



# Kronicle

spiritual renewal & resources for children's ministers & kid's choir directors - [www.kidsworksmusic.com](http://www.kidsworksmusic.com)

## HOW DO YOU DO CHOIR?

As always, at the beginning of the choir year, we're starting registration and getting reports of schedule conflicts due to sports programs. My first instinct is to get my hackles up (like my dog does when a cat runs through the yard... Grrr!) when I hear that people are doing sports instead of choir. But then the Holy Spirit speaks gently, smoothing my rumpled fur, reminding me that He can use ALL THINGS to bring glory unto Himself and grow His kingdom. There are some great sports programs affiliated with our local churches that have a wonderful impact on the kids, focusing on Christ. So we all take a breath and move forward... as always...

Wait a second. That phrase, "as always" just caught my attention. Could it be that choir is becoming routine, habitual, even perfunctory? Heaven forbid! Being a kids choir director for many years, I know it would be easy to let this happen, but it's important in ministry (especially children's ministry) to be growing, learning and forever teachable. Status quo should never be enough!



So, how do you do choir? Below are some topics to get the cerebral ball rolling... Knowing the answers will help you keep your ministry focused and meaningful for yourself, your choir kids, your ministry, and most importantly, for our awesome God!

### 1. VISION & PURPOSE

Do you have a written statement of purpose?

Are you accountable to the church leadership in following the guiding principals of your church?

### 2. BUDGET

Do you have a yearly or seasonal budget?

Have you enlisted volunteers to build props, make costumes, etc. to keep costs down?

Do you collect a love offering at your musical presentations?

Do families pay a registration fee to defray costs?

### 3. SCHEDULING

How long are your rehearsals?

Is choir year-round, seasonal, Christmas only?

How do you avoid conflicts with sports, kids Bible clubs, school activities, etc.?

### 4. CHOIR SIZE

Is your choir growing steadily? Is the growth sustainable with the rooms and resources available?

How do you recruit new members?

Have you considered "teaming up" with other churches to build bridges and increase awareness & volume?

### 5. MUSIC SELECTION

Does your choir do musicals, and/or selected songs for morning worship?

How do you choose music? Internet? Word of mouth?

What subject matter most interests your congregation & staff? Biblical stories or modern-day applications?

### 6. VOLUNTEERS

How do you recruit volunteer helpers? Are there enough to maintain order (crowd control/discipline)?

Do you require families to sign up as helpers and/or to bring snacks?

### 7. ADVICE

What is the most important thing you have learned while directing your kids choir program?

What would you do differently if you had it to do all over again?

How would you advise a new director, planning to start a new choir program?

Of course, you probably can think of other things pertaining to your specific situation. Bring it to the Lord in prayer and plan diligently, knowing that He is in charge and to Him alone be the glory!

In the awesome name of Jesus,

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