

Taking the next step

Identifying one way to raise the bar in your children's ministry

Got a story?

Our goal is to glorify God and to serve our families.

1. **No helpers, only leaders.**
2. **Always include a small group discussion** (which needs to be a *discussion* in a *small group*!)
3. **Become a team, not a rota. Who will be the team leader?**
 - 'This is my ministry' (and that is not my ministry)
 - Recruit to join a team, a ministry and a vision (not to fill a gap)
 - We all need leaders. Lead like Jesus and we'll love you. (We won't feel patronised)
4. **Encourage parents**
 - Talk to a parent each Sunday (with the child?)
 - How can you encourage them to be in the same conversation?
 - A passage, a big idea and an open ended question on the service sheet
 - An all age slot on the same topic to prepare children and train parents
 - Share life
5. **Agree a routine**
 - How will we structure our time?
 - How will we use our space?
 - What ideas can we share on how to improve our difficulties?

6. Discipline is training in love (not harsh punishment) Hebrews 12:8-11

- ‘Will you help each other to listen to God speaking?’ Agree expectations.
- Warmth and praise all the time. Occasional correction.
- Get the help of teachers to advise.
- Have a behaviour policy.

7. Feedback to leaders

Pray!

	The leader who taught	The feedback-er
Encouragement		
One way to improve		

8. Train teenagers

- Leave a year after they have left the group. Girls might go with under 7’s; boys with over 7’s.
- Progress is slow. Be patient.
- Don’t confuse a lack of confidence for disinterest.

What is your one next step?

What is your team’s next step?