

# Deeper Christian Life Ministry Milton Keynes



## Children Teachers/Helpers Training Programme

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### Trainers:

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### *Programme*

1. Registration/Opening Prayers
2. House Keeping
3. EXHORTATION: "Working in the Children Ministry – A Rewarding Venture"
4. SEMINAR: "The Photographs of a Child"
5. BREAK/LUNCH
6. WORKSHOP 1: Deeper Christian Life Ministry' Children Church Setting
7. WORKSHOP 2: Tips for Teaching the Bible Story & Tips for Craft and Activities
8. DISCUSSION: Managing Children During Church Service
9. Closing Remarks

# QUOTES

"Let the children come to me and don't hinder them for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." **-Jesus**

"If I could relive my life, I would devote my entire ministry to reaching children for God!" **-D.L. Moody**

"Your children are the greatest gift God will give to you and their souls the heaviest responsibility He will place in your hands. Take time with them, teach them to have faith in God. Be a person in whom they can have faith. When you are old, nothing else you've done will have mattered as much."

— **Lisa Wingate**

The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith. **Billy Graham**

Only God Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian mother in the moulding of character in her children. **Billy Graham**

Spare the rod and spoil the child – that is true. But, beside the rod, keep an apple to give him when he has done well. **Martin Luther**

# EXHORTATION:

## Working in Children Ministry: A Profitable Venture

**Text: Prov. 22:6, Mark 10:14**

Children are a blessing from the Lord. As stewards of God's children, parents are responsible for helping children grow physically, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. Churches have a responsibility toward children, also. The church wants to provide an environment in which children are safe, are taught at an age-appropriate level, and are encouraged to develop a relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. We, children teachers and workers are to minister to the spiritual needs of our children through the children's ministry. If we are to have a healthy future, it is essential that we have a viable children's ministry today.

It was said that **D.L. Moody** had come back from a tent revival meeting where he reported that 2 1/2 people were saved. Whoever he was talking to replied, "You mean, two adults and one child?" D.L. Moody responded, No, two children and one adult. **"When you save a child, you save a life—a whole life. When you save a life, you save a family—a whole family. When you save a family, you save a nation—a whole nation. And when you save a nation, you save the world—the whole nation."**

### 1. Reasons for serving in children ministry

Text: Psalm 127:3, Jer. 3:19

- A. Children are important to God. Gen 18:19
- B. Children are the next generation leaders and how will it be that we are of those that contribute to shape their future. Dan 1:3,4

- C. Children are often more easily influenced for Christ than teens and adults. They believe whatever you say to them.
- D. Believing children can be a means of getting the adult parents to hear about God.
- E. Christian ministry help to build the youth ministry.
- F. Christian ministry help the adult church to go smoothly.
- G. Christian ministry supports godly parenting.
- H. Christian ministry helps nudge some parents into faithful church attendance.
- I. Christian ministry help answer some hard questions parents are asked.
- J. Christian ministry is good for the society.

## **2. Qualification for children ministry**

- i. Freedom from sin. Matt. 1:21, 1John 1:7-9
- ii. Freedom from self, self must be destroyed. Luke 9:23-24.
- iii. Freedom from the influence of evil spirits. The children teacher or worker must be free from all evil spirits. John 8:32, Luke 10:19.

A Children teacher should also be:

T – Tender and Temperate – Ish. 53:7.

E – Exemplary and Enduring – 1 Peter 2:2.

A – Anointed and Attractive – Ish. 61:1, 1John 2:20.

C – Compassion and Caring – Matt. 9:36.

H –Holy and Heaven-minded – Ish. 1:4; 5:9.

E – Excel in Excellence– I Kings 4:30, I Cor.14:12,Phil. 3:8

R –Resourceful and Reliable –Matt. 4:23-25, Mark 4:34.

### **3. Profit (reward) for children workers**

**Matt. 10:42; 16:27, I Cor. 3:3, Col. 3:24, Rev. 22:12**

Our eternal reward reflects the amount of God's glory that we have allowed to shine through us. It is like chandelier that has many light bulbs, some 25 watts, some 50 watts, and some 100 watts. The light bulbs as a whole give and contribute light to the room. That is the way it will be in heaven, but some of us will be contributing only 25 watts, others 50 and still others full 100 watts. How much of God's light do you want to shine through you? The Lord will reward the faithful children worker.

Remember that: **“what is rooted in the heart of the little ones today is almost impossible to uproot in the life of an adult. We are all shaping the future of the church in the children’s ministry of today”**

## **SEMINAR: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF A CHILD**

**Luke 2:52; Ephesians 6:1; Psalms 51:1; Proverbs 22:15**

Children are grouped into various age bands. They have different characteristics.

### **PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN:**

Forgiven

Copying others

Selfless

Less attention span

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN**

Have feelings of success in academics

Can also have mood swing and probably have their own way

They are teachable and cooperative

### **ADOLESCENT**

They have body changes

Physiological changes

Have mood swing

Aggressive behaviour

Subject to peer pressure

Every child's development is unique and complex. They proceed in different ways. Children develop socially, emotionally, physically and linguistically.

They have varied attention span hence, this need to be taken into consideration.

## **PERSONAL NOTES**

# **WORKSHOP 1:**

## **Deeper Christian Life Ministry' Children Church Setting**

### **Mark 10:13-16; Proverbs 22:6**

It is fundamental to note that the children church is an integral part of the church meaning that it should not be mistaken as a place in similarity to a playground or a place where they are kept to enable parents to have peace so they won't be disturbed during the regular service or other church events.

A life without purpose heads nowhere and in a similar thought, a church without well-defined purpose for the children church is certainly heading towards self-destruct because the children are the future of the church should Christ delay His coming.

Purpose for the children church:

- To expose the children to the provision of grace – With Christ, grace is made available to mankind; children inclusive. This is the primary purpose of the children church.
- To enable the children to have Christian experiences – With the provision of grace, access to all that God has provided to walk with Him is now possible. The children with this provision can tap into these Christian experiences.
- To assist the children live victorious Christian life – Heaven is meant for the victors. The children through the instrumentality of the children church and with the help of the Holy Spirit prepare the children to live victorious Christian life.
- To prepare the children in readiness for the coming of the Lord Jesus

The scripture is clear – let everything be done decent and in order (I Corinthians 14:40). With this in mind, the following can be adopted as the setting within the children church.



## **CHILDREN CHURCHSETTING:**

Within Deeper Life Bible Church, it has been approved that the children church's age range is from 3-11 years old.

These children are divided into 3 groups, which are:

- 3-5 years old
- 6-8 years old
- 9-11 years old

### **Ages 3-5 year Group:**

These are the youngest of the children church but despite this they are energetic and excited to learn the word of God. They are receptive to God. The leaders that work with this age group, needs the right tools to nurture the children's faith outside the children's 'Search the Scripture,' which guides the leaders teaching. We use a method based on play and a story to help children develop a personal relationship with God. There are also a lot of craft work and drawing to support the children's learning.

### **Age 6-8 year Group:**

At this age, the children love to play together, be creative, use their energy and explore new ideas. Here we include fun and age-appropriate activities for a variety of learning styles, to encourage children to draw close to God day by day. We also use the children's 'Search the Scripture,' for the teachings.

### **Age 9-11 years Group:**

Children at this age group like to have fun and be with their friends. The children also enjoy playing games and are also creative activities. They will shy away from "babyish," games. They can read quite well, therefore leaders should allow them answer and ask questions. The children's "Senior Search the Scripture," is also used to teach the children.

“And lo I am with you always ..... (Mathew 28:20). What can we do without God’s support? He has promised to be with us all the time. As children workers, consistent dependency on the Spirit of God is crucial to have a successful children ministry. And in this ministry, the singular aim is evangelising, teaching and making disciples of the children for Jesus. With this, they win the world for Christ.

# PERSONAL NOTES

## **WORKSHOP 2:**

### **Tips for Teaching the Bible Story & Tips for Craft and Activities II Timothy 2:15, Isaiah 55:6, Ecclesiastes 9:3, Jeremiah 33:3**

So much of what we do as Christian educators and kids' ministers is based around stories: the big story of God's saving love for us, and individuals bible stories that help us to know more of the character of God and how He relates to us.

Telling stories is an important skill for anyone involved in kids' ministry because: i) God's word comes to us in the form of a story; ii) Kids (and adults too) love stories; iii) Stories are a great way to learn.

A well told story can pull the kids into another world and hold them there. One teacher describes it like this: 'When I'm telling a story there are times when I could hear a pin drop and I know I have them'. You've probably had that experience too; I love it when this happens.

#### **[TIPS]**

- **PRAY** – Before teaching, spend time in prayer acknowledging that you are merely a vessel for His use. Ask God to prepare your heart. Ask God to prepare the hearts of your hearers. Pray for God to open ears and soften hearts.
- Before class, immerse yourself in the Biblical text – Read and reread and reread the Bible passage that you'll be teaching
- **Be Prepared** – If you're provided with a script or teaching outline, spend time studying it before Sunday morning.
- Make sure kids are ready to sit and listen
- **Remove distractions** – Again, this will mean different things in different classrooms. In preschool rooms, this might mean putting away ALL of the toys.
- Don't read your notes
- Review Class Rules

- Show pictures or have someone act it out – Romans 10:17 reminds us that *faith comes by hearing the Word of God* We need to remember that God's Word is powerful and it cuts to the heart.

Here are seven ways of telling a story:

Gather together a number of props to use while telling a Bible story. To introduce the story, show the children the props and name each one. Cover the props up with a blanket or towel and ask the children to try and remember what the props were. Tell the story showing the props as needed. After the story, mix all the props up and ask children to put them in the correct order to review the story.

Show pictures as you tell the story. This is very helpful for remembering the story as each picture reminds you of what is coming next. There are some beautiful pictures on [sermons4kids.com](http://sermons4kids.com).

Identify four key words that you will use in the story. Before telling the story, ask the children to help you devise either an action or a sound effect for each of the key words. Make sure that as you tell the story you repeat these words throughout the story. Pause for a moment each time you use one of the words so that the children can do the action or sound effect. It is important to practise a silence signal when you use this story telling method.

Tell the story as if you are actually there. Get the children to join you as the action happens. When needed, nominate a child to play a role and guide them through what you want them to do. You may choose to bring some simple costumes for the children. A well written story can be a great way to tell Bible stories to children. Read it from the Bible

## Craft ideas



**DISCUSSION:**  
**Managing Children During Church Service**

**PERSONAL NOTES**