

influencing the **influencers**

Each child has several significant people in their life. We refer to those people as “influencers.” They include parents, other family members (such as grandparents), teachers and coaches, friends, and the church. Although the church has a significant role to play in the discipleship of children, the top influencers in a child’s life typically do not come from the church. They are usually parents, family members, and teachers/coaches.

Children spend at most 3 hours a week at church. Add in the rise of weekend sports activities, blended and/or single parent families, and hectic schedules, and the actual number of hours a child spends in church is probably significantly less. In fact, it has been estimated that the average church attendance for a child is twice a month.

If the church wants to disciple and influence children for Christ, then we need to realize that we must influence those with whom children are spending the majority amount of their time.



RESERVE YOUR TRAINING DATE TODAY!

Church of God of Prophecy
International Children's Ministries
PO Box 2910
Cleveland, TN 37320-2910
(423) 559-5330
cgpkids@cogop.org
www.cogop.org/children



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AN ALL-NEW ONE-DAY
TRAINING EXPERIENCE FROM
INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES



ONE -DAY INTENSIVES...

- sharpen skills, clarify direction, strengthen commitment, and build a sense of team.
- offer relevant, practical, and interactive ministry and leadership training – training your team will enjoy and apply.
- are concise with training sessions of no more than 6 hours, including lunch.
- are targeted with each training intensive focusing on a particular aspect of children's ministry and each session of the intensive expanding understanding and skill.

INFLUENCING INFLUENCERS? SESSION ONE

Every child has influencers in their life. This session answers who are and why are they significant? It also defines the biblical view of discipleship (family-centered, church-supported) vs. what is often currently modeled (church-centered, family-supported). Participants will understand the need for churches to equip and influence the influencers in a child's life in order for full discipleship of children to occur.

INFLUENCING AT CHURCH SESSION TWO

Much of a church's ministry to families includes each member of the family going to a separate location for ministry when they enter the building. While this is a great way to provide age-appropriate ministry, it also has the disadvantage of keeping parents and children disconnected in their time of worship. This session will examine ways churches can meet the individual needs of family members while providing times of shared worship in a balanced approach to family ministry.

MILESTONE MOMENTS SESSION THREE

If we are to impact a child through their family, then the church needs to play a significant role during specific milestone moments in their lives. By partnering with influencers through the preparation and celebration of these milestones, churches can demonstrate their love and commitment to the whole family. This session will present five significant milestone moments in a child's life.

INFLUENCING BEYOND CHURCH SESSION FOUR

At best, the church has a few hours each week to introduce children to Jesus and disciple them. Other influencers (parents, grandparents, other relatives, etc.) have multiple hours to teach and live out a biblical worldview with children. If the church truly wants to reach children, then they must influence those who are with children the most. In this session, participants will learn that the church can and should provide resources, assistance, and guidance to the other influencers in a child's life beyond just offering church programs.

