

Children & Family / all age worship – some notes from Graham Nunn

1. Is not dumbed down normal worship.
2. Children's worship is specific for normally primary age children 5-11
3. Think about specific components and theme them together.
4. The worship should be unique and be flexible
5. The most important thing is Pray, Think and use imagination
6. Don't over complicate KISS-keep it simple stupid

Children's worship is often dumbed down, and in the main the children are talked down to instead of being part of the whole worship community and seen as not important. Jesus tells us otherwise in the gospels.

Involving children in worship does not mean giving out books, taking collection and the show and tell spot which so many churches do, or doing a song as a concert piece – it's about involvement in a real way.

The way I approach this is

1. What do I want to convey (Message)
2. Celebrate (Praise)
3. Story (Bible)
4. Reflection (Prayer)
5. Reaction (response)

So planning worship in this area is more time consuming, and the attitude 'it's just for the children' is not appropriate.

Theming songs and story together is always good, and with so many new children's songs on you tube etc. Bethel Music for kids, Hillsong children's music just as a few good quality

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JPiaRiyPuk&list=PLIln6AdRc5bkwbX-Uy3Tdt07LKrEfUol>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36LxjNHvweU&list=PLXJYj0dEY4WrE2NUpLE9s06WP3O2BllMz>

Using games including drama games especially if appropriate.

Story use differing story techniques to tell story, reading, drama, video, object lessons

Jesus hardly gave sermons, he told stories and the story is strong enough on their own.

Reflection – give time and space, music, prayer activity etc.