An Examination of Children's Ministry Volunteer Development from Pastors and Laity in the Local Church

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Abstract
Developing children's ministry volunteers in the local church is crucial to the sustenance of the body of Christ. Children's ministry volunteers should be viewed as capable partners with both parents and church leaders in fulfilling the Great Commission. All volunteer ministries of the church matter, but those serving in children's ministry have the unique opportunity to shape the lives of individuals who could serve the kingdom for a lifetime. Children's ministry volunteer development is valuable because kingdom advancement hinges on lay ministry development as described in Ephesians 4:11-16. For this project, the researcher surveyed children's ministry volunteers and pastors in churches primarily along the East Coast in order to identify the major components of developing children's ministry volunteers. The writer's current volunteer ministry will become healthier as a result of the implementation of the plan that was discovered from research.

It helps children get to know their pastors. One of the best ways for ministers to connect with younger families is by working in the children's programs. — Children's Ministry Tip: Draft pastors and staff ministers to serve VBS or other ministry programs. It gives kids meaningful keepsakes. Those VBS and Sunday school crafts often become prized possessions. — Children's Ministry Tip: Encourage all our volunteers (including women) to fully develop their teaching skills. It allows artistic people to share their talents. Children's ministry crafts is one area that can greatly benefit from these abilities. — Children's Ministry Tip: Encourage our craft volunteers to pick an occasional advanced project.