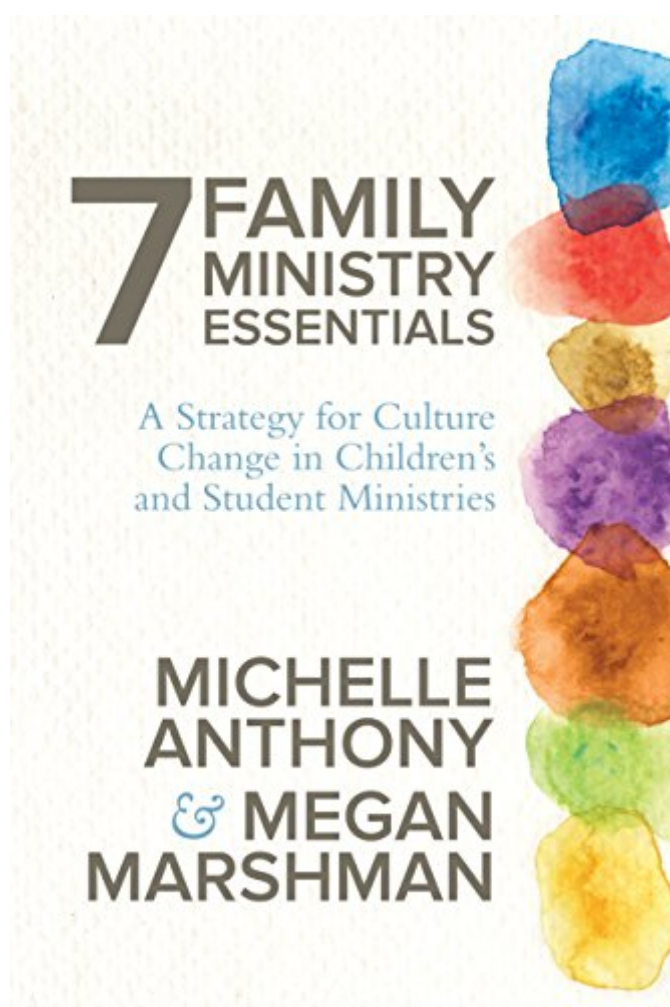


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7 Family Ministry Essentials: A Strategy For Culture Change In Children's And Student Ministries



Synopsis

With decades of ministry experience, Michelle Anthony and Megan Marshman capture the guiding essentials of life-changing family ministry. These seven essentials for children and student leaders emphasize: 1. Empowering families to take spiritual leadership in the home 2. Forming lifetime faith that transcends childhood beliefs 3. Teaching Scripture as the ultimate authority of truth 4. Understanding the role of the Holy Spirit to teach and transform 5. Engaging every generation in the gospel of God's redemptive story 6. Making God central in every biblical narrative and daily living 7. Participating in community with like-minded ministry leaders 7 Family Ministry Essentials will energize and equip you with the practical steps, inspirational stories, and biblical foundation you need as you lead those in your ministry. Dr. Michelle Anthony is the vice president and publisher of learning resources at David C Cook and a popular speaker in the area of family ministry. She is the author of Spiritual Parenting, The Big God Story, and Becoming a Spiritually Healthy Family. Michelle has graduate degrees in Christian education, Bible and theology as well as over twenty-five years of family ministry experience. Michelle and her husband, Michael are the parents of two adult children and live in Colorado. Megan Marshman is the director of student resources and production for David C Cook and has led and challenged thousands of students in their faith at Hume Lake Christian Camps. With a master's degree in organizational leadership from Azusa Pacific University, Megan speaks nationally at churches, conferences, and university chapels. She and her husband, Randy, live in Long Beach, California.

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Customer Reviews

"7 Family Ministry Essentials: A Strategy for Culture Change in Children's and Student Ministries" by Michelle Anthony & Megan Marshman is a must-read for anyone working in family ministry! There are 7 main principals presented in this book.

1. Empowering families to take spiritual leadership in the home
2. Forming lifetime faith that transcends childhood beliefs
3. Teaching Scripture as the ultimate authority of truth
4. Understanding the role of the Holy Spirit's power to teach and transform
5. Engaging every generation in the gospel of God's redemptive story
6. Making God central in daily living and every biblical narrative
7. Working with the community to further God's will.

For some, these principals may seem natural, but they often get overlooked. Too many spiritual leaders have fallen by the wayside as morals and values get watered down. Michelle Anthony and Megan Marshman explain just how to keep the spark in your children and student ministries! Chapters end with a Ministry Assessment which consists of ways to challenge and motivate your family ministry leaders. I found this book to be a wonderfully beneficial book to anyone involved in student or children's ministry. It is quite a heavy read, which makes it difficult to put down and return to later, but I don't think that necessarily reflects on the quality of the book. Also, I felt that these two authors really did their research for this book. I received this book for free from Litfuse in exchange for my honest unbiased opinion. I rate this book as 4 stars.

About the Authors: Dr. Michelle Anthony is the vice president of learning resources at David C. Cook, a popular speaker, and the author of "Spiritual Parenting", "The Big God Story" and "Becoming a Spiritually Healthy Family." Michelle has graduate degrees in Christian education and theology as well as over twenty-five years of family ministry experience. Michelle and her husband, Michael, are the parents of two adult children and live in Colorado. Megan Fate Marshman is the director of student resources and production for David C. Cook and has led and challenged thousands of students in their faith at Hume Lake Christian Camps. With a master's degree in organizational leadership from Azusa Pacific University, Megan speaks nationally at churches, conferences, and university chapels. She and her husband, Randy, live in California.

I am not in the ministry but I do have a longing to reach children and their families and bring them to Christ, with a living and life long relationship. Most churches prefer to have families separated the moment they walk through the door. We don't want babies to cry and distract us, we don't want a bored child coloring on a piece of paper and we don't want a teen who hasn't been taught to be present in church falling asleep. What if it could look different with families engaged with one another and also engaged in Christ and being fully present together? Our churches would become more powerful and better equipped to reach those in our communities and our world if all are equipped and able to give a sound reason for their faith. Now, I know that I'm in a unique position, in that I home-school so almost all our curricula is centered on Christ as the focal point. He is the focal point of our family, and at times we fail but being the sole educator for my three children gives me the chance to really teach about Christ, both in action and words. Our history text weaves in Biblical history with what was and is going on in the world at the same time. It puts it all together, not like Sunday School curricula where children can't and don't see how history lines up with Daniel in the Lion's Den or Christ's birth. We need to start giving out more than just milk and expect the parents to do it at home without any direction. Even I wasn't prepared and it's taken years for me to become comfortable with teaching my children Biblical truths, so how much harder for those families that have to overcome public school mentality or who have never been to church? This book isn't just about ministry in the church but about making it in the home as well. There were several ideas that I'd like to implement in our home. One is writing prayer requests and hanging them for all to see and then as prayers are answered listing those praises. The church needs to recognize that they will be stronger when the family, as a whole, is included in the worship of our Lord and the learning about Him and His Word. I'd highly recommend this book to those who work with youth, whether in a youth program that seeks to lift up the Lord, those who work in their ministries at church and even just those who desire to create a more worshipful environment at home, this book has something for everyone so that the whole family can learn to love and serve the Lord and have a HUGE impact! **I was provided a copy of this book from Litfuse Publicity in exchange for my honest opinion, no other compensation was given.

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