



## **MAKING THE CONNECTION**

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How can we help children CONNECT with God-loving, Christ-following adults in the local church?

**EVERYBODY KNOWS MY NAME.** Use every means to make sure the children of your congregation are known. Use nametags for children and adults. Create a bulletin board with a photo of every child, his name, and interests. Fill the halls of your church (especially the children's ministry wing) with framed photos of the children in your ministry. Feature a child and his family each week in the bulletin or on the church website.

**DEVELOP A MENTORING PROGRAM.** Children in upper elementary and middle school are looking for adults they can look up to and build relationships with. Create a small group or one-on-one mentoring program. Encourage every mentor to get involved with the whole child—not just focus on the child's spiritual development.

**INTERCEDE FOR KIDS!** Every adult in your congregation can pray. Get them praying for kids. Create a prayer card for each child. Ask every individual in the congregation to take a prayer card and pray daily for the child. Give intercessors specific prayer needs of children as well as Scripture verses to pray over children. At least once each month involve the congregation in a time of prayer for the children of your congregation.

**PLAY IT SAFE.** Yes, there are child predators who target churches. So play it safe by developing good policies that will protect children and the adults who are connecting with them. For more information get a free copy of the Church of God of Prophecy Child, Youth, and Worker Protection Policy.