

Children & Youth Mission (The Next Generation Challenge)

Introduction

LCPN believe that Christian mission activities should encompass children, teens, youths and adults. History revealed the consequences of ignoring children, teens, youths and young adults in the gospel mission. Turkey is one place where the gospel had deep influence, but with the passing of a generation, another generation that knew not God came up. That reflection takes my mind to the time of the Judges (2:10) where the author says, “And all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there rose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.” The Scripture quote stated above, challenge us that the Church must keep this in mind and play her missional role of passing the baton stick to the next generation. Negligence on the part of the Church has detrimental consequences.

Another dangerous tendency on the part of the Church is thinking that when a person becomes a spiritual leader, the spiritual leader’s children are already nurtured in spiritual matters, but look at this, “Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord.”(1 Samuel 2:12). The time spiritual leaders are busy ministering to others, their own children are neglected. A Church leader could be a great leader outside the home, but a failure to his family. How can we avoid such a challenge in the Church today? A Christian could be a great minister of the Lord, but a failure to own children. LCPN reaches out to Church leaders children and teens carrying equipping workshops with them.

The OT laid a clear explanation on Child development. Let us look at this, “Ex18:20-21, Lev 10:11, Deut 4:1,(9-10), 14, 5:31,(6:7),(11:19, Ps 119:33,68,124. Teaching a generation to fear and obey God has been central to God’s heart to the extent that the great commandment emphasises teaching as an essential component of the great commission. According to the OT, this responsibility has been laid on the shoulders of parents and the Church.

If teaching a generation to fear and obey God is such a precious thing, how can we achieve this in our time? LCPN make sure that the mandate of the great commission leaves no one untouched, children, youths and the elderly. Considering Children and youths, LCPN focus on:

1. Equipping youth missionaries who will reach their generation and the next with the gospel; the Next Generation Challenge (NGC). Focus is on challenging Christian children, teens and youths to understand their missional mandate, train them and help them participate in reaching their generation where they are; schools, universities, Colleges and general society.

The model used in this ministry is training youth missionaries through workshops, children and youth training camps, children and youth learning clubs. The target is to train a child or youth to influence the next.

The training content depends on nature of teaching at that specific time. LCPN developed, systematic organised training material which are used to equip children, teens and youths in their specific age groups.

2. Creative youth writing.

LCPN is involved in writing Christian literature that appeal to youths in their generation using the language best appreciated by youths. The writing integrate the gospel and principles of Christian life.

3. Reading club.

This endeavour help youth read healthy literature and encourage them memorise Scripture.

4. Sport club:

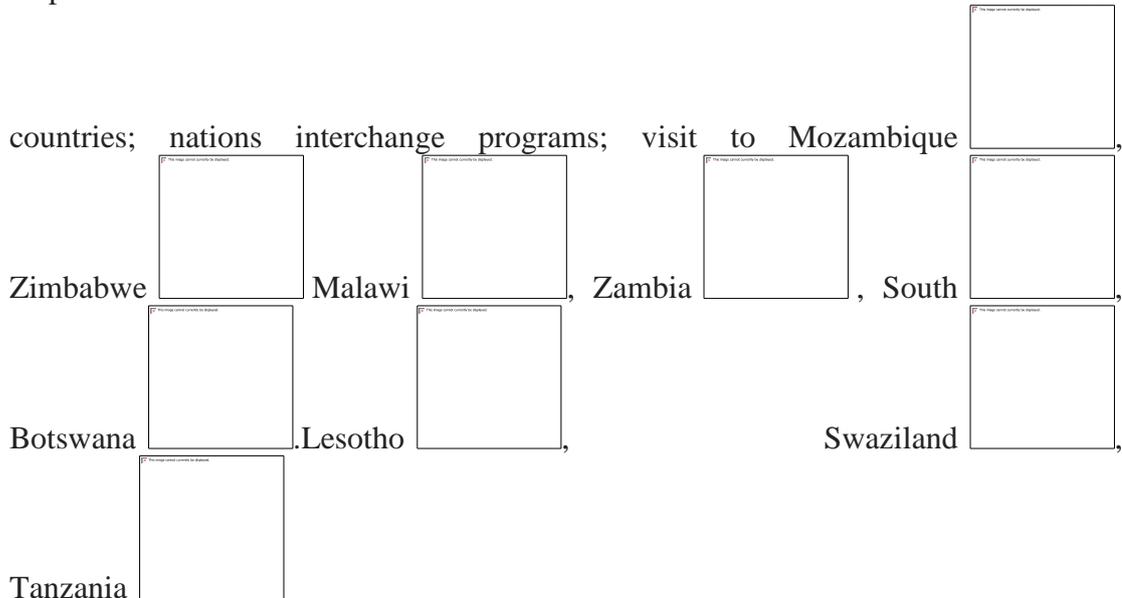
5. Through sports LCPN seeks to help children and youths learn team building, collaboration, coaching, competence build, and communication skills. The process will include discipleship teachings.

6. 5. Learning outing camps.

7. Camps are designed to foster Bible book studies, topical studies and other youth related topics. Youth music and prayers is also integrated in this. Sleep over camps are held designed for topical studies.

8. 6. Cross cultural missionary trips.

9. Trips to other countries and cultures as cross cultural missions are held between



10. 7. Trainings include carrier guidance workshops.

11. Early Childhood development: kids learning workshops and camps.

12. Teen carrier orientation.

13. 8. Youth drug and self awareness workshops.

14. Awareness training workshops, rescue initiatives: Redeeming clubs.

15. 9. Street Child evangelism. Preaching and rescuing children living in streets.

16. 10. Youth evangelism. reaching out to youths preaching the gospel.

17. Witnessing to youths, discipling them and teaching them to evangelize.