

OPEN A DOOR...



DISCOVER WHAT
YOU CAN DO TO
OPEN A DOOR FOR A KID ...
TO SEE **JESUS** IN
A WHOLE NEW WAY.

A NEW KIND OF LEADER
Training adults to love and lead kids better.

SPONSORED BY

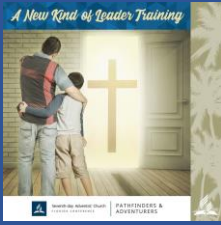


Seventh-day Adventist' Church
FLORIDA CONFERENCE

PATHFINDERS &
ADVENTURERS

1

KIDS MATTER



A New Kind of Leader

KIDS MATTER ... MORE THAN ADULTS

“Whoever welcomes a child in my name, welcomes me.” Matthew 18:5

Do You Act Like Kids Matter?

- Your church doesn’t grow because you _____ something. Your church grows when you _____ something about what you believe.
- You have to act on what you believe.

How Much Do Kids Matter?

- Kids matter _____ than adults.
- What you do for _____ matters more than what you do for _____.
- The brain of a child is built up by actual experiences.
 - Making deposits in someone’s life when they’re young, will earn more interest over time.

Does What You Do for Kids Matter?

- What _____ do for kids matters more than you think it does.
- What your _____ does for kids will keep your church from _____.
- What your church does for kids will keep Sabbath more interesting.
- What your church does for kids will make _____ better _____.
- What your church does for kids will _____ how they see _____.

You may be the best chance some kids have to _____ God.

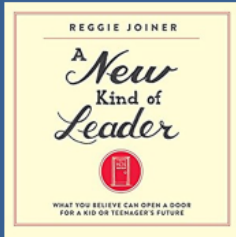
What Can You Do to Show That Kids Matter?

- If you are not volunteering, _____.
- If you are volunteering some, consider volunteering more.
- If you are volunteering a lot, go _____ someone else to volunteer with you.

Key: Believe, Do, More, Kids, Adults, You, Church, Dying, Adults, Christians, Change, God, See, Start, Find

NOTES:

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Presenter:
FL Conference
Pathfinder & Adventurer Department

KIDS Matter
YOUNG PEOPLE Matter



Your church doesn't grow because
you **believe** something.

Your church grows when you **do**
something about what you believe.



KIDS MATTER

Do you **ACT** like
Kids Matter?



"It's easy to get **distracted**"

"Whoever **welcomes a child**
in my name welcomes me."

Matthew 18:5

"How you treat kids is a
reflection of how you treat me."



Not only do KIDS MATTER
But **KIDS MATTER MORE THAN ADULTS.**

What you do for kids matters more
than what you do for adults.

What you do for kids matters more
than you think it does.



What your **CHURCH** does for kids
will keep your church from dying.

What your **CHURCH** does for kids
will keep your Sabbaths more
interesting.



What your **CHURCH** does for kids
will make adults better Christians.

What your **CHURCH** does for kids
will change how they see God.



You may be **the best chance**
some kids have to **SEE** God.



What your DO for kids will transform the **culture** of your church

- Parents become more engaged
- Volunteers become more motivated
- Staff becomes more focused
- Everybody becomes more involved



If you're not volunteering, **start**.

If you are volunteering some, consider volunteering **more**.

If you are volunteering a lot, Then **find someone else to volunteer**.



Kids need a **NEW** Kind of Leader who will ...

VOLUNTEER to do SOMETHING MORE.



WARNING

“If you are a LEADER who believes that KIDS MATTER, at some point you will try to **CHANGE** some things.”



Does your church ACT like kids matter?

What if your church started acting like what they do for kids is MORE important than anything else they do?

What does your church do to make kids feel valued/welcome at church?

What is your church doing for kids in the community? Should you do anything?

Based on what your church is doing, is it obvious that ALL Kids Matter? If not, what could your church do?

What activities are you already doing that you could invite community kids to?

What else could you do?

Does your church need more volunteers? How could you get more adults involved? Who will contact and invite them to help? To do what? For how long?

How could you do something more?

ACTION STEPS: *What are the THREE big things that you/your church could do to help kids feel like they MATTER?*

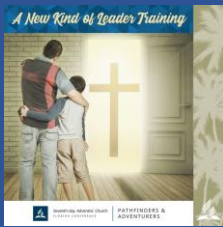
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**EVERY FAMILY
MATTERS**



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EVERY FAMILY MATTERS ... REGARDLESS

*While the Church spends about 40 hours a year with kids and teens,
Parents spend about 3000 hours a year with those same kids and teens.*

Every Family Matters, regardless.

- Every person who is raising, _____, and parenting a kid or teenager matters.
_____.

Why Do Parents Matter?

- Every _____ matters because they matter to _____.
- Every parent matters because they matter to their _____.
- _____ parent matters because their kids matter to _____.

Why don't parents partner with the church?

- Families outside the church don't trust us.
- Families outside the church don't _____ us.
- Families outside the church don't get us.
- Families outside the church don't _____ us.

What can we do to help "build a bridge" to the family?

- We won't change the way families outside the church see us until we change the way we see them.
- Every parent wants to be a _____ parent.
- Every parent can _____ something more.
- Believe in parents potential and act like it's your mission to help every parent win.

Kids need A New Kind of Leader who will _____ with Parents.

When you adjust how you see every family, and you make every family matter (no matter what they look like), then they know you are on their side, and they will begin to see your church in a different kind of way.

KEY: Nurturing, Regardless, Parent, God, Kid, Every, Them, Believe, Need, Good, Do, Connect.

NOTES:

2 – Every **FAMILY** Matters



The **CHURCH** is strategically positioned in culture to remind us that **family** matters.

If every family matters, then we may need to consider the possibility that **every parent** (or guardian) matters.



Every person who is raising, nurturing, and parenting a kid or teenager matters.

Regardless.



Every parent matters because they matter to **God**.

Every parent matters because they matter to their **kid**.

Every parent matters because their kids matter to **them**.



What happens at **HOME** is more important than what happens at Church.

No one has more potential to **influence** a kid than a parent.

A parent isn't the **only** influence that a kid needs.



Truth ...

If parents don't think your church matters, you will have a hard time **influencing** their family.



Families outside the church
don't **TRUST** us.

Families outside the church
don't **BELIEVE** us.

Families outside the church
don't **GET** us.

Families outside the church
don't **NEED** us.



Consider this ...

Your church has one of two
perspectives.

It's **their** problem.
It's **our** mission.



We won't change the way
families **outside** the church see
us until we change the way
we see them.



Two Truths ...

Every parent
wants to be a **good** parent.

Every parent
can do something **more**.



Kids need
A NEW Kind of Leader
Who will ...

CONNECT with a PARENT.



Every parent needs ...

To have an **ally**,
so they don't feel alone

To know what to do today,
so they have a **plan**.

To see how they are winning,
so they have **hope**.



What is your ideal picture of what a family is/looks like?

How does that picture compare to the families you know in your church and in your community?

How important is what happens at home in a kid's life?

How does your church ACT like what happens at home is more important than what happens at church?

What if your church started acting like what happens at HOME is more important than what happens at CHURCH? What would be different? What would you need to start/stop doing?

What is your church doing to let families KNOW that they matter?

How can your church help families WIN? What might this look like?

What is your church doing to build bridges to and connect with PARENTS? What could you do?

How might your church influence a parent this week?

ACTION STEPS: *What are the THREE big things that you/your church could do to OPEN a DOOR for a FAMILY/PARENT?*

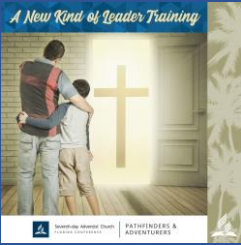
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**A STRATEGY
MATTERS**



A New Kind of Leader

A STRATEGY MATTERS ... MORE THAN YOU THINK

*Is what you do with kids and teens characterized by ...
strategic steps that lead kids somewhere, or by random activities?*

What is a Strategy?

- A plan of action with an end in mind.
- Knowing what you want to accomplish, and exploring the action steps to make it happen.
- A strategy links what you have to where you are going.

What do you want kids to grow up to believe?

- Your _____ matters more than your _____.
 - It's your strategy, not your mission, that _____ your _____.
- Good intentions, without an intentional strategy, won't lead anyone very far.
- You're not leading _____ anywhere unless you actually have a _____.

What do you want kids to _____?

- What do you want their faith and character to look like when they grow up?
- Kids need A New Kind of Leader who will show up to keep them from being stuck.
- What if everything you do leads kids to love God, Others, and Life?

Where do you want kids to _____?

- What is the optimal environment in your church where kids can grow in their relationship with Jesus?

Play as a Team

- _____ is determined by strategy.
 - Strategy is the difference in a team running the ball down a field and scoring, and a group of disorganized players running in circles.

KEY: Strategy, Mission, Determines, Success, Kids, Plan, Become, Be, Success

NOTES:

4 - **STRATEGY**

What is your **strategy**?



Strategy – a plan of action
with an end in mind

It's your **strategy**,
not your mission,
that determines your **success**.



Good intentions without an
intentional strategy won't
lead anyone very far.

You aren't really leading kids
anywhere if you don't have
a **plan**.



What do you want kids to
become?



One big idea: **LOVE**

Love God
Love Others
Love Life



Where do you want kids to
be?



What is the **optimal environment** in your church where kids can **grow** in their relationship with Jesus?



Leader who play as a team will ...

Articulate the common language

Stay **focused** on what matters most

Move kids toward **positive relationships**

Champion whatever needs to **change**

Follow the leader



Kids need a **NEW** Kind of Leader who will ...

PLAY as a TEAM.



At some point, if you really believe kids, family, and your church matter, you will try to change something!

How are the things you do for kids CHARACTERIZED ... Random Steps or Strategic Plans? Which should it be?

What do you want to ACCOMPLISH in a kids life? When a kid is all “grown up” what would they look like?

What are the steps that will help you/your church invest in kids in such a way that they look like that?

What do you want kids to BECOME? (Direction)

Where do you want kids to BE? (Destination)

Which ENVIRONMENT is most important to help kids BE and BECOME who they ought to be? Which environment will put kids in contact with a caring, consistent adult? Does it exist or need to be created?

What is your STRATEGY? (What needs to change? What do you need to start/stop? What is your plan?)

What if you started acting like you aren't leading kids anywhere if you don't have a PLAN?

ACTION STEPS: What are the THREE big things that you/your church could do to develop a PLAN for kids/families?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.