

Keeping Wolves Out of Children's Ministry

1. The Profile Of A Wolf/Predator
2. Statistics Regarding Abuse
 - a. It takes years for abused people to come forward to report the abuse.
 - b. One in four girls are sexually abused and one in thirteen boys are sexually abused.
 - c. 60% of victims report their abuse by adulthood and 40% never report their abuse.
 - d. 92%-98% of child abuse reports from victims are true and accurate.
 - e. 90% of child abuse victims know their abusers personally.
3. Abuse Happens In The Shadows, In The Exception To The Rules, And In The Vague Areas
4. Wolves/Predators Look To Groom Children, Parents, And Gate Keepers
 - a. Grooming encompasses the tactics that wolves use to gain the trust of gatekeepers and befriend children.
 - b. Giving gifts/introducing games of touch
 - c. Helping out/gaining the trust of the gatekeepers to gain access to children/don't be needy.
 - d. Meeting outside church/off site/no isolated one-on-one time.
 - e. Single moms are a main target for wolves/predators.
5. The Best Way To Keep Wolves Out Of Children's Ministry Is To Never Let Them In/High Walls
 - a. Questionnaires/theological questions and safety questions
 - b. Background checks/screening <https://www.protectmyministry.com/>
 - c. References/three to four
 - d. Orientation meeting to ensure a good fit for Children's Ministry.
 - e. Policy and Procedure training/make clear bright lines of physical and verbal boundaries.
 - f. Align vision and values regarding safety to multiply shepherds.
6. Never Be Alone With A Child/Privacy Is The Breeding Ground For Abuse And Accusations
7. Accountability/Teams Of Two Or More/Line Of Sight
8. Integrity/Above Reproach/Appropriate Touch And Sitting Requirements
9. Transparency/Visibility/Open Blinds/Make Sure Lights Are On
10. Coordinators/Roamers/Open Communication
11. Keep Watch/Guard the Vulnerable/See Something, Say Something/If It Looks Wrong It Is Wrong
12. Imbalance of Power/Child-To-Child Abuse
 - a. Limit the number of children who use the bathroom at one time.
 - b. Older children should not use the restroom with younger children or special needs children.
 - c. Children who are overly aggressive must be watched.

13. The Hidden Door To Children

- a. Electronic communication, phone calls/texts, emails, Instagram, and Facebook
- b. No electronic communication is allowed between adults and minors in Children's Ministry.
- c. All electronic communication corresponds through approved church platforms through approved church leaders.
- d. If a child contacts a volunteer through electronic communication, bring it to the Children's Ministry leader ASAP for safety, transparency, integrity, and accountability.

Resources

Statistics <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/childsexualabuse.html>

Calvary Chapel Modesto P & P <https://www.ccmodesto.com/cmpoliciesandprocedures/>

Calvary Chapel Modesto Questionnaire <https://ccmodesto.formstack.com/forms/cmqa>

Calvary Chapel Modesto Web Page <https://www.ccmodesto.com/childrensministry/>