

Preschool and Children's Ministry Certification

Interlaken Summer Experience 2010 & 2011

Preschool and children's teachers or ministry leaders will have the opportunity to earn a certificate in Preschool and Children's Ministry during the Interlaken Summer Experiences of 2010 and 2011. People desiring to receive the certification must attend the sessions both years and complete assignments between the two sessions. The content is designed especially for

- teachers of preschoolers and children that want basic and advanced training
- volunteers or ministers that coordinate childhood ministries in their church
- leaders that want to become equippers of teachers



The sessions will be taught by Dr. Janice Haywood of Cary, North Carolina, USA, who has taught certification courses for Campbell University Divinity School for 10 years and for the Baptist General Association of Virginia for 5 years. For more information about her and the certification programs, see www.janicehaywood.com.

Highlights of the Teaching Sessions

- Gain practical knowledge about preschool and children's developmental needs and issues related to their total development, including brain research
- Learn helpful, effective, and creative teaching strategies for faith formation of preschoolers and children
- Explore the theological and biblical foundations for preschool and children's ministry including conversion counseling and effective communication of biblical concepts such as prayer and worship
- Discover the role and function of the effective volunteer coordinator, director, or minister
- Experience training in diagnosing needs and designing appropriate programs as well as choosing literature and resources for preschoolers, children, and families
- Observe and evaluate a demonstration teaching session with preschoolers and children
- Complete assignments in your church and receive feedback between the two sessions via an Internet learning community led by the teacher, Janice Haywood
- Receive certificate during the final worship session in 2011

Schedule of Sessions

The classes will be taught Sunday morning through Wednesday morning from 8:30-12:30. To maximize the time during the Interlaken Experience, it will be necessary to utilize all of the morning hours for this training. There will be some homework assignments before the Experience and during the Experience, but it will not interfere with family time or evening worship.

Criteria for Receiving Certification

- Attend all teaching sessions
- Complete satisfactorily all assignments before, between, and after both years' sessions.
- Interact with the teacher and the group on the Internet between the two sessions as a member of a learning community.

Note: If you do not wish to receive a certificate indicating that you have received this advanced training, you still may participate in one or both years' morning classes, but you will not be part of the Internet learning community or receive some of the resources.



Testimonies

"Before entering the certification classes, I had no official training on how to teach preschoolers and children. I had several years of volunteering and some experience from working in the school system. Certification opened up a new way of thinking for me. I learned to teach to all the students in my room by planning activities matched to their learning styles. I also learned to manage my time, prepare ahead, coordinate with others, and minister to the families as well. Certification altered my thought process, my way of ministering, and has opened up new adventures for me."

-Lisa Dockery, Marion, Virginia
VA Certificate Recipient 2007

"I think the value of the Children's Ministry Certification is that our churches are evaluating their ministry to children and their families. Our churches are asking questions about vision and direction for Children's Ministry. The Certification has provided the leaders of Children's Ministry with tools for evaluating and steering their ministries."

-Diane Smith, Baptist General Association of Virginia
Children's Ministry Strategist

"If you're serving in a church and haven't had a theological and biblical background that directly relates to ministry with preschoolers and children, you need to do this. It will enhance your ministry and your effectiveness as a minister. It's not just for children's ministers, but pastors and education ministers that will relate to preschoolers, children, and their families. The principles you will learn are timeless and will enhance your ministry for years to come."

-Kristen Muse, Raleigh, North Carolina
North Carolina Certificate Recipient 2002

IBC Certification Proposal

Number of hours:

- Sun. morning-Wed. morning
- 4 hours X 4 = 16 hours for two years
- 32 clock hours total

Before first session in 2010: Read TBA

- Possible reading assignments (books can be ordered from www.amazon.com)
 - Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey*
 - The Developing Brain*
 - Creating and Leading Children's Sermons* (theories section)
- Bring a list of basic beliefs about God, Jesus, Bible, Prayer

2010—Session 1

- Child Development theory and how it relates to practice—selected theorists (Gessell, Piaget, Erikson, Skinner, Kohlberg, Havighurst, Maslow, Fowler, Westerhoff—include faith development in detail)
- Brain research and implications for faith formation/teaching
- Biblical and Theological concepts
 - What teach when? (God, Jesus, Prayer, Bible, Worship)
 - Conversion
- Good teaching practices for preschoolers—learning styles, methods, learning environment, hygiene and safety/security, discipline
- Preschool class observation and evaluation

Between the sessions

- Take an exam on the first session
- Observe preschool class in church and evaluate
- Observe preschool child
- Work on concepts and send to me via e-mail for critique
- Read “Children and Worship” and “Children and Conversion” booklets and answer questions.
- Read *Enduring Connections*

2011—Session II

- Good teaching practices for elementary age-- learning styles, methods, learning environment, hygiene and safety/security, discipline
- Support of parents as primary faith nurturers—equipping and encouraging
- Creating an effective childhood ministry—Models of Ministry
- Observation of good teaching sessions—preschool (2010) and children (2011)

After the last session

- Take an exam on the second session
- Observe child class in church and evaluate
- Interview elementary age child
- Evaluate church on elements in *Enduring Connections*

**For further information about the
Interlaken Summer Experience and
the Preschool & Children's Ministry Certification,
please visit the IBC website, phone or send an email:**



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