

Our mission is to: Know, Love, and Follow Jesus**“Deep and Wide” Thoughts from Doug**

Here is the third and final part of this series . . .

REVIEW: On March 11, 2017, the 30th Annual Kids' Choice Awards was held in Los Angeles. It is an annual show airing on the kid-focused Nickelodeon channel. The winners are determined by the kids who are Nickelodeon viewers.

The Kids' Choice Awards give us a glimpse into the culture of kids and how to connect with them. In a recent blog, the author gives us 15 takeaways from which all parents and children's ministries can benefit. I will divide these up among three newsletters and make brief comments on each. In May we covered #1-#5, and in June we covered #6-#10. This month we will cover #11-#15.

#11 - Kids love animals. Another category in the awards is "Most Wanted Pet." Pets are always an easy connection with kids. Recently at our Cliff Drive Care Center B.I.G. (Be Imitators of God) week each of the pastors shared a "treasure" to go along with our theme "Digging for Treasure." Pastor T.J. brought his dog "Scout," and all the kids loved it! The Bible is full of stories of animals and offers us many ways to help connect our kids with what they like and the God who made them.

#12 - Friendship is important to kids. Another category is BFF's (Best Friends Forever). It highlights the kids' favorite friendships they saw in film and television. Of course, friendships keep kids coming to church. They know they belong. We want to be a place where our boys and girls know each other's name and build friendships to last for many years!

#13 - Kids love to play games. This is evident as kids voted for their favorite video games. Whenever possible we would desire to use a game as a connection point for kids and volunteers. These can be used in our lessons to help kids learn Biblical truths.

#14 - Use colors kids like. "The colors that are used in the graphics, stage design, trophy, videos and the other parts of the show are colors that kids love." The childcare facilities of our church are filled with all types of colors. Santa Barbara is colorful. We want to do our part to help our kids read the Bible "in color" as we make it come alive!

#15 - Kids are intrigued with the struggle of good vs. evil. "This is reflected in the villains that kids chose as their favorites. The Bible records the ultimate struggle of good vs. evil." We seek to show kids "how the struggle has played out over the years and how it will eventually end." We want to show them "how they can be on the winning side when they give their lives to Christ and follow Him."

What are some ways you could implement these in your homes or ways you see we could apply them in our FM KIDS programming? (Ideas were taken from <http://www.relevantchildrensministry.com>)

Going wider and deeper,

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COMING EVENTS

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – “Sunday’s Cool”

August 6, 13, 20 - Kindergarten through 5th graders worship with families in the sanctuary. Kid’s Cart will be ready!! Pre-School and younger childcare available

August 26 – All Church Picnic with FM KIDS fun time from 10am-12noon, Stow Grove Park

August 27 – FM KIDS Sunday is back!!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“In addition to the responsibility of being a Christian parent, there is a call now to be a Christian person, sharing the meaning of a personal faith.”

Eugene H. Peterson, LIKE DEW YOUR YOUTH, Eerdman’s Publishing 1994, p.24



SUNDAY’S COOL

Sunday’s will be “cool” this summer when we do a six-week series for kids Kindergarten through 5th grade from 9:30am-10:30 am in the youth room. Don’t miss this great time of singing, learning, crafts, games, snacks and more! By the time you receive this, we will have completed the first Sunday, but we still have all the Sundays of July! Bring kids to the Youth Room where we will be “Digging for Treasure” as we explore the stories Jesus told. Included in the time together will be story, songs, game, crafts and a snack! FRONTLINE YOUTH, Pastor Doug, and FM KIDS leaders will be there to care, lead and love.

HELP WITH CHILD CARE THIS SUMMER

As you know, we will be offering child care in all three services for nursery, toddlers and pre-school. Kindergarten through 5th will be in the sanctuary part of the summer and then in “Sunday’s Cool.” To help provide the best of care for our little ones we may from time to time need parent help. We will only be asking you for one Sunday during the summer. I will soon be re-sending a “Doodle” poll where you can sign up. Thanks to those of you who have signed up so far and thanks for understanding and caring.

BAPTISM

On Sunday, June 4, during the 11 am service, and right after, we had an excellent baptism service. During the service, kids and adults gave testimony and answered the questions of baptism. Shortly after the service, we traveled down to the east end of Leadbetter Beach. Pictured are a few of the then FM KIDS who are now FRONTLINE YOUTH: Ryan McLain, Tyler McLain and Peter Moschitto.

PLEASE CALL ME (Doug) if you want to talk about how your child is doing, if you have any questions about helping you and your child grow deeper in your faith, or if you just want to talk. I am here for you! My cell phone is 805- 252-3216.