Reaching Children at Risk

*Objective – Heighten awareness of the plight and proximity of these children, by explaining what is “orphanhood”. Consider the disastrous consequences to all if they are not prioritized by Church. Explain the Church as Catalyst in knitting the Family, the School and the Community of Faith together. Present Biblical view of family where God is central.*

1. *Children at Risk*– unlock blessings and heal traumas
   * Definitions
     + Orphan-hood – single-parent, substitute parent, no parent.
     + Street-children – on … in … of … the streets.
     + Institutionalized – locked-in
     + Media-saturated – locked-out
   * Causes and Processes
     + Adulterous Generation – infidelity in marriage.
     + Corrupt Generation – rural mentality.
     + Evil Generation – Picasso image of life.
   * Towards Reconciliation and Home
     + Family – school of trust-formation.
     + School – school of talent-formation.
     + Church – school of truth-formation.
   * Jesus’ model of Family
     + Jesus to John – John 19.27

*Aunt is your mother, cousin is your son*

* + - Jesus to James – Mathew 12.46-49, James 1.27

*Widow is your mother, orphan is your son*

* + - Jesus to Mathew – Mathew 10.20,32

*Son defends honor of Father and the Father of his son*

* + - Jesus to Judas – Mathew 10.4,37

*Son: loves God > father*

*Father: loves God > son*

* + - Jesus to Peter – John 21.15-17, Luke 12.37,41-44.

*Son feeds sheep, Father feeds son*

* + - Jesus to Philip/Andrew – John 6.7,14

*Son shares and Father multiplies*

* + - Jesus to Stephen Acts 7.51.57 w. Luke 23.34,46.

*Son keeps the Word of the Father, Father resurrects the son*

1. *Door of Kingdom – Andragogy* (adults can learn much from children)

*Objective: Evidence that the health of the existing and future Church depends on investing in a good program with children. They will teach Kingdom truths and restore Kingdom feelings so that those in the Church will be more focused and of one mind and spirit. They are the object of our affections and worship toward our Savior.*

* + Teach Kingdom Truths
    - Agents of Divine Revelation – Luke 10.21 (Mt. 11.27)
    - Transcendent – Isaiah 11.6-7 (Practice what they Teach -> Trust)
  + Remind of Kingdom Priorities
    - Quiet human ambitions – Mt. 18.1-5 (Quickly Forgive & Forget)
  + Illustrate Kingdom Principles
    - Living Parables – Mathew 21.12-17 (Came to defense of Jesus)
  + Incarnate Kingdom Feelings
    - Compassion makes us all doers – Psalm 33.13-15, 68.5-6, 113.5-8 (Reveal Heart of God).
    - 7 signs of “True Compassion: Affiliation, Bonding, Study, Discernment, Empowerment, Freedom, God” (Brewster 47)
    - 5 Betrayals of existing Abuse (Brewster 117-118)

1. *Window of Kingdom* – Pedagogy (children: goal of teaching and healing)

*Objective: Promote an educational view towards children’s ministry. Challenge leaders to embrace a more holistic view of childhood-development. Heighten the need that the Church assume their unique role in bring meaning and inner-healing the deep recesses of small and teenage children.*

* + Holistic – *multifaceted* Luke 2.42
    - Social – Jesus to John
    - Stature – a Carpenter
    - Scripture – soul ‘n sword
    - Spiritual – Wisdom
  + Holistic – *Silver-lining* Mathew 9.35-38
    - Tran*storm*ational –
      * Eradicate the Cause – Mal.3.16-17 (Acts 3.23) *Crying-out*
      * Remove the Curse – Mal.4.6 (Acts 2.5-13, Mt. 13.36-43) *Casting-out*
      * Inner-healing issues – Mt. 19.13-15 *Anointing*
  + Holistic – *Sequencial* Mathew 13 (Parable of the Sower)
    - Mary’s Program – knowledge-bearing-fruit
      * Head – Heart – Hands (Perry Downs in Kilbourn p.189-203)
    - Martha’s Program – Fruit-bearing-knowledge
      * Hands – Head – Heart (Lesson 10, *1for50 Course*)
  + Holistic – *Relational* John 4 - Won by One.
    - Parenting the Child
      * Identifying Seed at the proper time – Luke 12.42
    - Pastoring a Child
      * Identifying Need at the proper time – Mark 4.13-20 (Lesson 8, pp.4 *1for50 Course*)

1. Toward *Building a Curriculum*

*Objective: Get leader to understand that as a business model this is the best return-on-investment, but they will have to go the long-term approach. They are the change agents in the community. These are the future leaders in the community. It’s easier to form lives than transform them.*

* + Childhood-development – Genesis 21.18 (John 5, Acts 3)
    - Characteristics of Children Chart (Lesson 3, p.3 *1for50 Course*)
      * Lift him, Lead him, and Let him – *Skill-set model*.
      * Let him, Lift him, and Lead him – *Play Model*.
      * Lead him, Lift him, and Let him – *Role-playing Model*.
        + Assumptions … Implications?
  + Faith-development – 1 Kings 17.24 (Mt. 11.28-30)
    - Checklist for Spiritual Training (p.100 Brewster)
    - Continuum with Conversion (Lesson 8, pp.1-3 *1for50 Course*)
  + Leadership-development – John 10 (Mt. 10.16-33)
    - *Ebb ‘n Flow Model* – John 10
      * Knows his (true) borders
      * Knows his (true) leaders
      * Knows His (true) Word
      * Knows his (true) nourishment
        + Receives true love… shows true love*.*
  + Relational-development – Psalm 127.4 (John 4)
    - Family (Lesson11 *1for50 Course*)
    - Friends – healthy interaction flows from healthy supervision.
    - Church (Lesson 9 *1for50 Course*)

1. *Missions and Children*

*Objective: Saturate the world around these children with Kingdom activities. Supplant the Media with interactive projects in their community – using games, camps, social projects, visits to places and outdoor classroom experiments. Ultimately it comes down to a time-element … they are won by the ones who spend more time. Quality time is not enough.*

* + World-view *Formation* Cycle – KOLB
    - Ministry to Children – mental mapping (informational)
    - Ministry for Children – imaginationstation (formational)
    - Ministry with Children – discovery-learning (conformational)
    - Ministry of Children – experimentation (confirmation)
  + Worldview *Enlargement* – local missions in the Church
    - Bibliodrama
      * Minibus skit (Lesson 6, p.1 *1for50 Course*)
      * THUMB (Jill Harris in Kilbourn p.159)
    - Story telling
      * Trailblazers (Hohmann in Kilbourn p.160)
    - Adopting a People in Prayer (Hohmann in Kilbourn p.161)
  + Worldview *Discovery* – Local missions around the Church
    - Ethnography – Scout neighborhood (Lesson 6, p.3 *1for50 Course*)
    - Visitation – Tour area ministries.
  + Worldview *Engagement* – local missions with the Church
    - Outreach
      * Kids to kids w KIDSCAN (Jan Bell in Kilbourn p.156)
      * Bridge Builders/King’s Kids (Hohmann in Kilbourn p.162f)
      * Teaching the “Book without Words” (CEF)
    - Camp where bibliodrama means reenacting a Bible figure or Bible Book for more than four days *(Joshua, Daniel, Nehemiah …*).

*Methods, Models and Tools*.

*Objective: Equip the leaders with practical ideas, tools, models and strategies for Children’s ministry. Heighten the need to prepare well the educators and evangelists and healers. Challenge the leaders to get the older children to prepare the ministry tools for the younger children and to do things from scratch … they’ll gain ownership and learn-by-doing. Keep the Bible text as central and build personal and communal applications.*

* + One teaching taught multiple-ways. (Lesson 5, p.2 *1for50 Course*)
  + Creativity learning – making it original and unique.
  + Training the trainers. Caring for the caretakers. Organize time-out.
  + Orchestrating Learning Environment (L5, p.3 *1for50 Course*) (Brewster 113)

1. Developing the *Final Project*

*Objective: Present the options for leaders to do a project that will impact the Church, the Family or the Community in some way. Define specific ways (parameters) of working with the children in their neighborhood, so they understand that a serious work involves a continuous work. Link and integrate the ministry and events into the Church-life and people.*

* + Relief *to* the Children
  + Relocation/Development *for* the Children
    - Training seminars for the Church
  + Reconciliation/Relational *with* the Children
  + Advocacy *by* the Children
    - Six Avenues of Advocacy (pp.155-156 Brewster)
  + Cooperative Projects (Initiatives) w/Public-sector, w/Private-sector, w/Religious-sector

# *Reference List*

Brewster, Dr. Dan. *Child, Church and Mission, A Resource Book for Christian Child Development Workers*. Course manual for Master’s students at Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary. Publ. Compassion International, c.2005.

Kilbourn, Phyllis, editor. *Children in Crisis: war traumas, street children, AIDS orphans, sexually exploited, the girl child, child laborers. A New Commitment*. Manual prepared by World Vision International. Morovia:CA. c. 1996.

Network of 4-14 Global Initiative, Viva, and others serving the Global Children’s Forum. *1 for 50* is a children’s ministry training Program with 12 courses designed for workshops in the local Church, October 2010 CD Format, [www.1for50.net](http://www.1for50.net).