

Discipline and Sunday groups – leader’s notes

Thank you so much for using our training videos. Our vision for them is that they equip you, as a leader, with content which you can use with your team. We hope that this will save you time in preparation, releasing you to do what only you can do: establish and grow your team, build community and apply the teaching to your unique context together.

This page is for you to read and use as you lead the training. The next page is a handout which you can print out for your volunteers attending the training. Finally, we have an ‘Overview for leaders’ which provides links to organisations, resources and information you might find helpful.

Ways to use this training

- Listen to it yourself, like a podcast.
- Send the link around to others in your team for them to watch/listen.
- Organise a team training event, using the video and these discussion questions.
- Share the link in any online forums, Facebook groups etc. where there are other leaders.

Discipline and Sunday groups

We want our groups to be places where children and young people enjoy being and are engaged in meeting and knowing God - so it’s so frustrating when poor behaviour stops that happening! This video gives an overview of what discipline is (and isn’t) and considers the many factors that can lead to poor behaviour. We think about how to structure our sessions to minimise opportunities for poor behaviour and then offer a three tier system for discipline - whatever is going on.

- **What discipline is** – discipline is about learning, not punishment, we should model how we discipline on how God relates to us, and the many reasons kids misbehave
- **Set up for success**– prioritise relationships, set up your room to minimise distractions and maximise the team’s influence, and plan thinking about how to minimise opportunities for poor behaviour.
- **The three levels of discipline** – stopping poor behaviour as it starts, using choices, and dealing with tricky situations.

Discussion questions

Below are some suggestions to help you discuss the ideas with your team – please use or discard them – you know your team best!

- Do you have any comments or questions about the video? What stood out to you the most?
- Is the idea of discipline as actually being about providing opportunities for a child or young person to learn one you find helpful? Why or why not?
- Thinking about the kids you work with, do you recognise different reasons for their poor behaviour?
- What are our groups like? Do we experience behaviour problems? Can we identify why?
- How do you feel about the ‘three levels’ of discipline? Can you see that working in our context?
- What is our next step?