

Worksheet 2: Thesis & Resources

Fill out this worksheet as thoroughly as possible. Begin with one broad statement about the topic you are researching. Find three primary resources that deal with this topic. Write a 3 sentence summary max about the text's position and perspective of the topic. Make note of an sections that may be of use to you. After reading 3 resources, consider the theology and scripture that deal with the topic. Finally, focus the topic. What detail do you see in the topic that you would like to elaborate on? This will become your proposed thesis. Remember, this thesis will be the focal point for your professional seminar.

Topic:

Broad statement on topic: Pre-teen Ministry

Proposed Problem/Challenge: We are not reaching them vitally.

Prospective Change: The church should take pre-teen ministry seriously and under consideration.

Resource 1: Missing: an urgent call for the church to rescue kids by Melissa J MacDonald

The author draws from her experience as a children's minister and her research on Millennials to challenge the reader to embrace the task of reaching the crucial generation of children with the gospel before it's too late. Children between 4 to 14 years old are called the 4/14 window and are the largest unreached people group in the world. Unless they come to faith within the first decade and a half of their lives, they will likely never have a relationship with God.

- Citation
- Summary of Position
- Notable quote locations

Resource 2: Let go and Run beside by Seam Sweet

A guidebook for intentional pre-teen ministry. Written for ministry leaders and their teams, the book will provide a practical foundation as the reader grow in their ministry in which 9-12 year olds in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade take ownership of their faith in Jesus Christ. Is packed full with ways to create space for preteens to move toward a relationship with God that is theirs and essentials of preteen ministry.

- Citation
- Summary of Position
- Notable quote locations

Resource 3: What can I do?: Making a global difference right where you are by David Livermore

There is one chapter that I will be using information on that talks about kids. *What can I do?* Shows people who long to spread God's love for the world that their everyday lives continually cross paths with God's plan to bring healing and hope to the nations. How to make a global difference right where you are.

- Citation
- Summary of Position
- Notable quote locations

Theology

What issues of theology does this topic touch on?

Discipleship, apologetics, teaching, leadership, and evangelism.

What scripture deals with this topic?

Matthew 18:1-6, Deut 6:5-9, Matthew 19:13-15, 2 Corinthians 4:7;13, Psalm 78:5-7; Ephesians 4:11-13

List 3 theology resources

1. Academic Journal – **“Ministry students ages of conversion with implications for childhood evangelism and baptism practices”**
https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A225247401/AONE?u=nysl_se_nyac&sid=bookmark-AONE&xid=2a0ecc2c

2. Bible Commentary – Matthew Henery's commentary on the Whole Bible

3. Book – Unfinished by Ricard Stearns or The Intentional Christian Community Handbook by David Janzen

(I am not sure if either one can be considered as “theological”, but both have evangelism and discipleship references)

Proposed Thesis:

After this first round of research; write your proposed thesis here:

Pre-teen ministry should be vital in every church to equip, evangelize, teach, and disciple children ages 10-12.

THESIS CHECKLIST:

- Are you staying true to your topic, or does it need to be adjusted?
- Does your thesis demonstrate an integration with Youth & Family Ministries?
- Is your theology relevant to the topic, thesis, and application?