

Directions for Evaluating Your Children's Ministry

- Step 1:** Ask staff and volunteers to individually complete the Children's Ministry Evaluation Tool.
- Step 2:** Work together to tally results and list areas of strength and areas which need improvement.
- Step 3:** Create a plan for improvement. Create specific goals that are measurable, attainable, and relevant. Decide who is going to be responsible to each part of the plan. Set deadlines, and get to work!

Children's Ministry Evaluation Tool

Value of Children's Ministry

1. There is adequate funding for children's ministry in the church budget.
Never Occasionally Regularly
2. Children's ministry has equal priority with other ministries of the church.
Never Occasionally Regularly
3. The church incorporates children into the life and worship of the church during events such as baptism and communion.
Never Occasionally Regularly
4. Those who plan worship for the entire congregation find ways to incorporate children into the worship services.
Never Occasionally Regularly
5. The church is actively involved in praying for children and children's ministry.
Never Occasionally Regularly

Staffing/Recruiting

1. The church has a thorough volunteer application process in place.
Never Occasionally Regularly
2. The application process includes obtaining background checks before serving.
Never Occasionally Regularly
3. The church provides, encourages, and requires training for its children's ministry volunteers.
Never Occasionally Regularly
4. The pastor and children's pastor invite adults to be part of a ministry instead of "asking for volunteers" or "recruiting bodies to fill jobs."

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| | Never | Occasionally | Regularly |
| 5. | There is a specific plan for showing appreciation for children's ministry volunteers. | | |

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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Safety/Environment

1. The church has an explicit check-in and check-out procedure for all children.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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2. There are at least two adults present in each classroom at all times.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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3. All volunteers are familiar with the Children Protection & Safety Policy.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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4. There is a written plan to address discipline, restroom and diapering procedures, food allergies, emergency lock-down, and evacuation.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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5. Each classroom is clean, free of clutter, and decorated in an inviting manner to children.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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Programing

1. The church provides age-appropriate worship services for children.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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2. The church provides age-appropriate opportunities for children to teach them Bible content.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
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3. The church provides age-appropriate opportunities for children to teach them how to live for Christ (discipleship).

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly
4. The church provides opportunities for children to use their gifts to serve God and others.			

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

Content

1. The church has a plan for what to teach at each age/grade level.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

2. Children are provided with opportunities to experience salvation, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

3. The church has a plan for the discipleship of children.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

4. Children are taught the “facts” of the Bible, i.e. Bible stories, Bible memory, etc. as well as the bigger picture of the redemptive story within the Bible.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

5. Children are held accountable to apply what they’re learning and make personal decisions based on their knowledge.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

Family/Church Connection

1. The church provides opportunities for families to worship together.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

2. The church provides resources and support for parents to spiritually nurture their children at home.

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly

3. The church provides parents with information about what their children are learning

in the ministry.

Never Occasionally Regularly

4. The church involves parents and children in special events such as dedication, baptism, and communion.

Never Occasionally Regularly

5. The church provides programs and events to strengthen bonds between parents and children.

Never Occasionally Regularly

6. The church provides support to non---traditional families. i.e. blended families, single parents, and grandparent-led homes.

Never Occasionally Regularly

7. The church provides opportunities for intergenerational worship, service, and bonding.

Never Occasionally Regularly

Outreach/Evangelism

1. The church has a plan for outreach/evangelism of unchurched children.

Never Occasionally Regularly

2. The church regularly conducts children's ministry events outside of the church walls.

Never Occasionally Regularly

3. Unchurched children and families are contacted immediately after events.

Never Occasionally Regularly

4. The church has a consistent, positive impact in the community.

Never Occasionally Regularly

5. Children are equipped to share their faith with others.

Never Occasionally Regularly

Quality

1. Teachers and ministry leaders are well prepared.
Never Occasionally Regularly
2. The curriculum is meaningful and applicable.
Never Occasionally Regularly
3. Children are treated with kindness and respect.
Never Occasionally Regularly
4. Discipline is lovingly maintained.
Never Occasionally Regularly
5. Teachers and ministry leaders have a sense of calling and divine purpose in their ministry to children.
Never Occasionally Regularly

Strengths and Weaknesses

Based on your team's answers to the Children's Ministry Evaluation Tool, circle which areas that are strengths.

Value of Children's Ministry

Staffing/Recruiting

Safety/Environment

Programing

Content

Family/Church Connection

Outreach/Evangelism

Quality

Based on your team's answers to the Children's Ministry Evaluation Tool, circle which areas need improvement.

Value of Children's Ministry

Staffing/Recruiting

Safety/Environment

Programing

Content

Family/Church Connection

Outreach/Evangelism

Quality

Plan for Improvement

Look back at the questions in each section where your church needs to improve. What is your plan to improve in these areas? List your goals below.

How do you plan to achieve these goals?

Who is responsible for implementing the plans?

When you meet again to evaluate your progress?