

LEADERSHIP LESSON # 86: LEADING CHILDREN TO CHRIST

OUTLINE BY DWIGHT MOSS

We believe all children are safe in the love of God until they understand that they have sinned. In order for a child to become a Christian, he must be able to:

- Comprehend that his **personal** sin separated him from a relationship with God.
- Express **sorrow** over his sin.
- Willingly **repent** of his sin.

Some Facts About Children

- Children are **tender hearted** and trusting. The simplicity of the gospel can be a stumbling block for adults, but children simply trust that Jesus forgives them. They do not question God's love.
- Children are **humble**. Pride often keeps youth and adults from agreeing with God that they have sinned and have need of a Savior.
- Children's lives are less **cluttered**. Adults are often too distracted to take time to examine the claims of Christ.
- Children believe in **God**. Adults have learned to doubt. Children do not have a lifetime of sin to overcome. Many guilt-ridden adults just can't believe God would forgive them.

You, the Witness

Most people come to know Christ through the witness or example of a Christian friend. Develop **friendships** with the children you teach by:

- Learning their **names** and using them!
- Giving **appropriate** hugs and touches.
- Showing **genuine** interest in what children have to say.
- Learning about each child's **family**, interests, likes, and dislikes.
- Staying **in touch** with the children.

Sharing Your Testimony

As you prepare to share, remember that:

- Children think in **concrete** terms. Choose your words carefully.
- Children with no church experience will not understand church jargon. Jot down some definitions that will make sense to children.
- Children should be reassured that it's OK if they don't feel God's Holy Spirit leading them to accept Jesus **right now**.
- Children may ask questions at **unexpected** times. Be ready to suspend or interrupt your plans to talk to a child who has questions about becoming a Christian.
- Don't **answer** questions they haven't **asked**.
- Ask **open-ended** questions. Avoid "yes" and "no" questions. Example – "Why did you come today?", "What did you want to talk about?" instead of "Did you want to get saved?" Children want to please the adults they care about and will do what they think you want them to do.
- You are **successfully** obedient to Christ every time you share God's plan of salvation, no matter what the outcome!

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We believe all children are safe in the love of God until they understand that they have sinned. In order for a child to become a Christian, he must be able to:

- Comprehend that his _____ sin separated him from a relationship with God.
- Express _____ over his sin.
- Willingly _____ of his sin.

Some Facts About Children

- Children are _____ and trusting. The simplicity of the gospel can be a stumbling block for adults, but children simply trust that Jesus forgives them. They do not question God's love.
- Children are _____. Pride often keeps youth and adults from agreeing with God that they have sinned and have need of a Savior.
- Children's lives are less _____. Adults are often too distracted to take time to examine the claims of Christ.
- Children believe in _____. Adults have learned to doubt. Children do not have a lifetime of sin to overcome. Many guilt-ridden adults just can't believe God would forgive them.

You, the Witness

Most people come to know Christ through the witness or example of a Christian friend. Develop _____ with the children you teach by:

- Learning their _____ and using them!
- Giving _____ hugs and touches.
- Showing _____ interest in what children have to say.
- Learning about each child's _____, interests, likes, and dislikes.
- Staying _____ with the children.

Sharing Your Testimony

As you prepare to share, remember that:

- Children think in _____ terms. Choose your words carefully.
- Children with no church experience will not understand church jargon. Jot down some definitions that will make sense to children.
- Children should be reassured that it's OK if they don't feel God's Holy Spirit leading them to accept Jesus _____.
- Children may ask questions at _____ times. Be ready to suspend or interrupt your plans to talk to a child who has questions about becoming a Christian.
- Don't _____ questions they haven't _____.
- Ask _____ - _____ questions. Avoid "yes" and "no" questions. Example – "Why did you come today?", "What did you want to talk about?" instead of "Did you want to get saved?" Children want to please the adults they care about and will do what they think you want them to do.

You are _____ obedient to Christ every time you share God's plan of salvation, no matter what the outcome!