

The background is a complex, multi-colored knit pattern. It features repeating geometric and floral motifs in shades of red, orange, yellow, white, and teal. A small, realistic-looking Santa hat with a white pom-pom is positioned on the left side, partially overlapping the text.

& PARK **2024**

A RETREAT FOR CHILDREN'S LEADERS

WE ARE ONE TEAM

from different cities and different districts



BUT ALL CALLED

to serve God, children, and their families.

Here we are for another year of SPARK! Candice and I are so glad that you are at SPARK this year. We believe that this weekend is going to be an impactful time in your life. SPARK is always a time to get away and change the rhythm of your life. Often in that range of rhythm, we are able to hear God more clearly. Life is busy and it can be hard to slow down even for one hour a day to truly listen to what God is saying. Our prayer for you this weekend is that you will be able to slow down and truly listen to what God is saying to you and for you.



We are thankful to be on the team with you!

Serving Together,
Trey + Candice Brooks



Beth Bidle-Rush has almost three decades of experience ministering and discipling children and their families. Beth is passionate about sharing God's Word with children of all ages (0-109). She is an Ordained Elder, a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University and Nazarene Theological Seminary. She is working on a doctorate at Trevecca Nazarene University. Currently, she serves as the North/East Texas Children's Ministries District Director and as SPARK Director. Her career as a Children's Pastor extends from Michigan to Texas (and several states in between), directing Children's Camps, speaking at Children's Camps, and leading workshops. Beth is excited about her new position with Equip to Engage to encourage, equip, and support the local children's leadership. In her free moments, Beth enjoys spending time with her husband, Jeff, laughing and telling stories, playing board games, and is an ice cream connoisseur.

RETREAT & SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

- 3:00** - Onsite Registration
- 6:00** - Dinner
- 7:00** - Ugly Sweater Party
- 8:30** - Fellowship

MONDAY

- 7:00** - Coffee + Fellowship
- 8:00** - Breakfast
- 9:00** - Worship
- 10:30** - Breakout Session 1
- 12:00** - Lunch
- 1:00** - Breakout Session 2
- 2:30** - Breakout Session 3
- 4:00** - Free Time
- 6:00** - Dinner
- 7:00** - Team Building
- 8:30** - Fellowship

TUESDAY

- 7:00** - Coffee + Fellowship
- 8:00** - Breakfast
- 8:45** - Breakout Session 4
- 10:00** - Breakout Session 5
- 11:15** - Worship
- 12:30** - Lunch
- 1:00** - See You Next Year!



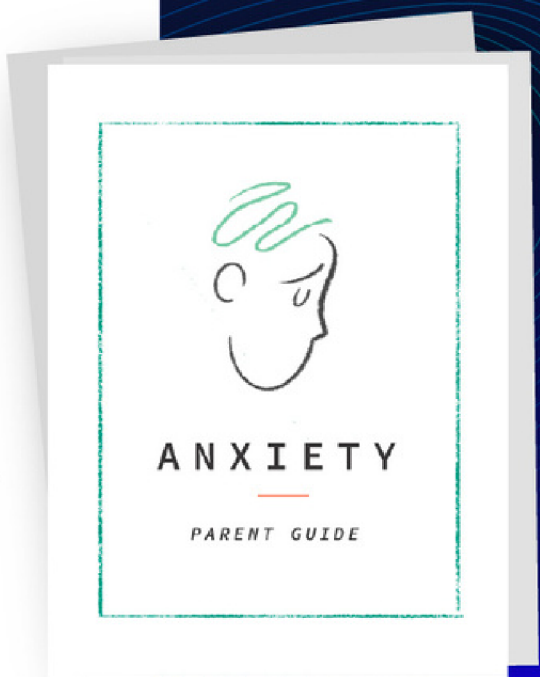
Tackle tough topics with biblical discipleship.

Show kids that the Gospel lives in the hard places.

"EVEN THE DARKNESS IS NOT DARK TO YOU; THE NIGHT IS BRIGHT AS THE DAY, FOR DARKNESS IS AS LIGHT WITH YOU." **PSALM 139:12**



Download **FREE** Resources



FREE

FAMILY RESOURCES

Half Million Mobilization | USA/Canada Region



Family Devotional
Family Service Projects
Kids Moments
Peace Out Curriculum

LUKE 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **And everyone went to their own town to register.**

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. **He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.** While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, **and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. **An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL FOR KIDS



PDF VERSION



BREAKOUT SESSION 1

PREPARATION VS REACTION | MEETING ROOM 1

Carla Durby

We all have those days when children just seem to push our buttons... but what if we could minimize those days and create a more teachable atmosphere in our classes? We will share ideas and strategies for being proactive rather than reactive in our teaching settings.



CHILDREN AND SPIRITUAL TRUTH | MEETING ROOM 2

Dana Spaite

How do we know if a child is where they should be in their faith journey? What is developmentally appropriate at different ages? What theological concepts should we be teaching? What do kids need to know spiritually as they are growing up in this culture? We will explore answers to these questions and tools to help parents and teachers accomplish this important task.



TEACHING TO TRANSFORM | MEETING ROOM 2

Dana Spaite

We only have an hour to try and impart Godly wisdom and Biblical truths to our kids. We will explore "best practices" for how to maximize your small window of time to impact kids with God's Word. We will talk about how to formulate a teaching objective, learning styles, and classroom management techniques that help children stay engaged.

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW
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TOO**



The chronological curriculum that gets kids out of their seats and into the storytelling action.

GoCurriculum.com

THE JOURNEY FROM

Saint
TO
Santa



BREAKOUT SESSION 3

EVENTS: IT'S ON THE CALENDAR... NOW WHAT? | MEETING ROOM 1

Carla Durby

Let's talk about how to plan for events: where to begin, how to break it down, how to delegate, and create less headache and more enjoyment for everyone!

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS TO HELP TRANSFORM THE COMMUNITY | MEETING ROOM 2

Dana Spait

Learn the foundation and strategies for reaching families at your local schools. Schools are increasingly open to working with churches because the needs of today's students are so great. Don't miss this chance to connect and be the hands and feet of Jesus.



WAYS TO TEACH NURSERY & PRESCHOOL AT NO/LITTLE COST | MEETING ROOM 1

Debbie Reiniche

Do you have a tiny or no budget for curriculum but are expected to offer a quality ministry? We will share ideas on how to have a year of material and how to implement a program for free to minimal cost.



BREAKOUT SESSION 4

BREAKOUT SESSION 5

ONE DAY MINISTRY | MEETING ROOM 1

Beth Bidle Rush

Before we know it the children in our churches will be the leaders tomorrow. What can the Body of Christ do to help the children and their families establish a firm foundation in Christ to weather a changing culture? Together we will explore how to make an investment in the future we may never see but have a lasting impact for generations to come.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Rich Stoffan Director of Camp Pinerock

Rich and Trish have been in church ministry for 38 years. He and Trish were married in August of 1984. Rich graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, CA in 1986. Together they served in youth ministry in three different churches for fourteen years.

The Stoffans then pastored a church in Phoenix, AZ starting in September of 2000. They started their positions as Executive Director and Operations Manager at Pinerock in November 2018. The Stoffans have one son, Brett, who is married to Samantha, along with one granddaughter whose name is Mileva. They live in Phoenix, AZ.

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Arizona

Toni Henry

Canada West

Sheri Lynne Martin

Eastern Michigan

Linda Loudermilk

Florida

Missy Segota

Georgia

Mike Smith

Indianapolis

Jill Farmer

Intermountain

Connie Blastock

Louisiana

David Craig

Michigan

Kelly Downs

MidSouth

Shaun Stevenson

North Arkansas

Elizabeth Karlowski

North/East Texas

Beth Bidle Rush

Northeast Indiana

Cortney Coombs

Northwest

Cindy Reynolds

Northwest Indiana

Shane Guldi

Northwest Ohio

Britni Dooley

Northwest Oklahoma

Dorothy Whipp

Oregon Pacific

Missy Humber

Pittsburgh

Tonya Hockenberry

Sacramento

Cathy Scharf

South Texas

Tracey Gosnell

Southern Florida

Robin Campbell

Southwest Oklahoma

Kym Drabenstot

West Texas

Jennifer Sommers

DISTRICT PARTNERS

Arizona

Canada West

Eastern Michigan

Florida

Georgia

Indianapolis

Intermountain

Louisiana

Michigan

MidSouth

North Arkansas

North/East Texas

Northeast Indiana

Northwest

Northwest Indiana

Northwest Ohio

Northwest Oklahoma

Oregon Pacific

Pittsburgh

Sacramento

South Texas

Southern Florida

Southwest Oklahoma

West Texas

SPECIAL THANKS

1230Kids

Adrian Camp

Arrowhead Camp

Bible Story Maps

Easy Risers

D6 Family

David C. Cook

Doorpost Songs

FourFiveSix

Go! Curriculum

GoodKind

High Voltage Kids Ministry

Kellogg Springs Camp

Lake Placid Camp

Lexham Press

Pinerock Camp

Scripture Union

Shiloh Park Retreat Center

StorySticks

The KidMin Creatives

Yancy Ministries

Wesley Seminary





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Inspiration for Children's Ministry



podcast ideas resources books

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