

Presented by: Melody Perrin

### **Practical strategies for Classroom and Small Group Management**

1. Ice Breaker: Round Robin-What concerns you most working with the children?
2. Key working agreement *Ephesians 4:3* "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." (Group guidelines)
  - Create Sample working agreement i.e. Raise hand for a turn
  - Post the working agreements
  - Begin each week with a quick review *Proverbs 11:14* "where there is no guidance, a people falls"
  - Refer to working agreements when someone is difficult
3. Top 10 Behavior strategies :
  - Be patient *Colossians 3:12* "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."
  - Use pointing/specific, single word, or short phrases *Proverbs 25:11* "A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver."

- Use physical proximity, eye contact, touch and “quiet body tone”
- Develop a relationship of mutual respect and admiration  
*Colossians 4: 7-18 “No rules without relationship”*
- Remember aggression breeds aggression *Proverbs 15:1 “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”*
- Avoid power struggles *Proverbs 26:4 “Do not answer a fool with his folly”*
- We can’t be responsible for others; we can only be responsible for ourselves
- Don’t take behavior personally
- When in doubt, rotate out/change staff
- If what you are doing isn’t working try something else.

#### 4. Building Rapport

- Show you are concerned about them (write notes about what they told you ask them the following week etc.) *Colossians 1: 3-4 "We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints"*
- Tell them you are praying for them *Colossians 1:9 "For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding"*
- Provide deep pressure touch not soft touch

#### 5. Structural set up (circle)

- Provides direct eye contact, shows concern, accountability to each other.
- alter where you sit

6. Strategies:

Paraphrasing

Airplane stacking

Elbow Partners

Concrete Questions/strips

Good/Bad spot

Note taking

7. Round Robin ( What you found most helpful)