



KidsNewsZone

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**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES**

MISSION: TO NURTURE CHILDREN INTO A LOVING, SERVING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

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Helping Close the Back Door

The 2015 GC Session *Adventist Review* bulletin number 4, reported that in the last 50 years, that is from 1965-2014, out of 33,202,016 people who have been members of the SDA church, 13,026,925 have left the church. Over the years, a lot of reasons have been unearthed by various retention committees as to why this is so. I will not burden you with those reasons.

On May 31, 2017 I interviewed David J. B. Trim, Director of Archives, Statistics, and Research for the General Conference inquiring as to how many of the 13 million who left the church were born Adventist. After going through his notes, he told me that they are about 4 million. This means that 31% or one third of the backsliders were born Adventist. These are the people who attended our Sabbath Schools.

What concerns me are the discussions I pick in the corridors suggesting that the trend of children born Adventists leaving the church is not slowing down. Our Adventist young people continue to be swept by the storms of this world. According to Matthew 7:24-26, this suggests that our children are not being built firmly on the Rock Jesus Christ. Though both houses in Matthew 7 experienced the same severity of the storm, the house built on the Rock stood firm while the one built on the sand collapsed. What this passage is telling us is that the child who is not built on the Rock Jesus Christ will surely collapse.





COME, YE CHILDREN, HEARKEN UNTO ME: I WILL
TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

(PSALM 34:11 KJV)



In our modern times, one of the reasons contributing to our children not being firmly built on Jesus is media technology. When I sit in church, it hurts me to see our children glued to their cell phones oblivious to what is going on. If our children are not guided to spend their time with the Bible and other spiritual books; if they are not taught to respect the church and all the activities that happen in the sanctuary; if families are too busy that prayer is crowded out of their lives, the trend of losing our children in great numbers will continue. The devil knows that his time is short and is not playing games.

With this backdrop, and realizing that technology has come to stay, our goal as children's leaders and parents should be focused on helping our children learn to coexist with technology and not allowing it to control their lives and consume them.

Here are some ways we can do to help our children coexist with media technology without allowing it to hamper their spiritual growth.

1. Set a good example in your use of cell-phones. If you text while you are in church, don't expect children to stop texting in the church. Lead by example.
2. Avoid reading your Bible from your cell-phones, especially when you are in church. If you have your phone in your hands, it is very easy to be tempted to check your messages and before you know it, you have been distracted. Read from your printed Bible. Thanks to those Divisions who are promoting the 'One Child-One Bible' program.
3. Have a media gadget contract. There are many samples of contracts online and get one and tailor it to your family and Christian needs. Once your contract is developed, let all the parties sign it and should be strictly adhered to.

4. When conducting children's meetings, develop guidelines as to how media gadgets will be used during the meetings. And let all the kids at the meeting know the rules.
5. Dramas, group discussions and hands on activities can be very helpful tools in lessening the temptation to gravitate to media gadgets.



6. Create time to be with your children. When children are lonely, media gadgets become a great temptation.
7. Keep children busy with various kinds of profitable activities.
8. Pray with and for your children.

May the Lord help us as we prayerfully build our children on the Rock of salvation.

Saustin Sampson Mfunne
Associate Director





CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS



AROUND THE WORLD

EURO-ASIA DIVISION

First VBS held in Kavalerovo village in the Far Eastern Union from March 26-28.

A first VBS was held in Kavalerovo village in Primorye Territory in the Far Eastern Union. A total of 30 children ages 7-16, five of them non-Adventist were the participants in this historic event. Dedicated leaders provided a well-planned and coordinated program for the children. This activity-packed three-day event started at 10 in the morning and ended at 5 pm. On the first day, the children learned the creation story. On the second day, they talked about the origin of sin. The third day covered the story of redemption through the ministry of Jesus Christ.

The leaders decided to do the VBS so that apart from spiritually strengthening their own Adventist children, they could also use it as an evangelistic tool. Non-Adventists parents whose children attended the VBS program were very impressed with what they saw and what their children learned. Everyone is just wondering why they never started VBS in their territory sooner. With the inspiration derived from this first VBS, they will now make it an annual event. *Reported by Pastor Medvid' R*



► Kavalerovo VBS participants.

Three Adventist churches in Novosibirsk holds a Health Expo for 120 Children

Twelve volunteers ranging from youth to seniors decided to do a Health Expo for 4th and 5th grades' children of a Secondary School in the village of Kochenevo in Novosibirsk.

Three Adventist congregations decided to support the volunteers. The theme of the expo was "The Country of health" and Wednesday March 22 was the day the Health Expo impacted the village. Apart from the expo covering lessons on the importance of a balanced nutrition, the truth about healthy lifestyle, and the importance of choosing between good and evil, there were lots of games. At the close of the event, every participant received a magazine dealing with issues of health and a book for children entitled *Adventures of Zdravka and Ponchik*.

Volunteers namely Galina Zaitseva and Galina Tsivilela exclaimed their excitement as to how the day unfolded. They both wished they had such activities when they were young. And the jubilant children repeated over and over that they hoped that this would be an annual event. *Reported by Armen Matevosian, Central Siberian Mission Communication Department director.*



► The Novosibirsk Health Expo Volunteers.

East Russia Union Mission – CHM Leadership Training

Natalia Frolova, CHM director of the union organized an excellent leadership training for about seventy children's leaders and teachers in Novosibirsk, Siberia, September 7-10, 2017. Special guests, Linda Koh, GC CHM director, and Zhanna Kamiskaya, ESD CHM director were invited to provide the training. It was an exciting group of leaders which included many young teachers. It was a great start to recruit teens and youth to be involved in children's Sabbath School!



AND SAID, 'TRULY I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS YOU ARE CONVERTED AND BECOME LIKE CHILDREN, YOU WILL NOT ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN!'

(MATTHEW 18:3 NASB)



The participants were also introduced to some very interesting crafts which everyone enjoyed making. Topics involved at-risk children, thus topics like *At-Risk Affluent Children and Youth*, and *At-Risk Children with Long-Term Health Problems* were relevant to these children's leaders.

Sabbath was a blessing to many as children recited poems, stories, and Bible textx. All the leaders were given many resources for their ministry. The union director is enthusiastic about translating materials for her leaders to equip them to be effective leaders and teachers.



► *Novosibirsk Children's Leadership training.*

Belarus Union of Churches Conference – CHM Leadership Certification

Under the able leadership of Sergey A. Sputay, CHM director of the union, a leadership certification training weekend was planned for 85 participants who came from all over the union territory, September 14-17, 2017. The training was held in the union headquarters in Minsk, the capital city of Belarus. The



► *Belarus Children's Leaders.*

union administration was wonderful in their support of the program. They were present at the meetings, worships, etc. Linda Koh, GC CHM director and Zhanna Kamiskaya, ESD CHM director did a great job in conducting the seven courses of Leadership Certification Level V. The children's leaders were so appreciative of the knowledge learned as well as the friendships and network they built with other leaders.

On Sabbath, young and old displayed many musical talents. The church choirs provided "heavenly" music. Children also sang, played the violin and saxophone, as well as memorized scriptures on Sabbath. We hope the leaders return home better equipped and empowered to minister to their children around them.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

Dominican Union Conference (DUC) baptizes 3,827 Children

Dinorah Rivera reports an inspiring story hailing from the DUC. Under the theme "Every child a disciple of Jesus", the Union dedicated the months of January to August to teach children the 28 fundamental beliefs, conduct Bible studies, evangelistic campaigns and Vacation Bible Schools. As a result of the dedication of parents and teachers, God provided a big harvest. The national grand total of the children and adolescents who got baptized on Sabbath, August 26 was a staggering figure of 3,827. We praise God for His goodness and the Holy Spirit moving in such a mighty way. People's hearts melted with joy as praises ascended to the Most High as they saw their children, one after another, walk into the baptismal pool.



► *3,827 Children Baptized.*



NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

Korean Union Conference – Children's Sabbath-Keeping Pledge Ceremony

The Korean Union Conference (KUC) designated February 25, 2017, as a day for Adventist children to participate in a Sabbath-keeping pledge. From February 18 to March 4, each Korean local church held a Sabbath-keeping pledge ceremony. By the end of February, a total of 3,000 children from 300 churches across the country had pledged to keep the Sabbath.

The Junghwa-dong Church held a pledge ceremony on February 25. Seventeen children promised to keep the Sabbath and received a pin. Lee HyoMyeong, children's ministries director of the church, said, "We are carrying out various programs for children so that the Sabbath will be a pleasant and enjoyable day for them." He expressed his hope that children in the church will keep the Sabbath by their own choices, not obligatorily.

On the same day, Taereung Church conducted a ceremony with the participation of 40 children. Oh BeomSuk, pastor at Taereung Church, introduced the story of Desmond Doss, a World War II hero and the main character of the recently released American movie *Hacksaw Ridge*. During World War II, Doss saved many lives while keeping his faith as an Adventist and keeping the Sabbath. "As Doss followed lessons he learned in the Church, I hope our children follow God's law and lessons from the Church so that their lives will be glorious before God," said Pastor Oh. He also put an emphasis on the role of adult church members, who are children's spiritual guardians, as well as the role of their teachers in church.

Pastor Min KyungChae, KUC Children's Ministries director, revealed why he planned this kind of ceremony, citing Psalm

22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." Pastor Min said, "It is important for children to have a Sabbath-keeping experience from their early age. If they experience even a small sense of fulfillment, they will have faith and make good decisions when they become adults and face difficult choices."



► Children's singing at the ceremony.

SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Ecuador Union Mission – Children's Ministries Leadership Training

Under the able leadership of Rocio Castro, Union CHM director, children's leaders from all the union gathered in Quito and Guayaquil for leadership training, May 19-24, 2017. Linda Koh, GC CHM director was the main presenter covering topics like 10 Ministry Lessons from Walt Disney, Prevent-



► Children's Sabbath-Keeping Pledge Ceremony.



► Quito CHM training.



SEE THAT YOU DO NOT DESPISE ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES.
FOR I TELL YOU THAT IN HEAVEN THEIR ANGELS ALWAYS SEE
THE FACE OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.



(MATTHEW 18:10 ESV)

ing Depression and Suicides in Children and Youth, Dealing with Peer Pressure, Mentoring Youth to Work For children and Ministering to Boys. Graciela de Hein, SAD CHM director also presented other topics for the leaders. On Sabbath afternoon, children presented interesting programs as they displayed their gifts and talents in music, memory verses recitation, and drama.



► Guayaquil Training.

Argentina Union Conference – CHM Leadership Training

With a sudden change of leadership in Children’s Ministries in the union, Evelyn Bantancor, new CHM director took on the job of doing an excellent job in organizing this leadership training, May 24-June 3 2017. Both Linda Koh, GC CHM director and Graciela de Hein, SAD CHM director provided a variety of training for the children’s leaders who gathered at several places. Training started in Resistencia and Corrientes areas, then Posadas, and finally Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina. Topics used at the Ecuador training were repeated here, which includes the 10 Ministry Lessons from Walt



► Resistencia meetings with the teens.

Disney, Preventing Depression and Suicides in Children and Youth, Dealing with Peer Pressure, Mentoring Youth to Work For children and Ministering to Boys.

At Resistencia, a meeting was held for the teens after which they were involved in community outreach in passing out the missionary book of the year. Although it was raining heavily, it did not dampen the spirits of these young people. In Buenos Aires, GC CHM director had the opportunity to speak with all the theology students of the River Plate University about why Children’s Ministries is vital to the health and growth of the church.



► Buenos Aires Training.

SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION

Division Church Celebrates Children’s Sabbath

Hosur church in India celebrated Children’s Ministry day on July 29. The service began with the children marching in two’s and occupied the front seats on either side of the aisle followed by the children’s choir. The children sang to their heart’s content. The stage was decorated with a rainbow color ribbons and stuffed animals and birds. The theme of the day was *Reaching Out*.

In all the presentations, it became clear that though children may be small, given opportunity and trained, they can reach out. Two videos were played. The first video showed a dog which rescued another dog from being washed away by the water current. In the second video, a dolphin rescued a dog which had slipped off a boat by carrying it on its back. If animals can have a sense to save lives physically, we human beings can do much more. Margaret Nathaniel, a former CHM director, pointed out that the little maid in Naaman’s house



wanted to be like Jesus by reaching out. "We are His hands to touch the world around us" was the closing song. As children marched out to receive their gift which included pictures, you could see the parents' smiling faces praising God for having their children participate in the church activities. May the seed of reaching out which has been planted in the children germinate and bear fruits of having a burden for souls.

Mrs. Milly Lakra, SUD CHM director has planned to bring this discipleship initiative to other unions of her territory so that more families will benefit from this.



► Hosur Church celebrates Children's Sabbath

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

Cambodia Mission – CHM Leadership Training

Linda Koh, GC CHM director and Orathai Chureson, SSD CHM director provided leadership training seminars for about 40 children's leaders and teachers who gathered at the mission training center in Phnom Penh, July 26-27, 2017. The leaders expressed great appreciation for the training and also the many resources they received.

Northeast India Union – Kids in Discipleship Training

Northeast India Union was the first union in SUD to launch the Kids in Discipleship Training from June 14-18, 2017 led by Pastor Don MacLafferty, Director for InDiscipleship Ministry and assisted by Lind Koh, GC CHM director and Curtis Cordwell, a lay trainer with the InDiscipleship team. About 85 children's leaders, elders and pastors from all over the union field gathered at the beautiful Catholic Retreat Center on this occasion. The leaders were so enthusiastic about this training and they participated in lively discussions, activities, and lesson demonstrations.



► Children at literacy center.



► Kids in Discipleship Training



► CHM leadership training.



COME, YE CHILDREN, HEARKEN UNTO ME: I WILL
TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

(PSALM 34:11 KJV)



On July 28, both the leaders from GC and SSD traveled five hours up to Siem Reap for more seminars. But on the way, they stopped to visit the literacy center for children organized by the Cambodia Mission. It was amazing to find 200 children crowded together in a small room to study the basics of school as well as learn about Jesus. All the children could pray and sing songs about Jesus. The leaders gave out gifts to each child. They were simply elated!

Sabbath was also a great day when the leaders visited the Maddock's Orphanage and had worship with the children and teachers. Linda Koh presented the sermon. It was a wonderful experience to see the work progressing in Cambodia.

Central Philippine Union Conference (CPUC) and South Philippine Union Conference (SPUC) hold a combined Leadership training under the theme "Dynamic Leadership."

CHM leaders of CPUC and SPUC, Letecia D Pagunsan and Danita P Caderma respectively, organized a Bi-Union leadership training program where they brought their 11 leaders together to be empowered for dynamic leadership. The meetings were held at SPUC premises from April 24-26. The training focused on level 6. Saustin Samson Mfunne, the CHM Associate director of GC and Dr. Miriam Andres, recently retired CHM director for SSD, traveled with Mfunne because Orathai Ochureson, SSD CHM director was caught up with some meetings at the Division Office. The meetings started with a morning devotion where all SPUC workers attended. Apart from level 6 presentations, leaders learned all kinds of hands-on activities for children and how to make teaching aids. Mfunne and Andres presented other seminars such as *The JA Model* and *Equipping new local church CHM leaders for ministry*.



► Leaders at the Dynamic Leadership meeting.

East Indonesia Union – CHM Leadership Training and Special Needs Ministry

More than 100 children's leaders gathered at the Mt. Klabat University campus, Manado for the CHM leadership training on July 12-16, 2017. Linda Koh, GC CHM director provided the training throughout as well as preached on Sabbath. Sabbath afternoon was an inspiring one with many children using their gifts and talents in preaching, singing, recitation of memory verses, and drama.

Sunday was indeed a special day. All the children's leaders of the local conference, together with about a hundred children participated in the "Prevent Child Abuse Parade" in Bitung Tengah, North Minahasa Conference. Twenty-30 vans and trucks with huge banners that said, "Stop Child Abuse" lined the streets of this little town as the parade continued all the way to the Mayor's headquarters. A short program was present outside the mayor's office grounds and speeches were given by the assistant to the mayor and other government officials in charge of child welfare. At the end, the children sent up many colorful balloons to the sky with this important message.



► EIUC Leadership training.



► Stop Child Abuse event.



North Philippines Union Conference (NPUC) holds a Leadership Training Skills Camp.

The 1000 Missionary Movement Campus was a beehive of activities from April 14-16. Mama Norlin, NPUC CHM director and her leaders chose this campus to host about 355 children to attend a leadership training skill camp under the theme *Walking with Jesus*. In the mornings, short presentations from Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC CHM Associate director, Orathai Ochureson, SSD CHM director, Miriam Andres, the just retired SSD CHM director and local leaders were interspaced with music, poems and memory verses presented by children. In the afternoons, while children were outside learning all kinds of skills, Mfune and other presenters remained in the church presenting seminars to parents. The presentations included *The Ten Commandments of Parenting*, *Helping children to use technology wisely* and *The negative impact of TV on children* amongst many others. It was evident that the highlight of the day was in the evenings when each Conference/Mission showcased some of the things they do in their areas.

On Sabbath, people from the community joined the children. When an appeal was made at the end of Mfune's sermon, 5 kids decided to become Pastors while a number responded to the baptism appeal. Bravo to NPUC leaders for the great work.



► Children and leaders at the skills camp.

Myanmar Union Mission holds a Children's Camp from April 20-22

Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC CHM Associate director and SSD CHM director, Orathai Ochureson, on April 20 as they entered the Yangon SDA church located next to the Union Of-

fice, were greeted with the camp theme, "Growing for Jesus" printed in bold letters in front of the church and the voices of 250 children singing the song "It's time for Proactive Kids." Apart from many activities these children learned and did during the camp, the focus was on building health bodies for Jesus. They learned all the songs in the book *Musical Journey*. They were involved in all kinds of hands-on activities and in the evenings each area showcased their talents.

Myanmar being a Buddhist country, its capital Yangon City is populated with golden Buddhist temples. And there is no way of escaping the Buddhist influence. Against this backdrop, we praise the Lord that on Sabbath, 25 Children were baptized.

Under the dedicated leadership of Cho Cho David, MYUM CHM director and her team, they should be congratulated for doing this impeccable job in putting this event together. As children departed at the end of it all, you could see in their eyes that the camp had been a great blessing. They had an encounter with Jesus.



► The 25 baptized candidates with their Bibles they received as gifts.

North Central Mindanao Conference – Child Evangelist Training

A Child Evangelist Training was held at Central Church, Iligan City, May 21 - 27, 2017 by Pastor Edgard Engles who founded the Little Trumpets, a child preachers training club. In spite of Martial Law and people were busy and panicky because of terrorist attack, over 25 children enrolled for the child evangelist training. They continued their house-to-house visitation. All these children will be preachers for the Lord.



WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I SPAKE AS A CHILD, I FELT AS A CHILD, I THOUGHT AS A CHILD: NOW THAT I AM BECOME A MAN, I HAVE PUT AWAY CHILDISH THINGS.

(1 CORINTHIANS 13:11 ASV)



► *Child Evangelist Training.*

Vietnam Mission – CHM Leadership Training

Leadership training for children’s teachers and leaders was organized by Phuong Mai Tran, CHM director of the mission, July 21-23, 2017. Sabbath was a full day of activities with preaching and training seminars presented by Linda Koh, GC CHM director. In the late afternoon children from several churches around Ho Chi Minh presented musical items and recitation of memory verses. It was wonderful to see the diverse gifts and talents of the children.



► *Vietnam children’s programs.*

SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION

North-Eastern Angola Union Mission holds a Children’s Camp in Dundo.

Bonginkosi Sibanda, the energetic and seemingly untiring CHM director of North-Eastern Angola Union Mission, planned a leadership training for her East Association leaders in the Lunda North area to be held in a diamond mining town, Dundo, from 20th to 22nd July. But last-minute changes

had to be made when some 400 children requested leadership to run a camp for them since it was school holidays. The request was granted. This change excited Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC CHM Associate director because he is at his best when he interacts with children, telling them character building stories, teaching them songs and dramas. Caroline Chola, SID CHM director and Mfune together with the local leaders did their best to make sure that the children were given the spiritual, social, and physical nourishment needed. Since the camp was a last-minute plan, there were a few challenges to be overcome. But the children enjoyed every minute of it. Pastor Fragoso Bernardo, a local Pastor, was extremely helpful in organizing the Sabbath venue. We moved from the campsite to Dundo’s municipality town hall—*Salao de conferencias do Mpla*—where about 1000 children plus 1200 adults jam packed the hall to witness the Sabbath events. When an appeal was made by Mfune, several kids plus some adults decided to be baptized and a number of children and adults responded to the appeal of becoming Pastors.

In the afternoon, few kids together with some leaders went to visit underprivileged children confined in institution around Dundo. The rest of the group returned to the auditorium where there were lots of activities done by children and their leaders. And the song, African Children written by Mfune and his son Dumisani and translated into Portuguese, echoed and re-echoed in the auditorium. Giving closing remarks Mfune said, “Let the message of the song African Children echo and re-echo in your minds. Just as diamonds have to be removed from the ground covered in dirt, children from Dundo and Angola as the whole, are like diamonds in the rough. Given good guidance, these children will be polished and soon the church and the country will see ‘diamonds’ glittering for Jesus. Africa will be a different continent.”



► *A packed city hall in Dundo.*



TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION

Slatina FEST celebrates 18 years of existence.

The city of Slatina in Croatia has for 17 years conducted a musical extravaganza dubbed Slatina FEST. As from May 5 to 7 Slatina FEST celebrated 18 years of existence. The celebrations started on May 5 with a Friday evening program held in Slatina SDA church. Children showcased their talents on various kinds of musical instruments and singing. Saturday climaxed the FEST. The program was held in "Pučko otvoreno učilište" Slatina – that is - Slatina City Auditorium. The mayor of Slatina, Miroslav Venus and Pastor Neven Klačmer, the Executive Secretary of Union were in attendance. Saustin Sampson Mfune, the CHM Associate Director of the General attended the FEST as well.

The FEST has been used as a tool for evangelism. For example, money was raised during this 18th Celebration and it is being used to build a music school in Slatina to benefit the community. In his speech, the Mayor commended the SDA church for their contribution to the development of Slatina. And 13-year old Joshua Marčeta, the son of Bobo, the Children's Ministries Director of Adriatic Union Conference, has effectively used his violin playing skills in raising interest in his non-Adventist friends who are now eager to know more about the SDA church. Some have even visited our church. Slatina FEST is effectively putting into practice the "What is in your hand philosophy." Just like Moses in Exodus 4:2 and David in 1 Samuel 17:40, Croatian Adventists have successfully used what is in their hands to do exploits for God. We praise God for such creativity. To crown the Sabbath day activities, as we got out of the Auditorium, we found a big cake marked '18 Music FEST' displayed on a big table in the ground for people's enjoyment. The mayor cut the cake.

On Sunday, about 30 leaders met for 4 hours in the Slatina SDA church where Mfune talked on The importance of

the first three years of a child and a number of issues to do with children ministries. We praise God for such creativity in spreading the gospel. Bravo to Slatina Music FEST.



► Slatina FEST Celebration Cake.

WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION

Gambia Mission Station - CHM Leadership Training

Though Gambia Mission Station has only 5 churches with a total membership of 301, this did not stop Enyde Roger, the CHM director of West Sahel Union Mission to take Linda Koh, GC CHM director, Saustin Sampson Mfune, GC Associate CHM director and Omobonike Adeola Sessou, WAD CHM director to Gambia. The historic meetings were held from June 27 to 28 at Kanifing SDA church situated on an Adventist School campus known as the SDA Education Center. Delegates from Guinea Bissau, a Portuguese speaking country in the region, joined the Gambia delegates. Since CHM is in its infancy in this part of the world, leaders were shown means and ways of establishing a vibrant CHM program.



► Some of the leaders at the Sunday meeting.



► Delegates at the Gambia leadership training.



SEE THAT YOU DO NOT DESPISE ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES.
FOR I TELL YOU THAT IN HEAVEN THEIR ANGELS ALWAYS SEE
THE FACE OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

(MATTHEW 18:10 ESV)



Western Sahel Union Mission – Training for CHM Leaders

A well-planned leadership meeting engineered by the creative and resourceful leader Enyde Roger, CHM director of Western Sahel Union Mission, was held at Point E Church in Dakar, Senegal, from June 23-25. Linda Koh, GC CHM director, Saustin Mfune, GC Associate CHM director and Omobonike Adeola Sessou, WAD CHM director, were the facilitators. Two government officials attended the launching of this leadership conference which was held on the 22nd. They commended the church for its good work on children and expressed interest in collaborating with the church on how to help orphans and street kids. Though level 3 was the main focus of the training, a variety of other topics were offered as well.



▶ Point E delegates.

TIPS FOR PARENTS AND LEADERS

Each Child is Unique

If children are going to develop their God-given potential, caregivers need to lovingly and patiently observe and discover the natural temperament of each child and help them to develop according to their uniqueness.

The term ‘temperament’ represents those elements of personality which a child is born with, for example, whether they are outgoing (extroverted) or shy (introverted). When psychologists use the term ‘temperament’, they refer to how a person naturally behaves, not what that person has learned. Most people are a combination of several characteristics, but many times one temperament becomes prominent among the others.

Understanding children’s temperaments can help you to guide them in ways that respect their individual differences. It will help you work *with* a child’s temperament rather than *against* it. It is important to accommodate different temperaments when working with children. By making these small and reasonable accommodations to a child’s natural tendencies, you can reduce tensions which can develop between you and the child. Of course, temperament does not excuse a child’s unacceptable behaviour, but it does provide direction as to how you can respond to it.

Understanding temperaments can also help you to avoid judging children based on the emotions you can see. One child may shed tears after hearing the story of Jesus dying on the cross while another might seem unmoved. You might conclude that the child who is shedding tears is more spiritual than the one



who is not. But it could simply be that the child who is shedding tears is naturally more emotional than the other child.

When caregivers take the time to get to know their children’s temperaments, and respond to them in a positive way, they will be better able to prevent and manage problems when dealing with children.

By Saustin Sampson Mfune



NEW RESOURCE ON
INTERGENERATIONAL
WORSHIP:

Altogether Wonderful
by Karen Holford

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE:

Children’s Pastors Conference

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Made for this

January 16-18, 2018

Orlando, FL