

4. Pray for the adults in the congregation that they would learn from the children and young people.
 - a. As children show trust, dependency, humility and simplicity, pray for the adults that they would grow in these characteristics.
 - b. Pray that the children and young people's voices would be heard in the church and that they would affect the decision making.
 - c. Pray for the involvement of children/young people in the ministry and life of the church.
 - d. Pray for parents and grandparents that the Lord would equip them with all that they need to bring up their child/ren in the Christian faith.

5. Explain that some churches have much expertise in the discipling of children and young people whereas other churches have little expertise.
 - a. Pray for the sharing of resources and for the development of partnerships between churches.
 - b. Pray too for the development of partnerships between your church and the local schools.

Praying Together Resources (PTR007)

**Ideas for praying
together around the
theme of:
“Growing Youth
and Children’s
Ministry”**

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Ideas for praying around the theme of: "Growing Youth and Children's Ministry"

The following are ideas to help a church prayer meeting pray around the theme of "Growing Youth and Children's Ministry."

1. Read Mark 9:36-37 *"He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.""*
 - a. Project some pictures of children and young people (either members of the church or if the church doesn't have any children/young people, pictures of other children/young people) to some instrumental music for a few minutes.
 - b. At the end of the music read the Mark 9:36-37 verses again.
 - c. Pray that the church might be a place where children/young people are welcomed and wanted, even when they behave like children and young people!
 - d. Pray that the church might be a safe place for them to come to.
 - e. Pray for encouraging relationships between old and young.
 - f. Pray that the church might be an attractive place that draws them.
 - g. Pray that the church might be a place where children/young people come to know Jesus and are equipped to follow Him.

2. Invite children's leaders and youth leaders to come to the prayer group.
 - a. Ask the leaders what they need prayer for. Lay hands on and pray for each leader, thanking God for them.
 - b. Pray for vision, wisdom, strength, love, grace, patience..... and a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit for each leader.
 - c. Ask them what they want prayer for.
 - d. You could allocate each children's/young persons' leader to an intercessor who will commit to pray for them.
3. Pray for all the children and young people's groups that you currently have in your church eg Sunday school groups, crèche, toddler groups etc)
 - a. As you pray for each group, play a few seconds soundtrack of the noise that goes on in that group. (eg babies crying in the crèche, children talking in the Sunday school groups etc.) Follow the soundtrack by thanking God for the group and asking for His will to be done in it.
 - b. Make cards, each with the name of one of the children and young people who belong to the groups. Have some blanks so others can be added. Spread the cards around the room. Invite people to walk around and pray for each child/young person by name; praying that they will come to know Jesus, grow in spiritual maturity and for the Lord's blessing on their lives.
 - c. Pray for the provision of the right resources to help train children in the Christian faith.