

PUTTING ON A PARENTS EVENT

Foundation: Parents are given the role by God as the primary disciple makers of their children. It is therefore our role as the church to partner with them in our ministries and equip them for this task. One way to do that is to put on seminars and give them resources to support them.

Here is a simple 7 step guide to putting on a parents event.

1. Decide on a topic that would be relevant to your church families. You might like to survey parents about their particular needs or you might be aware of someone with expertise in a specific area that could be shared with a wider audience.
2. Consider what date and time would be appropriate. Some factors to consider are:
 - What other events are happening in the calendar (church or school related)?
 - What is the best time for a maximum amount of parents to get there?
 - Who is the target audience? If you are aiming at parents of younger children you may need to consider providing some form of child minding.
3. Line up a presenter. This might be someone from within your church or someone from outside who can speak to your chosen topic. This step may need to happen in line with steps 1 and 2 as you may be limited by the presenters availability. Be sure to communicate your expectations and desires for the evening so that they can plan accordingly and you can promote it accurately.
4. Design a flyer. This may be something you can do yourself (using simple online tools like Canva) or something that you outsource to another person with the right skills. You want something simple to catch the eye, communicate the main point of the event and give the relevant details. See below for some examples.
5. Start communicating. Be mindful that people need to hear information a number of times and in different formats for them to take action on it. Some of the ways you might do this is through handing out a hardcopy flyer, a digital ad (text, email or social media), a church announcement and a face to face conversation. Don't be afraid of over communicating, parents are juggling lots of commitments and get told lots of information every day. If you think it's important then you need to tell them about it. Just give them plenty of warning so that they can plan ahead.
6. Make the night worth coming too. If parents are going to give up their time to come to your event then it needs to be worth it (or they may not come again)! So do your best to make them feel special. This includes a range of things from the value of the content presented to providing hospitality in the form of food and drinks (don't just buy the cheap stuff). Most of all it needs to include you recognising their effort in coming and sincerely saying "thank you."
7. Get feedback. After the event ask those who attended what was helpful and what you could have done better. This is good for our humility and important for making future events even better.

- Ed Sowden, Youth Pastor @ Bathurst Presbyterian Church

Raising kids in an online world

CYBER PARENTING

Seminar and Supper – \$5

Special guests James and Simone Boswell

September 7th, 7–9pm at Bx Presbyterian Church

BXYOUTH

Reach
Out

**ALL
FOR
JESUS**

Build
Up

March 8th 8:40-9pm

Church Building

Parents
Supper



PARENTS

VS

YOUTH

Sept 15th. Stay just for dinner or join in on the whole night.