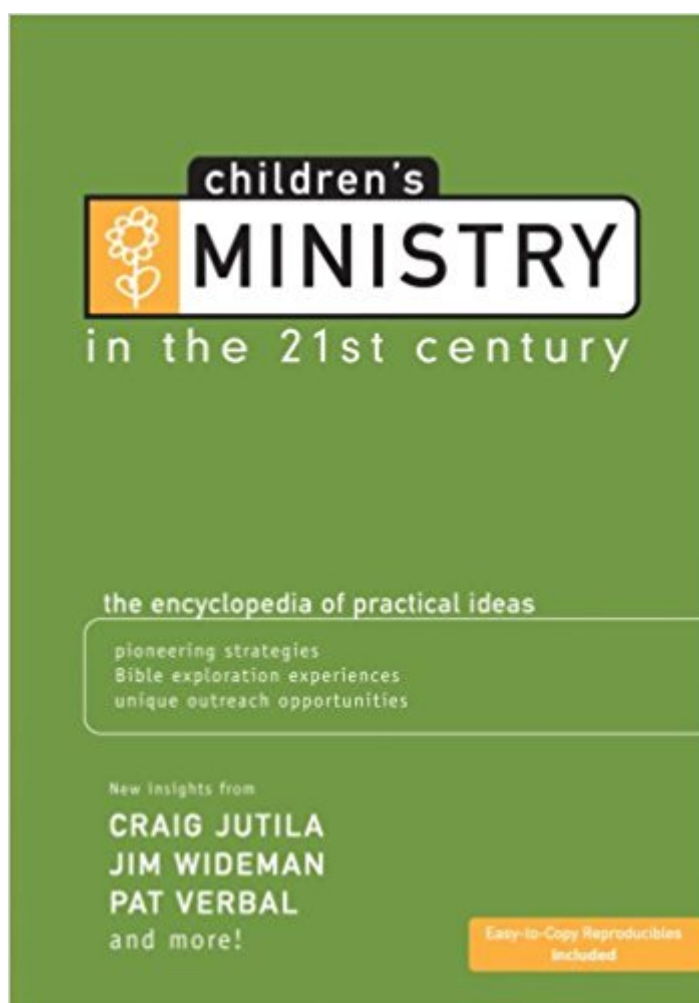


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# Children's Ministry In The 21st Century: The Encyclopedia Of Practical Ideas



## Synopsis

Get ready for what's coming next in Children's Ministry...Here's how.Ten front-line Children's Ministry experts peeked out over the horizon to identify ten trends shaping ministry in the next ten years.See inside to discover...How current culture is rewiring kids' brains--and secrets for connecting with childrenThe latest education trends embraced by schools--and how they'll impact your Sunday schoolMorphing Children's Ministry into Family Ministry--and how that supersedes your impactWhat kinds of children are about to land in your ministry--and how to be ready for themPlus six more must-know insights--and practical activities that help you take advantage of shifting trends in your Children's Ministry.Be prepared.It's good advice for scouts...and even better advice for you.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a great compilation of relevant Children's Ministry ideas, tips, and helpful content. I like that a group of authors joined together to compound different ideas from their experiences. I found great value in reading about how to teach kids of all different ages, learning styles, disabilities, and life stories.The chapter on How to Minister to Kids of All Kinds was one of my favorites. From autism to kids that are victims of abuse, this chapter gives insight on how to minister to these kids and what resources are available to do this to the fullest capacity. It also touches on childhood obesity, how to be sensitive to this subject and encourage kids to be healthy while also tailoring your ministry to be welcoming to these kids. I feel like these issues are not thought through until they are encountered in ministry, so it was good to read about how to deal with these special situations before I encounter

them personally. Chapter six is called Reaching the Edges: Preschoolers and Preteens. This chapter is all about staying relevant and being a part of the digital era we live in, and how we can use this to our advantage as ministers. I think anyone trying to update their ministry and become a Children's Pastor that is focused on what's happening in today's churches, this is exactly what to read. This chapter encourages electronics in a ministry and how to use them in order to teach kids about Jesus. This chapter also talks about safety in a Children's Ministry--an important piece of ministry today. The safer your ministry can be, and keeping that organized and easy, the better. I loved the guidance this chapter gives in how to keep your ministry a safe place for kids. I would recommend this book to anyone in Children's Ministry, whether you're a full-time staff person or a volunteer. This is the perfect tool to use when updating your ministry, and is a book I refer to often when I am stuck.

This book was a phenomenal book to read. It included topics that I had not even thought about, especially in regards to disabled children, obese children, and children who have been abused. I really enjoyed how each chapter was written by a different author because it kept the book interesting, with different tones and different ways of writing in each chapter. This was a fun and thought-inspiring book! This book really focused on how the generations have changed and how to engage children while connecting them with Christ. The part that I liked best of this book, were the sections after each chapter that gave different games or lessons to use with kids to get them involved and to also keep their parents involved. There was so much about this book that I cannot touch on everything that I enjoyed and learned from it, so here are a few examples from several of the chapters that I found most interesting. The first chapter was about how the generations have changed in technology and how to reach kids through the different sense, images, real life examples, and relatable topics. The lessons need to be technologically at their level and need to demonstrate a positive worldview. This chapter also includes parents in teaching their kids about Christ and teaching parents how to actively be encouraging, teaching and protecting their children in the world we live in. As a psychology major, I really enjoyed chapter three. Dunn explains the different types of intelligences (i.e. word smarts, music smart, picture smart, etc.) and some examples as to how to reach each child's type of intelligence. She also discussed different types of teaching for brain based learning and collaborative learning and gave examples of how to utilize both of those. She also stated that kids will always be curious. Their curiosity will never change, so that is something that pastors can rely on when dealing with children (Dunn, 66). One of the lessons that backed up this chapter was to have stations for the kids. I don't ever remember having stations growing up in the church and I think that these stations would be very beneficial in the development

of faith for children, because they can use all of their senses to learn about Christ. A quote that I found very important was "Serving and loving one child may even impact the future of the nation and shape generations yet unborn" (Dr. H.B. London Jr., For Kids' Sake, 85). When I think about this quote it amazes me. The one child that I am impacting today can impact so many others, and may even impact their kids. That puts a lot of pressure on people who are involved with children on a regular basis. If we can impact at least one child in a positive way, it will help shape many generations for the better, but the same can happen in a negative way if we do not teach and treat our kids in an appropriate way. This concept is very important in children's ministry. One of the main focuses of this book was how technologically driven this generation of kids have become. They are on social media sites, can surf the web in a moments notice, and have full access to youtube and other interactive websites. One of the examples that I really liked was to give a group of kids a camera, and a laptop and allow the children to learn about a lesson, and then present the lesson to their peers through technology. This is a fun and creative way to learn about Christ and His word.

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