Points of Power in a
Kids Meeting**

Meeting Section	Points 1 – 10	Comments	Average
Ice Breaker Game			
Opening Games			
Action choruses/worship			
Sermon Intro			
Sermon Object Lesson			
Animation of Speaker			
Preparedness			
Interaction with Children During Sermon			
Drama presentation			
Puppetry presentation			
Sword Drill			
Altar Time			
		Total points	
Summary of Impression if you were a child in this service			

International CHILD PROTECTION Promise

As a child-focused organization, it is our responsibility to ensure that the children we are ministering to receive their ministry in a child-safe environment. That is why we are committed to a standard of holiness and protection of the children while they are in our meetings. This policy is a set of behavior, expectations, and protocols whereby staff, volunteers, visitors and every other organization, church or individual involved in our discipleship meetings **MUST** adhere to.

THE VALUE OF CHILDREN

We value children and deeply believe that children are people with great potential, thus having rights. Your club is primarily a spiritual group training children in dependence on and relationship to God while providing a safe learning environment where they can thrive and develop their God-given potential.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTED OF CLUB LEADERS

Treat all children with respect

Listen to children

Be sensitive to the unwritten laws of personal familiarity in language, conversation and physical intimacy and observe them.

Stop any interaction with child or an adult if he/she says stop or if he/she appears uncomfortable with the interaction.

Protect children from exposure to verbal or nonverbal sexual harassment, including exposure to sexual materials or abuse through non-contact sexual activity within the times of club meeting activities or within any personal interaction with adults involved in the meetings.

Do not spend time alone with child. Always be in view of another adult. This is for the protection of the child and to protect you from false accusation.

Children's club staff does not hire children as house help, place a child in situations of exploitative labor or give a child tasks for which she/he is not physically or developmentally ready.

Respect children in your attitude when discipline is necessary and avoid all forms of emotional abuse including humiliation, derogatory language, uncaring attitudes, absence of praise, ridiculing, bullying, scolding or rebuking the child in a manner that demoralizes the child down rather than focusing on the behavior that needs changing.

Never hit a child.

Adults are always responsible for their behavior with a child even if a child is acting seductively.

Monetary and material gifts to the child are not allowed if they are to show favoritism or be used as a reward. Charitable gifts that meet the needs of your children are allowed ***but must be distributed in such a way that the children are not tempted to jealousy or a feeling of being left out.*** Moderation is also required.

As spiritual leaders of children, our role and attitude must be to always model the holiness and spirituality that we are committed to form in the children who attend our groups.

Agreement of Faith and Purpose
STATEMENT OF FAITH AND INTENTION TO LAUNCH A CHILDREN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLUB

Our belief in our mission:

We believe that according to the Word of God, children are fully capable of receiving and acting on the gospel including salvation through the blood of Jesus, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, water baptism, communion, and operating in the gifts of the Spirit when these things are taught simply and on their level of understanding.

We believe that anything of and by the Spirit that God has for adults is also available to children. We believe that childhood is the time that God designed for people to receive the gospel, and that we must all become as little children to receive the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 18:1-14)

We believe we have a mandate from heaven to teach children the Word of God (John 21:15/Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and 20:21.) We believe that children are part of God's end time army and that the Great Commission of preaching the gospel to all nations, laying hands on the sick, raising the dead, speaking in tongues (Matthew 28:19-20/Mark 16:15-16/Acts 2:16-17) fully applies to born again children as well as adults.

We believe according to scriptural example (Judges 16:26/Matthew 2:2-7) that children will play a major role in ushering in the last great revival and the soon return of Jesus.

Our belief in our God:

We believe in one God who is eternally existent in three persons - Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, Creator of all things.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, was buried, was resurrected, ascended into heaven, and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father and is true God and true man.

We believe the Bible in its entirety to be the inspired Word of God and is our infallible guide of faith and conduct.

We believe man was created in the image of God, but fell into sin, which resulted in his spiritual death and separation from God. Only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained. This process of regeneration, referred to as being "born again" in the Word, takes place through a combination of faith and confession.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the eternal happiness of the saved, and the eternal punishment of the lost.

We believe in sanctification through the Word of God and by the Holy Spirit, and we believe in personal holiness, purity of heart, and life.

We believe in personal salvation of believers through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

We believe in divine healing, through faith in the Name of Jesus Christ, and that healing is included in the Redemption.

We believe in water baptism, in the Baptism in the Holy Spirit as distinct from the New Birth, in speaking with tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance (Acts 2:4), in the gifts of the Spirit, and the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit. We believe that all of these are available to believers.

We believe in the Christian's hope, which is the soon coming personal return of Jesus Christ.

My commitment to launch a children's discipleship group:

I choose to impart vision to children and adults of how God sees children as His partners in ministry worldwide. The purpose is, therefore, to also teach, train and equip children to do the work of ministry and release them in their ministry gifts and callings. I have read and agree with this Statement of Faith, Belief and Purpose and will lead my club to the best of my ability in agreement with these tenants.

Signed _____ Date _____

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Phone number and e-mail (if available) _____

Location of First Discipleship Club _____

Dear Leaders,

These promises are yours as you commit yourself to train the children of your country:

Spiritual Prosperity

If you give spiritual strength, you will receive it.

Matthew 6:38

Honor before God

You will host the Lord Himself in your club.

Matthew 18:5

A large family and many houses

By taking time from your families, God will give you His family.

Luke 18:29, 30

Eternal reward

By recognizing your kids' worth and pouring into their lives, you become rich.

Matthew 10:41

Safety from loss

Because you pour out to His kids God promises to keep you from stumbling.

Matthew 10:42

Destiny--

Suffering inconvenience now to reign forever with Christ. (2 Timothy 2:12)

Humbling yourself to receive exaltation with Christ (Philippians 2:709)

Losing your self-will to find your life purpose (Matthew 10:39)

Perfecting fruit in yourself and others that will last and shine (Daniel 12:3 & John 16:6)

And this is what I ask of you: 1. that you continue to focus on the Kingdom of God 2. that you strive to be content in whatever state God has given to you 3. that you grow in your spiritual walk and 4. that you love, serve and train your children with vision and purpose.

Grace, love and gratitude to you all,

Pamela Ayres



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A Postscript about the writing of this manual

The purpose of this manual is to make it easier for new trainers to present the essential material needed to begin a children's disciple group. I saw the need to prepare it for our training team in Kenya. They took my notes, their experience, and their anointing and trained a whole new network of leaders with very little help from me.

I believe that you can do the same thing.

There are many "flaws" in the manual. I will not take the time to go through and totally revise it into a form that could be published professionally. This is a gift .

Please grasp the concepts and teachings in each section. Ignore the non-essential typographical or structural errors. The material is to be spoken through you and in your own words based on the words and teachings here.

May God give us all revelation to His heart and quickly advance our part of the Kingdom through our kids!