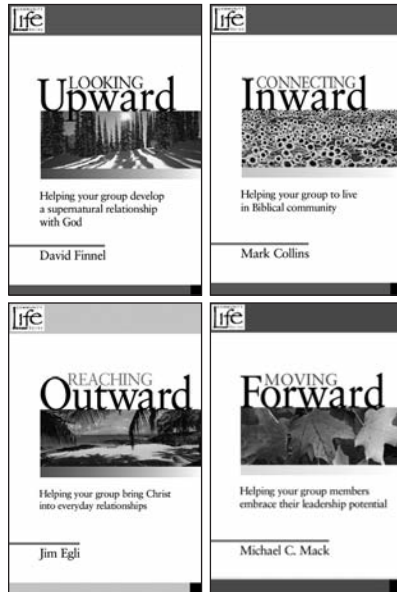


INTERGENERATIONAL GROUP SUPPLEMENT

for the agendas found in the Community Life Series:



*“Kid’s Slot” material
to integrate your children into
the life of your group*

by Daphne Kirk

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Instructions

This resource is designed to create what is called a *Kid's Slot* during your small group meetings. If you and the facilitators of the adults follow the instructions below, this resource will greatly enhance the use of the four main books in the *Community Life Series* for members of any age.

1. Visit with your small group leader or meeting facilitator before each meeting to discuss when the kids will leave the adults and the time they should return.
2. The material in this book follows the same theme, strategy, and direction of the adult agendas with additional creativity and changes to the material to make it appropriate for children.
3. Children should be included in the *Welcome* and *Worship* portions of the meeting with the adults. Encourage the children to fully participate.
4. Your assistance may be required to help the parents incorporate their children in the *Between-the-Meetings* options each week. The children should be present when the *Between-the-Meetings* options are discussed and chosen to give them a sense of ownership.
5. When the meeting facilitator for the adult prepares, he or she should pay equal attention to the material in the *Kid's Slot* agenda. Some weeks require interaction with the adults and the material in the adult agendas.
6. When the children are with the adults, the facilitator should always take ownership of interaction and adjustments made in the material (instead of deferring to the person facilitating the *Kid's Slot*).
7. When the children are with the adults, the adults should interact and participate with the children in mind, encouraging them to pray, share things they enjoy about unchurched friends they want to reach for Christ, and so forth. Invite them to participate fully and they'll join in and take ownership.
8. Children are amazing prayer warriors. If an adult needs physical healing, ask the children to lay hands on and pray for healing and restoration for the adult, waiting for the Holy Spirit to tell them what to pray. Before you begin, encourage everyone to voice a *short* prayer for the person, including the adults (who are sometimes long winded according to children!).
9. The devotional for the adult using the *Kid's Slot* material is the same as the adult facilitator.
10. The *Kid's Slot* facilitator should be the same person for the six consecutive sessions for each agenda. Inviting other adults to join in and help with the children during *Kid's Slot* is an excellent move (especially if the children in the group outnumber the adults).

COMMUNITY
Life
Series

LOOKING Upward



Helping your group members
develop a supernatural relationship
with God

David Finnell

This Week

The Objective

This *Kid's Slot* agenda will help the children in your group:

1. See that a relationship with God is different from relationships we form with humans.
2. Identify aspects of their relationship with God where they may be struggling so they can share transparently and receive ministry.

The Point

Children develop their concept of God by mirroring their earthly relationships. This agenda will help you see how they reflect this in their responses. Most of what we learn is through the message we receive from our parents. This is particularly true during early childhood.

Preparation

1. Arrange the timing of the children's return to the adults with your small group leader or the meeting facilitator.
2. You will need a children's version of the Bible.
3. You will need a large clean sheet of paper and a marker pen.
4. Make one copy of Appendix A for each child.
5. Copy the *Scripture of the Week* (found in the appendices) for the children and cut it into strips to distribute to each child for memorization.

The Agenda

(After the *Welcome* and *Worship* time with the adults, the children should move to another room or area of the host home for *Kid's Slot* and *Witness*.)

Kid's Slot - Word

Begin by telling the children about a friend who has been significant in your life – be sure to tell them the positive and negative aspects of that relationship.

For example, share: how they have stood by you when you went through tough times; how you have fun together; and the times when your relationship has been difficult.

1. Share the name of one person who is a very close friend and tell us about your relationship with that person.

If they're stumped, prompt them with: How long have you known this person? What kinds of things do you do together? Do you ever disagree or fight?

Write the name of the friend on the large sheet of paper with characteristics of the child's relationship with that friend. Leave a space in the middle of the paper.

Write things such as: cares, is fun, argues, shares, etc.

Read John 17:20 - from a children's version of the Bible.

2. What does this show us about friendship with God?

Jesus cares about us enough to think of us and pray for us. He saw us as His friends before we were born. We are important to Him. He talks to His Father about us, and He loves us so much that He prayed for His special friends, the disciples, and us at the same time.

Write the word "God" in the middle of the page and write around it all the characteristics of that relationship with God.

The children might give examples such as: a VERY close friend; He knows all about us; He is always there with us; it is always about love; He is interested in every part of our lives.

Hand out Appendix A and ask the children to complete it carefully. Encourage them to find a space to sit alone.

Your Ministry Time

Gather the children and go through the questions, allowing the children to share their responses. Invite the children to pray for themselves and encourage them when you feel it is appropriate.

Witness

Read Ephesians 6:18–19 from a children's version of the Bible. Then, ask the children to share the first names of people for which the group needs to pray. As they share the name, ask them to pray for that person.

Some children love to tell long, involved stories about events that occurred with friends. Encourage them to just share the first name of the person and pray for them. It may be that they also need to pray for themselves, asking God for His patience or love for the person if they are being bullied by the person for whom they have just prayed.

Back with the adults

Return to include the children in the *Between-the-Meetings* choices for this week.

Facilitator's Journal

What advice would you give other adult facilitators who use this *Kid's Slot* agenda?

What did you learn from the children this week?

Is there anything else you want to jot down before you forget?