

Further Training

If you, your church or deanery would like to receive further training on any aspect of working with children please contact Yvonne Morris, (details overleaf) for information on our 123 training .

1—for those brand new to working with children. This stream offers the very basics to build your knowledge, understanding and confidence in the principles and practices of working with children.

2— for those who've been doing it for a while and need some refreshment, a little challenge and further understanding in various aspects of ministry with children.

3— coming soon! A strand for those who want to take studying to a greater depth.



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Resources for
Children's Ministry

Things I wish I'd known when starting out!



Thoughts about being in children's ministry for the long haul, seeing the bigger picture and things I wish I'd known when I started.

Things I wish I'd known when starting out

Where do I start?

Burden *God opening our eyes to see the need.*

Vision *God giving a strategy to meet the need.*

Goals *God given methods for working the vision out.*

Perseverance *God given determination to see it through.*

What does the Bible Say?

1. *The Vision: Psalm 89:1*

'I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations'.

Matthew 28:19-20 "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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2. *The call: Luke 10:1-2*

'After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'.

3. *The volunteers: 1 Peter 4:10*

'Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms'.
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 'Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work:.. If one falls down his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm but how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken'.

4. *Seeing it through: Hebrews 12:1-3*

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.



Things I wished I'd known when I was starting out!

- Never forget they are God's children. Ask God to help you see them through His eyes and love them with

His heart.

- Don't be pressured by parents into doing things. Do what you do and what you've decided to do according to the vision of the club. Don't be afraid to stick with it.
- There is no secret well of volunteers! Personal invitation and clear job descriptions are best.
- It's okay to not do a 'God Slot'.
- Following on from the above - what makes your club distinctively 'Christian'? (if that's appropriate.) When do you do evangelism? For example during 'holiday club' - Have an overall strategy.
- Weather always affects mood! Like dogs, children go mad when it's windy, If they haven't been outside to play all day they'll be bouncing off the walls so abandon the sit down & listen bit until you've played a few games!
- You'll have good weeks & bad weeks – usually one extreme or the other.
- Building good children's work builds family work builds youth-work. What's the whole picture?
- It's better to do no children's work than do children's work badly! Always make it the best you possibly can.
- www.bakerross.com