

**Why bother?
Why try?**

1



2

Relationship...



3

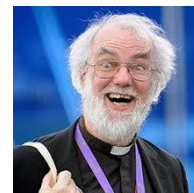
**You are the creator,
and we are thankful.**

4

**Family Service... or
All-Age service... or
Intergenerational service**

5

**Worship for all-ages –
Why bother?
How to try!**



6

Suffering Children...



7

Let's think about...

- Your experiences
- The range of settings and styles
- Successes and failures
- Frustrations and attitudes



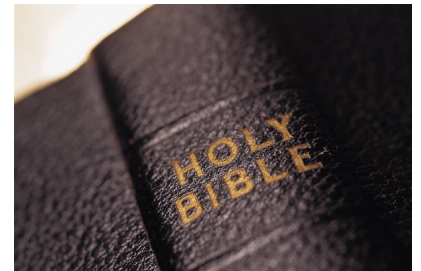
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What are our aims with All-Age?



9

Listen... again!



10

"If there is no laughter, Jesus has gone somewhere else. If there is no joy and freedom, it is not a church: it is simply a crowd of melancholy people basking in a religious neurosis. If there is no celebration, there is no real worship."

Steve Brown



11

All-Age is for...



12

all age
WORSHIP

Bring the whole family of God together:

'...from whom his whole family on heaven and earth derives its name' (Eph 3:15)

Provide a 'family' atmosphere

Look at issues simply

Provide opportunities for ministry

Opportunities for church growth (A to E)

13

all age
WORSHIP

- Provide a 'bridge' for the community
- Help parents fulfil their responsibilities

'...train a child in the way he should go.'

(Proverbs 22:6)

- Learn from each-other
- Prophetic witness and example of intergenerational life

14

all age
WORSHIP

"Much of what we see as social breakdown is the breakdown of relations (and trust) between the Generations"

David Willetts (former MP)



15

all age
WORSHIP

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:42-47

16

all age
WORSHIP



Jesus, Jesus, here I am
Jesus, Jesus, take my hand
You give to everyone
a love that won't end
Thank you Jesus, you're my friend

17

all age
WORSHIP

All-Age is not...



18

- Easy to deliver well
- The easy option for children's work
- Performance, show and tell
- Practice for trainee leaders
- A praise party
- A colouring sheet opportunity

19

'But not on a Sunday'



20

God knows me

Better than I know myself.



He knows the hairs on my head,

The colour of my eyes,

The thoughts in my mind

And things down deep inside...



21

Criticisms of all-age...



22

- Too difficult
- Shallow teaching
- Silly songs
- Too active
- Too short / long

23

**You are the creator,
and we are thankful.**

24

What if we don't?

- The media and the world
- The role of church for all
- The failure to tell and live the story
- All are not nourished



25

Three-word Thanksgiving
Take an object....
Match Testimony
Discuss
Build together

26

Things to think about...



27

Faith development
Welcome and value
Awe, wonder, fun
Worship words
Intergenerational
Relationships

28

Christian Year
Quality learning
Patience
Determination
Tolerance
All about God

29

Gimmicks
Sight and sound
Inclusive
Not patronising
Integration
No assumptions
Reading the congregation
Families together
Range and variety

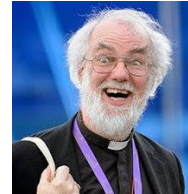
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Objects and Take-Aways



31

Worship for all-ages –
I hope we'll bother,
I hope we'll try!



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