

GUIDE FOR THE LAUSANNE 4 BREAKOUT
GROUP DISCUSSION

Activity 1: Nurturing coping skills for spiritual wellness

The research highlighted three perspectives held by the children regarding the Kingdom of God: a) *here*, b) *not yet*, and c) *between times*. These three perspectives have their unique theological stance and implications for living. The research does not intend to take a particular stand on the topic because understanding God and his Kingdom is personal knowledge, growth, and conviction. Instead, we will reflect on possible ways to guide the children at their stages of belief and nurture coping skills towards spiritual wellness.

(In your group, list three (3) indicators of how children’s perspective of the Kingdom of God impacts their functioning. Then, suggest three (3) coping skills to help the children develop spiritual wellness.)

Perspective of the Kingdom of God	Impact on child functioning	Coping skills for spiritual wellness
The kingdom is <i>here</i> .		
The kingdom is <i>not yet</i> .		
The Kingdom is <i>between times</i> .		

Activity 2: Working with the families and community to raise Kingdom builders.

The report listed four initiatives to guide the faith communities in nurturing children to be kingdom builders. In your group, consider specific ways these initiatives could involve the families and local faith community.

Initiative 1: Provide for the physiological needs of children

Children need shelter, safety, nutrition, medical care, and education for their development. These are the basics for nurturing children towards physical health and mental well-being.

Initiative 2: Help children acquire a vision for Kingdom building

Like adults, children need a vision to motivate them into action. The church has a significant role in helping children realise their potential as created beings and their capacity as active agents of God's redemptive plan.

Initiative 3: Build hope in a loving and faithful God

Children's dependence and hope in a loving and faithful God build resilience, a quality for thriving during challenges. Resilience is primarily nurtured through relational bonds. It does take a village to raise a Kingdom builder!

Initiative 4: Invite the children to be co-partners in God's mission

As Jesus invited the children into the Kingdom, the church must do likewise. They are the emerging force to usher in God's sovereign rule and to share in God's work of transforming people and communities.

Activity 3: Aligning the children with God's purpose for community transformation.

The children in this survey live in challenging and fragile situations. However, they could imagine the Kingdom of God as a well-ordered and socially positive environment contributing to their flourishing. How could we encourage these children to align with God's purpose for their community and move them from mere recipients to active partners in kingdom building? *Give six possible suggestions that are workable in your context.*

Suggestion 1:

Suggestion 2:

Suggestion 3:

Suggestion 4:

Suggestion 5:

Suggestion 6:

Activity 4: Implementing the Five Essentials as a Mission Strategy

Children in the Listening Exercise listed Five Essentials for their well-being. Share with the group how your church or organization has been helping meet these needs.

- What are some ministries that have worked well?
- What are some challenges in these ministries?
- What is one success story that encourages others?

