The Role of Women and Children In Church Growth

Presented by Caroline Chola
Director, SID WM/CHM
SID Elder’s Congress – September 2020
• May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. 13 May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Living to Please God

• 4 As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.
3 It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honourable. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.
Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other...... Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life........so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.
### In Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Love</th>
<th>Love for God and each other to increase and overflow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be</td>
<td>Be blameless and holy until Jesus Comes, through the merits of Jesus Christ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Be</td>
<td>Be sanctified from immorality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Love more and more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>Work hard and don’t depend on others to earn the respect of outsiders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What has this to do with Church Growth – Women and Children?

• A growing church is made up of growing Christians.
  • Love for God - Nurture (Faith)
  • Lifestyle – Empower (Children see, children do)
  • Reach out – Share God’s love
  • Church Growth is measured through the quality of faith, quality of life that will draw people (numbers) from outside.
Church as a Plant – Cycle of a plant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature</th>
<th>Plant and Transplant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Empower</td>
<td>Maintain – Enrich, water Protect – (Pests, Harsh Weather, Predators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Harvest, Store, celebrate</td>
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</table>
Women and Children need to be nurtured

• Children – Disciple them
  • Church and parents work together
  • Teach them the Word
  • Teach them to have prayer alone
  • Teach them to spread the Word
  • Worship with them
Women and Children need to be nurtured 57%

Women – Nurture them

• Spiritually
  • Intercessory Prayer Groups
  • Retreats
  • Bible Study Groups
  • Devotionals

• Emotionally
  • Support Groups
  • Networking – congresses
## Women, Children - Empowered and Protected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Leaders</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Campmeetings</td>
<td>Leadership training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide Resources</td>
<td>Teacher’s training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect from Abuse</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Protect from adverse weather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground them in the Bible – One Child One Bible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaborate with Family Ministries, Sabbath School, Youth, Health Ministries, Stewardship, Personal Ministries, Spirit of Prophecy, Education</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Women, children - Empowered and Protected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address their Issues</td>
<td>Train their leaders so they lead effectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of training</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Illiteracy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abuse</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Workloads</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect from conflict</td>
<td>Mentor them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involve them in ministry according to their spiritual gifts</td>
<td>Develop potential for ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empower the young women</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Harvest - Children in Outreach

- Involve them
  a. Invitations
  b. Campaigns
  c. Community projects
  d. Mission Projects
  e. VBS
Harvest –
Women in Outreach

- Ministry for Every Woman
  - Visitation Ministries
  - Reclamation Ministries - 8,540
  - Evangelistic Campaigns
  - Small Group Ministries
  - Bible is = Baptism
  - Plant a Seed
  - Friendship Evangelism
  - Seminar Evangelism
  - Intercessory Prayer
  - Homes of Hope and Healing
  - Prison ministries
  - Discipling New Members
  - Community Outreach
The Mandate

• Every healthy, growing church has eight characteristics. These characteristics can also be factored into Children’s/Women’s Ministries so that they can maintain a healthy and growing department in the local church. These eight characteristics are:

  • Empowering Leadership
  • Gift-oriented Ministry
  • Passionate Spirituality
  • Functional Structures
  • Inspiring Worship Services
  • Wholistic Small Groups
  • Needs-oriented Evangelism
  • Loving Relationships
• Mathew 19:14 “Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”
“When Jesus told the disciples not to forbid the children to come to Him, He was speaking to His followers in all ages,—to officers of the church, to ministers, helpers, and all Christians. Jesus is drawing the children, and He bids us, Suffer them to come; as if He would say, They will come if you do not hinder them.”—Desire of Ages, p. 517.
“In the closing scenes of earth’s history, many of these children and youth will astonish people by their witness to the truth, which will be borne in simplicity, yet with spirit and power. They have been taught the fear of the Lord, and their hearts have been softened by a careful and prayerful study of the Bible. In the near future, many children will be endued with the Spirit of God, and will do a work in proclaiming the truth to the world, that at that time cannot well be done by the older members of the church.” Counsels to Teachers, pp. 166,167
“In the children who were brought in contact with Him, Jesus saw the men and women who should be heirs of His grace and subjects of His kingdom, and some of whom would become martyrs for His sake. He knew that these children would listen to Him and accept Him as their Redeemer far more readily than would grownup people, many of whom were the worldly-wise and hardhearted. In teaching, He came down to their level. He, the majesty of heaven, answered their questions and simplified His important lessons to meet their childish understanding.” —Evangelism, 579
Women

• “‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. .........And everyone who call on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

Total Member Involvement
The Harvest - Women in Outreach

• “When a great and decisive work is to be done, God chooses men and women to do this work, and it will see the loss if the talents of both are not combined.” —Evangelism, p. 469. Disciple them
“I have thought, with your experience, under the supervision of God, you could exert your influence to set in operation lines of work where women could unite together to work for the Lord. There certainly should be a larger number of women engaged in the work of ministering to suffering humanity, uplifting, educating them how to believe—simply believe—in Jesus Christ our Saviour” (Evangelism, p. 462).
How do we do this - Women

- “The Lord has a work for women as well as for men. They may take their places in His work at this crisis, and He will work through them. . . . They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life. They can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their labor is needed.” —Welfare Ministry, p. 145.
“Women can be instruments of righteousness, rendering holy service. It was Mary that first preached a risen Jesus . . . . If there were twenty women where now there is one, who would make this holy mission [one-to-one ministry] their cherished work, we should see many more converted to the truth. The refining, softening influence of Christian women is needed in the great work of preaching the truth.” —Evangelism, p. 471.
Pastor’s and Elders’ Responsibilities

ESTABLISH  ORGANIZE  ESTABLISH  ORGANIZE
General Conference Adventist Women’s Ministries
https://women.adventist.org/

SID Adventist Women’s Ministries
https://sidadventist.org/womens-ministries/
• General Conference Adventist Children Ministries
  • https://children.adventist.org/#

• SID Adventist Children Ministries
  • https://sidadventist.org/childrens-ministries/