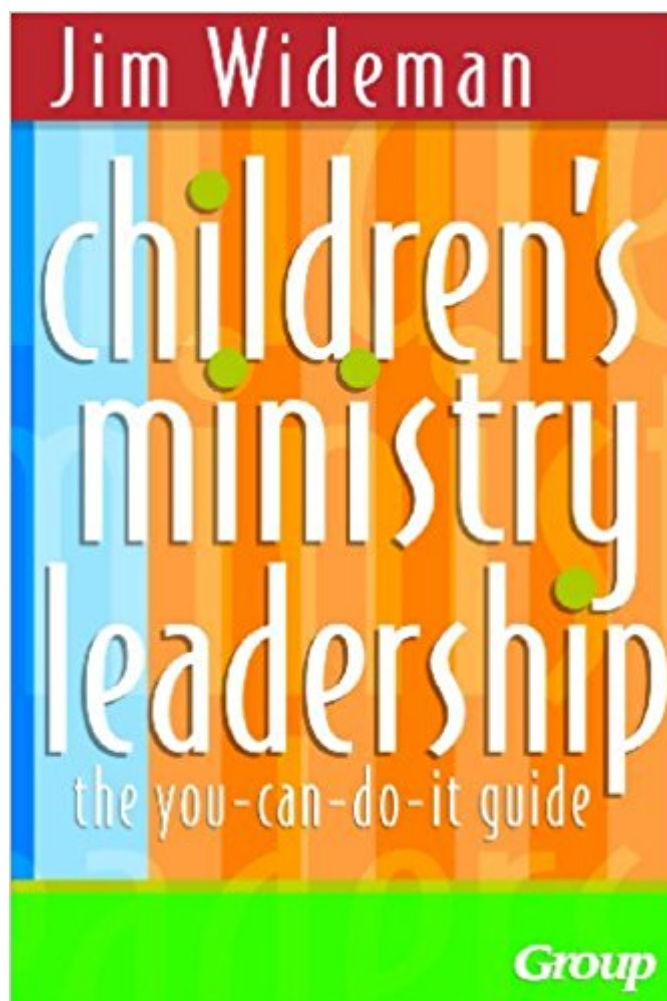


The book was found

Children's Ministry Leadership: The You-Can-Do-It Guide



Synopsis

This guide is the perfect tool for encouraging motivated children's ministry leaders to grow their ministry with effective administration. And this isn't just theory--it's practical advice brought to you from someone with experience in children's ministries of all sizes. You'll get great field-tested training from the children's ministry leadership expert. Learn leadership fundamentals, sharpen your administrative and organizational skills and create great time management methods for yourself and your children's ministry staff. This essential tool offers ministry leaders: Ways to sharpen their administrative and organizational skills specifically for children's ministry, Effective facilitation and time management for yourself, your volunteers, and your staff, plus Tried-and-true, practical advice from a children's ministry trainer and expert in the field.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Overall I thought that this book was very helpful. It is the first time that I have read a book about how to "do" children's ministry. I think that this book does more than show us how to "do" children's ministry but also hows us how to be and live out our lives as leaders in the children's ministry field. Honestly, it was a bit overwhelming as there is a lot of information squeezed into this little book. He truly explains how to be a great leader in children's ministry. He first explains how to become a leader, and then the things you need to do after that, like knowing when to say no, living out what you teach in your personal life, delegating jobs to volunteers, managing time, problem solving and staying motivated. One of my favorite chapters of this book was chapter 3. He talks in this chapter about being an example in our personal lives. I think that this is a huge point to make in children's

ministries. The children look up to you so much, and if they learn that you are not living your life Monday through Saturday like you do on Sunday morning, their trust levels will begin to deteriorate. Children are very impressionable and living that way would only confuse them. Though, like Wideman explains in this chapter, if we live out our lives like we should be, we will be a great example in our church and personal lives. Some ways that Wideman suggests doing that is to be problem solvers, show initiative, manage time, take risks, and grow spiritually. If we do all of those things for God's glory, kids will start to see how they are supposed to live their lives as well. One point he makes in this chapter is that leaders are lifelong learners. Even though we are leading, we should also constantly be learning as we go as well.

This book gives a practical "how-to" look on being an effective children's minister. Wideman does not stop with his very practical and applicable application of leadership, but he also continues in his book to give examples and attributes of effective leaders. He stresses throughout the book how important it is to constantly be growing as a leader, and to be constantly rising to the next level, even if one is already on a high level. Progress cannot be made without effort and practice, and this is something that every effective leader must realize. Also, just because things are going well does not mean that progress has to stop or should stop. Society is constantly changing, and the needs of the ministry will change based on the needs of the people, so the programs will need to stem from the needs of the people. Just because something worked in the past does not mean it will continue to work, or will work in the future. Wideman not only stresses essential character traits, both inherent yet mostly developed, of a leader, but he also stresses how important it is to be a partner with the leader of the organization as a whole. For instance, in his examples, he is a children's minister and must report to the minister of his church. It is important then for leaders to lead the people under them, while maintaining a following and supportive attitude to any superiors. As a children's minister, it is his job to support his minister's mission, and to help him achieve that goal. Perhaps one of the largest themes of this book that seems to indeed be a genuine struggle to balance ministry and family life. Wideman makes it clear that God loves his effective ministers, yet with the addition of a wife and/or children, the effective children's minister needs to be able to balance both.

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