

Are You Ready?



If you are reading this, it is likely that either:

- A. God, by His Spirit, has placed this call upon your heart
- B. At least one family in your congregation (perhaps yours) could benefit from the support provided by a special needs ministry
- C. Both

Assuming that the above is true, here are some additional considerations as you assess your church's readiness.

1. As you pray about your ministry, ask God to give you willing partners to help you. This is not a ministry you can carry out alone; others in your congregation may be sensing the same call.
2. You will need receptive leadership: The children's ministry director and the senior pastor should strongly support the development of this ministry.
3. You will need stable leadership: The leadership of your children's ministry should be relatively stable; the existing children's ministry should not be in an unsettled state when you begin this ministry.
4. You will need some expertise: It is likely that there is at least one person in your congregation with some level of professional experience in the area of special needs. Find the person with some background and assess their willingness to offer counsel.
5. Facilities should be accessible: It is important to eliminate any significant physical barriers in your facility prior to beginning this ministry.
6. Seek God's confirmation through prayer and study: We suggest planned times of prayer with others in your church who feel called to begin this ministry.
7. A heart of trust: If God confirms this through prayer and study, trust in Him and "just do it" in faith and ask God to order your steps.