

How May I Serve You?

In the context of this article preschool is defined as babies through kindergarten and children are grades one through six. Child and Childhood refers to babies through grade six.



Each time I lead a conference I introduce myself and give my title: Sondy Scroggins, Preschool/Children's Specialist. I then go on to briefly explain what that title means and what I do. In most cases they are surprised by all of the ministries we provide. Today I would like to share with you a few of the ways we can provide childhood ministry services to MBC churches and associations.

The preschool/children's area is one of the first places parents see when they visit a church. We usually don't get a second chance to make a first impression so we must be diligent in providing the very best for the preschoolers and children God has placed in our care. On average week a child spends only 1% of their time a church. We must take advantage of every moment we have to insure that strong biblical foundations our being built. I can consult with churches on curriculum evaluation and choices, evaluate your childhood education space, equipment needs and any other related resources to help ensure quality Bible study and discipleship training is taking place.

We provide local church, associational and regional training for a variety of childhood related issues including Sharing the Plan of Salvation with Children, Ways Children Learn Best, Learning Approaches, Teaching Methods, Developing Effective Teachers, Preteen Ministry, Outreach, How to Have a Family Friendly Church, Developing an Effective Childhood Ministry, Safety and Security, Policies and Procedures to name a few. We will design other specifically requested training assistance tailored for your individual church and association needs.

Each year we host a professional development retreat for paid full time and part-time Childhood Ministers who meet with their church staff on a regular basis. I consult with Childhood Ministers about a variety of issues and meet with childhood staff search committees.

Yearly we equip Associational VBS Teams to provide VBS training for the churches in their associations. This year we trained 263 associational VBS team members. Each fall we provide advanced training for Associational VBS Directors and Directors of Missions.

Along with my ministry assistant, Pam Jeffries we have development a preschool/children's leaders guide, and related resources for our qualifying new church starts who are meeting in temporary facilities. So far this year we have trained 15 new church starts and have provided each church with a resource module to assist them in their childhood ministry.

Children's Bible Drill is sponsored and coordinated through this office. Children's Bible Drill is a program for children grades 4-6. The primary focus of CBD is to provide

opportunities for children to fine tune their Bible Skills through a variety of weekly activities in the local church. There are three opportunities for children to showcase what they have learned during the year. Each child's score determines how far they advance. Church Drills are organized and hosted by the local church. Associational Drills are organized by the associations and State Drills are organized by MBC & Regional Coordinators. This year 273 participated in the State Bible Drills. Pam Jeffries my ministry assistant can answer any question you may have about Bible Drill. She can be reached at ext. 463

Often over the phone consultations or e-mail consultations can assist you in solving some of your less complex issues. At other times traveling to your church to meet with your staff, committees or task force may be a more beneficial approach to your tougher challenges. Because of your gifts to the Cooperative Program there is no cost to you when I to come to your church or association.

Deuteronomy 5:29 says "Oh that they would always have such a heart for me, wanting to obey my commandments. Then all would go well with them in the future, and with their children throughout all generations." The challenge before each of us is to evaluate how we are doing in relationship to Deuteronomy 5:29. What we do with our preschoolers and children today will impact generations to come. Let me know how I may help you accomplish this awesome ministry God has given us.

For further helps I would encourage you to visit our website
www.mobaptist.org/childhood

Sondi Scroggins
Preschool/Children's Ministry Specialist
Missouri Baptist Convention

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