

Options for Kid's Worship

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John 4:24 ***“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”***

The main thing that is needed for kids worship is a heart that is truly centered on Jesus, and worship of Him. And a heart that is interested in the kids. Kids can tell when you're not really interested in them.

Are we praying for servants/leaders? I think it all starts there. We need to pray, and then be excited for who God will bring! We realize of course He will bring the exact right people that we need, either to serve alongside of us, or maybe be the sandpaper we need for our own refining.

Teach, Encourage, Develop

T= teach

I believe this has a double message, for those of us in any type of worship/music ministry.

1. Teach those under you from the word.
2. Teach ***music!***

E=encourage

1:12 Paul tells us **“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”**.

D=develop

God may also send us those who are not yet where we would like them to be.

What if He was to bring the person that was going to take over for us? What if God wants to move us? Are we open to God's will? We may always be training our replacement; I think we should see everyone that way; that if something were to happen to us, the people around us could continue without us.

Maybe we're training the next worship leader at the church? How will we be remembered by them?

1 Have we done any recruiting? From the Bing dictionary

- Enroll or take on somebody: to enroll somebody as a worker or member, or to take on people as workers or members:
- Enlist somebody: to enlist somebody in a military force, or take part in enlisting people for a military force
- Raise army: to establish a military force. **And that should be our goal, to raise an army of worship leaders and worshippers!**

So how do we do that?

Finding people in your fellowship to serve in kid's worship.

- **Connect with your worship leader:** Find out when they have auditions and go; you can see who is there who has a heart for worship, but may not have the skills required for the sanctuary worship.
- **Find people who may want to sing or do hand motions:** You don't really need an instrument to lead a child in worship; you could be an amazing musician, but the kids may not get that anyway. A person who goes in the class that loves the kids, cares about them and encourages them to worship will go a lot farther than a virtuoso performance!
- **Make your needs known:** Make sure those who take signups for kid's ministry know of your needs, that they don't necessarily need to be musical. Let them know you can use help with people doing hand motions, organizing, doing schedules. If you ARE a musician, organization may not be one of your gifts!
- **Reaching out:** find those who used to serve; maybe they will be interested in coming back. Sometimes people pull back for a variety of reasons, and just you asking them, letting them know they are missed may be the encouragement they need to serve again.
- **Just ask people!** *Mathew 4:18-20 18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men". 20 They immediately left their nets, and followed Him.*

2 Training: Starting classes to equip servants to minister.

- **Beginning guitar classes:** We started the classes about 10 years ago, with the idea that the kids could minister to their peers in kid's worship. That other kids could be encouraged to sing and participate as they see kids their age leading. There were those before me who used to do classes also. One was our young adult leader at the time. **He recognized the value of having people serve the Lord.**
- **If you don't play:** See if your worship leader will do it; or maybe someone from the worship team. There could be someone at your church who gives guitar lessons.
- **Teaching the basics:** just a few chords and some songs that they can do in the kids worship ministry is all that is needed. They can start with the youngest kids, then they learn as they play alongside those that have been playing longer.

- **If you don't play, learn:** If you are involved and there is a need, take lessons. Go to a store, do a search, check with your worship leaders.
- 3 **Beginning Uke classes:** Ukulele is easy to play! Many music stores are doing group classes for uke. The little kids especially like it because it's small. It's easy on the fingers too.
 4. **Autoharp:** Very easy to play; do songs that have simple chords. It probably won't have sus 2 chords, but just do the regular chord.
 5. **CDs or DVDs:** There is always the option of playing CDs and/or DVD's in the classrooms. Some of the kids' worship leaders have their material available for purchase. Here are a few links of some of the ones I know of
 - <http://www.janaalayra.com/>
 - <http://thatrobguy.com/home>
 - <http://maryricehopkins.com/>
 - <http://gofishresources.com/>
 - <http://www.bearhugband.com/>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/users/theemrsg>
 6. **VBS & events:** How to build a team for your VBS & other events.
 - **Again, recruiting!** For most, vacation bible school happens during the summer; hopefully yours does! If so, see if some that are a part of the sanctuary worship might be able to help. Sometimes you may have those who are teachers who are off for the summer, or maybe some are stay at home parents, or maybe work a different shift. Some servants have been known to take their vacation to invest in the kids.
 - **Your church worship leader:** When I first started going to CCCV, the main service worship leader led the VBS worship. When I took over worship that was part of my responsibility also. Honestly, it was some of the most fun times! I had some that helped with the worship, and we rocked it!
 - **Check with the youth ministries:** Check for those who may be in high school worship; it's good to do something special for special things like VBS, camps, etc.
 - **Evening VBS?** If your VBS is still in the planning stages, that might be an option. It gives you more access to servants, both for worship and teachers, helpers, craft, etc.
 - **Guest groups:** If there is a budget for it, there are kids groups that can come and minister for your VBS; maybe the opening or closing night, maybe just a night when you can't get servants.