

Measure Your Ministry

A TOOL TO ASSESS CHILDRENS' SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Each week, your ministry team works hard, building into the lives of children. So, how are you doing? Now might be a great time for a spiritual check-up! This survey has been designed to empower you to assess your kids' Christian growth. The results will give you focus, direct your decisions, and ensure that you are doing your very best for the Lord.

When evaluating the effectiveness of your ministry to children, begin with the end in mind—the children! Ask yourself, "What kind of kids am I trying to produce?" Or, "What is God's desire for them?" The answer is surprisingly simple!

What Do I Measure?

Christ commissioned the Church with only one task—"make disciples." Disciplemaking is the most pivotal ministry that churches can provide. For this reason, it makes sense to measure your children's ministry in terms of discipleship. That's the yardstick Jesus told us to use.

In two concise commands, Jesus Christ spelled out the first duty of every human being: "Love the LORD your God with all your **heart** (emotional), with all your **soul** (spiritual), with all your **mind** (mental) and with all your **strength** (physical). Love your **neighbor** (relational) as yourself" –Mark 12:30-31.

As a boy, Christ grew in these same ways: "Jesus kept increasing in **wisdom** (mental), and **stature** (physical), and in **favor with God** (spiritual) and **favor with men**" (relational) –Luke 2:52.

Throughout the Bible and Christian history, three traits have marked God's people:



KNOWLEDGE: Growing disciples **KNOW** God intimately. (mental, spiritual) *They develop a reservoir of knowledge based on a Biblical worldview.*



CHARACTER: Growing disciples **LOVE** God passionately. (emotional, relational, spiritual) *They display Christlike character in every area of life.*



CONDUCT: Growing disciples **SERVE** God selflessly. (physical, relational, spiritual) *They demonstrate faithful conduct that honors God and helps people.*

Effective discipleship interweaves these three dimensions—**knowledge** + **character** + **conduct**. Children's ministry must measure and reinforce all three components.

The questions in the ministry evaluation on the following pages are grouped according to these three categories.

How Do I Complete the Survey?

Step 1: SCORE QUESTIONS. Respond according to the number of your 5th-6th grade children who possess the understanding, display the trait, or demonstrate the skill. To gain "live" input, you may want to get responses directly from the kids or their parents:

4 = all, 3 = most, 2 = half, 1 = some, 0 = none

Step 2: WEIGHT QUESTIONS. Some topics are more important to you than others. Rank each question according to its value to your ministry:
3 = high, 2 = mid, 1 = low.

Step 3: TOTAL SCORES. Multiply the question score by the question weight. Add the column for each category.

Step 4: INTERPRET RESULTS. What did you learn about your ministry? What changes may be appropriate?

Let's see how your kids measure up!



Score
4 = all, 3 = most, 2 = half, 1 = some, 0 = none

Weight
3 = high, 2 = mid, 1 = low



Evaluate Your Kids' Bible Knowledge

By the time they complete 5th-6th grade, how many of your children can:

	Score (4-0)	x	Weight (3-1)	=	
1. Identify 20+ characteristics of God—His personality, names, and attributes	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Describe the role of the family as it relates to God's purpose and plan.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Explain how and why God gave the Bible to His people.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Easily locate books, chapters, and verse references in their Bibles.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explain why Jesus is the most important Person who ever lived.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Identify key stages of Jesus' life and ministry.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Understand and personally embrace the major Christian doctrines	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Clearly explain the Good News, God's plan of salvation	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Identify 10+ missionaries who brought the Gospel to distant lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Describe how God rewards stewardship of time, talents, and treasures.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Study the Bible using the inductive method (observe, interpret, apply).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Explain how Christian values and morals differ from the world's way.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>

Bible Knowledge Score



Evaluate Your Kids' Character

By the time they complete 5th-6th grade, how many of your children:

	Score (4-0)	x	Weight (3-1)	=	
1. Are dependable and trustworthy, honoring their commitments	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Wholly forgive people who have offended or injured them.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Show respect and anticipation when the Bible is read or taught	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Display courtesy, respect, and fairness to all people.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Enjoy an excellent reputation in church, school, and the community.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Sincerely desire to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and people who love God	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Anticipate that God will intervene in their daily experiences	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Demonstrate concern for people who do not yet know Christ	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Cherish their salvation and personal friendship with Jesus	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Admire Christians around the world who face persecution today	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Endeavor to love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Show compassion to people who are different, disabled, or outcast	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>

Character Score



Evaluate Your Kids' Conduct

By the time they complete 5th-6th grade, how many of your children:

	Score (4-0)	x	Weight (3-1)	=	
1. Work diligently as for the Lord in all their projects and activities.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Genuinely honor and exalt God when they worship.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Promptly obey their parents and other authority figures.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Seek opportunities to share the Gospel with people they know.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Maintain daily "quiet times" with God, with Bible reading and prayer.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Rely on God's Word to make good choices and to guide daily decisions.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Memorize Bible verses on a regular basis.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Walk daily with Jesus in obedience, bearing spiritual fruit.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Enjoy healthy relationships with people of various ages and cultures.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Look for ways they can serve the needs of others.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Pray daily about personal concerns and the needs of others.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Give a portion of their allowance or earnings to God's work.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	=	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Conduct Score				<input type="checkbox"/>
	TOTAL SCORE				<input type="checkbox"/>

How Do My Kids Measure Up?

It's time to interpret the results. As you do so, remember that this evaluation is a tool to help you assess your present ministry to kids. Jesus does not carry around a clipboard and checklist to measure your progress. But Christ will appraise the work of all His followers, rewarding what has eternal value and discarding what does not (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

1) First, consider your **TOTAL SCORE**. To what degree are you satisfied with this number? In general, a total score of 300 or more may be considered "acceptable," but not necessarily "ideal." Maximum score is 432 (if all 36 questions Score "4" and Weight "3"). Only the Lord, through the prompting of His Spirit, can help you determine how to evaluate your present level of effectiveness.

2) Next, look at your three **category scores**. Since you want to build balanced disciples (Luke 2:52), all three numbers should be fairly close together. Which score is highest? Lowest? What factors contributed to those numbers?

What Did I Learn?

On a separate page, summarize your thoughts, concerns, and ideas as they relate to your ministries to kids. The outline below will guide you. How does this evaluation affect the way you want to disciple children in the future?

General

- Strengths:
- Weaknesses:
- Opportunities:
- Threats:

Personnel

- Teachers/Staff:
- Parents:
- Recruiting:

Ministries

- Sunday School:
- Midweek:
- Kids' Church:
- Special Events:

Resources

- Budget:
- Curriculum:
- Facilities:

What Should I Do Now?

Take Action! Assemble a team to help you review your present ministries and implement needed changes. To assist you in this process, download this free resource from DiscipleLand:

Design Your Masterplan—A Step-by-Step Children's Ministry Blueprint. See www.DiscipleLand.com/masterplan

How Does DiscipleLand Build Disciples?

Here's how DiscipleLand helps you equip kids to reach their peak potential as Jesus' disciples. DiscipleLand's family of resources forms a complete Children's Discipleship System™ with five components:



DISCIPLELAND PRESCHOOL

launches children ages 2-5 to begin walking with God.

Preschoolers establish a solid foundation through 200 different Bible stories.



DISCIPLELAND KINDERGARTEN

inspires kids ages 5-6 to follow amazing Bible heroes.

Children grasp God's plan and purpose as they overview the entire Bible.



DISCIPLELAND CORE BIBLE

challenges children in grades 1-6 to become victorious disciples.

Kids are equipped for Christian service through 24 quarters of sequential Bible curriculum.



DISCIPLETOWN

equips kids in grades 1-6 with essential discipleship skills.

Children enjoy group learning in a creative Kids Church format.



DISCIPLELAND ADVENTURE

motivates kids in grades 1-6 to pursue their discipleship journey.

Children travel to exciting locations around the world to experience topical Bible adventures.

DiscipleLand
Disciples for Life™

DiscipleLand.com

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DiscipleLand—Children's ministry curriculum, ideas, and discipleship resources for life.

This free Children's Ministry tool is provided for parents, teachers, and others who want to help make disciples for life!

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