

# Outreach Ministry to Children and Families

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## Principle Matters First:

Why should we engage in outreach to our communities?

1. Scripture tells us to!  
Matthew 28:19-20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
2. God tells us the time is now.  
2 Timothy 4:1-5 “I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”
3. It is the outworking of our faith.  
James 1:27 “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”
4. We are to let our light shine, not hide it.  
Matthew 5:14-16 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”
5. The second greatest commandment is to love our neighbor.  
Matthew 22:36-40 “‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?’ And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’<sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’”
6. We demonstrate God’s love and show how God’s people are different from the world.  
Matthew 20:25-28 “But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’”

**The Practical Application:**

1. Look at YOUR context

What are the needs around you?  
What population is God bringing to you?

- Immigrant/Refugee
- Special needs
- Socio-economic
  
- \_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. How can the people in your community be welcomed and incorporated into worship?

- Interpretation/Translation
- Signage
- “Church Lingo”
- Greeters
- Instructing the Congregation
  
- \_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. How does the Session want to lead?

- Be reminded that the Session must set the vision!
- Great involvement
- Specific oversight
- General oversight
  
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- \_\_\_\_\_

4. What kind of structure or program will you offer?

- After School program with homework help
- Backyard Bible program
- English Language Learners classes
- Respite care events
- Child care events
- Lesson based/fellowship based/project based
  
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- \_\_\_\_\_

5. How frequent will you program be?

- Several days a week
- Once a week
- Several times a month
- Once a month
- Special occasions
- Pilot program of limited duration

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6. What venue will you use?

- Church (Helps people break the ice of coming through the church doors)
- Members' houses (More intimate)
- Community center (Less intimidating)
- Park shelter (Usually free)
- School-Christian/Public

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7. How many can you serve?

- Space
- Volunteers
- Need

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• \_\_\_\_\_

8. Who will direct or lead?

- Children's Pastor/Director
- Volunteer
- Paid position

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9. Who is allowed and encouraged to serve?

- Child protection policies
- Members
- Families
- College Students
- Youth
- Members from other churches

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10. How will you train and prepare those serving?

- In house
- Specialists
- Book study together
- Video/e-mail/YouTube, etc.

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

11. With whom do you need to connect?

- School Administration
- Community Leaders
- Other churches
- Owner of apartment complex/mobile home park, etc.

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- \_\_\_\_\_

12. What about transportation?

- Church members offering rides
- Church bus or van
- Local school system
- Parents of participants

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~~Additional Notes and Ideas~~