



Supporting and Affirming Children & Youth Leaders

Every CBS class desires to have Children and Youth Leaders who are passionate about serving and feel called to their role to make an impact in the lives of the next generation. How can the Servants Team serve these leaders well and encourage them in this fulfilling but challenging role?

Read on for suggestions for foundational guides and ideas that will unite all leaders to the same mission and vision of CBS, at the same time affirming those serving specifically as Children or Youth Leaders.

Foundational Support

- As a Servants Team, be in constant prayer for your Children and Youth Leaders. Pray individually, at Servants Team meetings, during Leaders Council, and at prayer time at the beginning of each class. As Leaders Council members see this modeled, they will gain greater appreciation for the significance of the role the Children and Youth Leaders and begin to pray for them on their own.
- The Servants Team, as a whole and as individual members, model behavior and attitude that exhibit complete support for Children and Youth Leaders.
- Recognize the power in the Servants Team's unity and love for one another, and the power of God working through their faithful prayers over each member of the Children and Youth Team.
- Create an environment of teamwork where all Servants Team members and all leaders are a united front behind the important work of the Children and Youth Leaders. Specific examples are listed below for building a team attitude that will enhance the Leaders Council experience.

Specific Examples

- During training, lead a discussion with the Children and Youth Leaders about the significance of their call. Ask questions such as:
 - How do you spend your time each week?
 - If you weren't here, what things could you be doing in place of this? (working, sleeping, exercising, reading, going to appointments, etc.)

- Why have you chosen to be here?
 - What things has God shown you about the importance of this role?
 - What would you say to someone who asks, “Why do you do that?”
 - How has God affirmed this call in your life and how do you expect Him to confirm your calling?
- Schedule a time in Leaders Council for the Children & Youth Director to share “The Day in the Life” in the Children & Youth Ministry (CYM.) Give them a colorful illustration of what a day looks like in the CYM. Take them through class set-up, craft, bathroom duty, sharing the lesson, kid wrangling, bathroom duty (again), clean up, waiting for parents, hand off to parents, clean up (again). For Day class, also brief them about the extra commitment the C&Y leaders make in order to stay for teaching time and receive spiritual nourishment.

Help all the leaders understand the details and challenges experienced in the CYM each week. Now build some teamwork. How can all leaders come together to support the life-changing work that happens in the Children & Youth Ministry?

- Core Leaders can consistently remind the parents to pick up their children in a timely fashion before socializing with others.
- All leaders can assist by helping to clean up rooms after class, allowing Children and Youth leaders to say proper goodbyes and quickly head to the live teaching (Day class).
- Establish a team mentality so that all leaders, regardless of role, are enthusiastic about joining in the important work of carrying out the mission of CBS together in the CYM.
- Plan and facilitate combined LD time with Core Leaders and Children and Youth Leaders. Use this time to focus on ONE-ness using Scriptural references such as Philippians 2 and John 17. Emphasize that all CBS leaders have the same mind, same love, same Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All CBS leaders are shepherds to children and youth, moms, dads, core group members, nursery workers, church staff, and each other. Discuss what ONE-ness among our leaders looks like now and how it can be raised to the next level.
- Have prayer partners consisting of leaders of different roles. Spend time together identifying how to pray for One-ness and each other. Pray together and commit to pray for each other continually. Follow-up by connecting regularly.
- Use a portion of the LD time with Children and Youth leaders to assess met and unmet expectations and develop plans for progressing to the next level of excellence. Support and encourage them as they work to bear fruit resulting from their passion and commitment in serving.