

ignite

A RESOURCE FOR EQUIPPING LEADERS
OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Heather Thompson

ignite

**a resource for equipping leaders
of children's ministry**

SAMPLE
powerpackministries.co.uk



powerpack
CHASING GOD SHAKING NATIONS

Powerpack Ministries

www.powerpackministries.co.uk

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Ignite:

to subject to fire or intense heat;
to set afire;
to cause (a fuel) to burn;
to heat up or excite;
to set in motion.

Tired of working your way through a manual
and not really seeing God do anything with your children?

Tired of looking for curriculum that has a “spark” about it
that will “ignite” your children?

Make your curriculum work for you.
Apply the principles in this book and see what God does.

* * *

The inspiration for this book began some time ago while I was in Argentina. In conversation with a pastor (about 10,000 feet up in the beautiful Andes mountains!), he was expressing the desire that he had for his church to take children into a different place with God. “But, we have no suitable curriculum,” he said “and the children’s leaders can’t manage without.”

I started to think that maybe I should write some appropriate curriculum, but decided that accommodating all the age groups and producing enough for a 3-4 year cycle would be a huge job and it would probably never get done. It was then that God gave me the idea of writing a book that would help leaders, in any situation and with any curriculum, to see their sessions ignited by the Spirit and, as a result, children set on fire by the Spirit of God to be “God Chasers” and “Nation Shakers”.

This is the result.

My prayer is that as you adopt the principles in this book, and as faith and expectation rise, that you will see an explosion of the work of the Spirit of God amongst the children with whom you have contact.

Heather Thompson
March 2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Chris Jackson for all her encouragement and tireless editing. Thanks to Nick Jackson for continually encouraging me to get this book finished! This would still be in my head or in scribbled note form if it wasn't for both of you, so thank you.

Thanks to all the "Powerpackers", both leaders and children, who over many years have opened themselves up to be ignited by the Spirit – there would have been no testimonies to share and no lessons learned without you.

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WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT *ignite*

"Heather Thompson has been a forerunner in leading Spirit-filled children's ministries for more than 25 years. She is both a friend and mentor to me personally and continues to light passion in my life as we journey this God-adventure together. Heather has summed up within the pages of her new resource, everything needed to begin and maintain a powerful, passionate ministry to children. If we could get every children's worker to read and implement these strategies, it would result in releasing a generation that would change nations for the Kingdom!"

LAURA GRIFFIS – 5th/6th grade pastor; Event Coordinator Children's Ministries Department Bethel Church, Redding, California USA

"Heather is now a great friend, mentor and mother to me, but I'll always remember the first time I heard her speak. She made us all aware that the children of our day are at a very critical place in time. They are where Samuel was as he was growing up in the house of the Lord. 1 Samuel 3:7 says, *"Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, nor was the word of the Lord yet revealed to him."* Unfortunately, Samuel had been *"ministering to the Lord"* for quite some time before this (1 Samuel 2:18, 3:1). It's time for the children to not only minister to the Lord, but to know Him, and to know His voice; to recognise Him when He calls. In this book, Heather imparts her 25+ years of experience to help you move your children from just growing up in church and learning about God, to the place where they are encountering Him."

SETH DAHL – Children's Pastor, Bethel Church, Redding, California, USA

"Heather is a seasoned minister. Her heart combined with the years of experience and faithfulness has impacted the Church, children, leaders and teachers, and made her one of the most effective children's leaders today. I wholeheartedly recommend *Ignite* as one of the tools every leader should have in their library as they seek to assist children to experience the power and ministry of the Holy Spirit."

LENNY LAGUARDIA – Exe. Dir. Children's Equipping Center; Sr. VP of Ministries & Justice Division, International House of Prayer - Kansas City

"Heather's commitment to see children raised up, equipped and empowered to serve the King and His Kingdom shines through. Not only does she provide the practical tools needed to help keep our children engaged but, more importantly, her spiritual insights, passion and determination to see children moving in the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit will encourage all those working in children's ministry to reach out for all that God wants to do in and through the next generation."

DAVE SMITH – Senior Pastor, KingsGate Community Church, Peterborough & Cambridge

"The first time I met Heather was in 2000 whilst ministering in England. I found her to be a woman of God carrying the touch of God, moving and ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit in children's ministry. In 2006 it was our honour to have Heather join our international team of speakers at Kidz Arise conference in South Africa where she planted many seeds into the lives of kids' leaders and children. I love what God is doing through her life, preparing the next generation to rise up as a mighty army, doing great exploits in the Kingdom of God. I recommend this book to every children's ministry leader who wants more than simply meetings with children; it is for those who want to see a supernatural generation rising here and NOW."

SHANE COOKE – Children's Pastor, Melbourne Australia

"At last, some material that can do what it says: 'ignite some fires in young lives'! This book meets an important need – how to shape the kind of leaders God can use to raise a new generation. It addresses real heart issues and some will find this uncomfortable! This is not cute Sunday School material, but basic tools to disciple nation shakers! Bring it on Lord and thank you Heather for living this for years!"

ANDY KENNEDY – Leader of Kings Kids England (a ministry of YWAM international)

“Heather is a born communicator and children love her. But she is also able to inspire anyone to work with children and ignite this generation with a passion for Jesus. Heather has a proven track record of transforming children’s ministry in churches and large summer camps. This book is full of priceless, practical gems that will help your children and leaders achieve a new level of fun-filled spiritual life.”

RACHEL HICKSON – Director and Founder Heartcry for Change, Oxford.

“Heather has clearly seen the Holy Spirit working powerfully in the lives of children and this book will help you to see that happen too. Inspiring, challenging and full of practical, down-to-earth ideas that work, this really is a great book that I thoroughly recommend to you. I’ve known Heather for years and she is genuine, passionate about kids, and just a quality lady of God! We all have much to learn from her vast experience.”

DUGGIE DUG DUG (DOUG HORLEY)

“Every Christian leader needs input from those who have ‘been there and done it’. I have no hesitation in giving this book the highest commendation because Heather Thompson has such a wonderful track record of being used by God to bring thousands of children into relationship with Jesus Christ, and see them released in the life and power of the Holy Spirit. On the staff of Kingdom Faith and among the students at our Bible College and Training Centre are several who began their Christian experience as small children under Heather’s leadership at our annual Faith Camps. The foundation of faith established in their lives in those early years has stood them in good stead ever since! The fruit from Heather’s ministry has been immense, not least in raising up others in leadership in children’s work – but she would be the first to say that all the glory belongs to the Lord for what He has done through her!”

PASTOR COLIN URQUHART – Founder of Kingdom Faith / Author / International Speaker

“For decades Heather Thompson has been a true pioneer in developing and leading children into a transformational encounter with God, the Holy Spirit. I believe this resource is a response to those who want the ‘more’ for their children’s ministry. She has truly created an invaluable tool to equip a generation to help fulfill their destiny to bring Heaven to earth.”

MIKE SETH – Kids In His Presence

“*Ignite* brings a fresh creative approach, facilitating children into the presence of God and enabling them to live in His presence with a day-to-day, moment-by-moment lifestyle of communion with Him. The simplicity of the materials can empower children’s ministers and parents alike – at the same time allowing their individuality to be expressed. In a season of outpouring of the Holy Spirit on this emerging generation, Heather’s materials are an invaluable resource.”

DAPHNE KIRK – Generation2generation

“Heather and I have been close friends for more years than she or I care to remember. For many years Heather was one of my senior leaders in the ‘Glorie Company’ and although I recognised that she was amazingly talented, I would never have guessed that she would go on and eventually lead an international children’s ministry of her own and be so wonderfully used by God. She has never sought to promote herself and, over many years, has just quietly got on with her God-given calling of training up children and children’s leaders, often majoring on the work of the Holy Spirit. Heather is a unique person who has not written a ‘run-of-the-mill’ training manual; she has written a training manual from her heartfelt, hands-on experience. This being the case, *Ignite* has got to be inspired and I’m sure will help and bless everyone who reads it.”

ISHMAEL – Songwriter, author and Christian communicator

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Heather Thompson has been involved in children's ministry since she was too old to be a child in Sunday school! Leading children's groups early in her teenage years, God called her to full-time children's work when she was 15 years old.

After teaching for 5 years in both Primary and Secondary schools she left that job to fulfill her calling and, in 1986, established Powerpack Ministries.

Heather works both in the UK and internationally as a children's ministry consultant, training and inspiring leaders, parents and churches. She leads children's ministry at national events, as well as writing resources.

ABOUT POWERPACK MINISTRIES

Powerpack Ministries' vision is to see children raised up as "God Chasers and Nation Shakers". It produces many different resources including praise and worship CDs for children, teaching resources for children's groups, children's Bible study notes, puppet and drama resources, etc.

Contact information:

For further information about Heather,
the ministry or the resources please visit:

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