



Building Godly Leaders

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence



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Celebrating 50 years of Building Godly Leaders

Since our foundation in 1968, the mission of L2L has been to develop youth into Christian leaders. From a group of eight boys in 1968 to more than 20,000 today, our mission has remained the same.

Beginning of L2L

In 1968, the Corder Road Church of Christ in Warner Robins, Georgia, asked their minister, Jack Zorn, to develop a program to train their young men to become capable public speakers. Dr. Zorn worked with eight



young men, and soon they were speaking for their congregation, civic clubs, and schools. This was the beginning of Lads to Leaders. Soon, other congregations heard of the confidence of these young men had in speaking and asked Dr. Zorn to show them how they could teach their young men to speak. The concept spread by word of mouth and by requests for Dr. Zorn to visit congregations and teach them this concept.

In 1974, a girls' component was added. The girls' aspect of the program includes teaching girls to speak, lead singing, and otherwise lead within the parameters



of a woman's role in the church, such as teaching young children at VBS and in Bible school, and other women at ladies' days and in ladies' classes.

Dr. Zorn is now retired but continues to mentor youth and provide encouragement to L2L in various ways.



Now, after 50 years of growth, over 20,000 people in congregations across the United



States and several other countries use this tool to teach their youth to be leaders in their congregations and in their communities.

Two Categories of *Events*

L2L divides events into two categories: year-round events and convention/pre-convention events.

Year-round events are divided into four categories: Bible, Service, Leadership, and Curriculum. Year-round events are carried out at the home congregation on an annual basis. There are year-round events for both students and adults. In fact, 10 year-round events are for all ages. This encourages participation between the youth, adults, and senior adults and helps the congregation to bond. Year-round events are awarded during the Friday evening awards ceremony at the annual convention.

Convention & Pre-Convention events take place as part of the yearly convention held on Easter weekend in many locations, including: Atlanta, Georgia; Dallas, Texas; Louisville, Kentucky; Memphis, Tennessee; Nashville, Tennessee; Orlando, Florida; Visalia, California; and Denver, Colorado. The convention is simply an avenue for students who have prepared all year to show their developing skills and talents.

What happens at *convention?*

On Friday and Saturday at convention each year, various exciting events will take place. The convention schedule will provide the information regarding the events of each day.

Friday night's awards ceremony is primarily for year-round and pre-convention events. Saturday night's awards ceremony is primarily for awarding students who participate in convention events. On Sunday morning, a traditional worship service is held, with baptized, Christian men leading the worship service under the supervision of a local eldership.



Pre-convention events are completed at the home congregation before convention and are awarded during the Friday and/or Saturday evening ceremonies. The convention schedule lists the various events to be awarded at each ceremony. Pre-convention and convention events help students hone their skills in such areas as Speech, Song Leading, Debate, Bible Bowl, Bulletin Board, and many more.

The training tools that are a part of L2L may be adapted to your congregation's unique needs. No two congregations participate in exactly the same way. Using the year-round events that are carried out through the year at the local congregational level, such as Teach to Teach, Second Language, or Keepers, will result in a well-rounded, confident, spiritually grounded individual that will have the right foundation to be a worker for the Lord from youth to adulthood.



Today, Speech is only one of almost 40 events of the L2L program. More than two-thirds of the events in L2L are non-competitive, but we offer several competitive events like Bible Bowl. Bible study is an extremely important aspect of participation, and L2L is committed to providing quality spiritual study materials with which to train youth and adults alike.

Four Categories of Year-Round *Events*

BIBLE

Bible Bowl Prep (not as an event)
Bible Bowl Team
Bible Bowl Test
Centurion of Scripture
Individual Pearls Test
Know the Books
Oral Bible Reading (PreK-6)
Read the Word
Year-Round Bible Reading/Study

SERVICE

Good Samaritan
Second Language
Year-Round Bulletin Board
Year-Round PowerPoint Presentation
Year-Round Puppet Theater

LEADERSHIP

Keepers
Providers
Teach to Teach
Year-Round Song Leading/Songs of Praise
Year-Round Speech
Red Coat Award

CURRICULUM

Field Book of Leadership (not an event)

Pearls (not as an event)

GIFTS

GUARD

Headed to the Office

Junior Leader

Convention & Pre-Convention *Events*

Pre-convention Events

Bulletin Board

Individual Pearls Test

Individual Bible Bowl prep/test

Mass Media

Convention Events

Art Says It

Banner

Bartimaeus (for special needs adults and students)

Bible Bowl Team

Debate

Host/Hostess

Oral Bible Reading (PreK-6)

Parade of Leaders

Puppet Theater

Scrapbook

Winners' Circle Scrapbook

Song Leading

Winners' Circle Song Leading

Songs of Praise

Winners' Circle Songs of Praise

Speech

Winners' Circle Speech

Each event *explained*

BIBLE EVENTS

The very purpose of L2L is to instill the Word of God into youth and adults so that they will naturally stand firm in the faith. Events of participation that foster Bible knowledge are: Bible Bowl Team and Test, Debate, Pearls Study Series, Oral Bible Reading, Year-Round Bible Reading/Study, GIFTS, GUARD, Read the Word, Centurion of Scripture, and Know the Books.



Bible Bowl—Youth in kindergarten through grade 12 study the Bible Bowl book(s) each year and participate in oral competition at convention in teams of four. The Bible Bowl Test is a pre-convention event that is done at the local congregation during

a two-week period prior to convention. The high scorers for each grade level will be recognized at convention. The Bible Bowl Test is perfect for those shy students who are uncomfortable with participating on a Bible Bowl team.

Centurion of Scripture (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—Just as a centurion in the Bible commanded an army of 100, Centurion of Scripture is memorization of 100 verses of the Bible in one year. This is done at the local congregation. Centurion of Scripture is open to all ages, including adults. A person who participates learns and recites the scriptures. Participants are recognized at convention.



Debate—Debate is a convention event for students in grades seven through twelve. A team of two boys or two girls participate. Boys' and girls' debates are held separately. Debate

topics are on important Bible issues, such as instrumental music, and differ each year.



Know the Books (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—Participants of Know the Books memorize the names of the books of the Old and/or New Testament. The highest level of Know the Books also includes knowing the themes of each book. Know the Books is open to all ages, including adults. Participants are recognized for levels of participation.

Oral Bible Reading—Oral Bible Reading is an event for participants in PreK through grade six. All participants receive an A, AA, or AAA award.

Read the Word (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—By reading the Old or New Testament in one year, a participant is eligible for a Read the Word recognition. This event is open to all ages, including adults. Participants are recognized at convention.

Second Language (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—Participants in Second Language learn to communicate basic information and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ in a foreign language and/or sign language. There are three different levels of Second Language. Second Language is open to all ages, including adults. Participants are recognized at convention.



Year-Round Bible Reading/Study—Year-Round Bible Reading/Study is for all students and takes place at the local congregation. A participant develops skills by reading the Bible aloud before groups a certain number of times during the year prior to convention. There are three levels of participation in Year-Round Bible Reading/Study. Participants are recognized at convention.

SERVICE EVENTS

L2L promotes the ability to serve the congregation and the community and to build teamwork skills through the following areas of participation: Good Samaritan, Year-Round Puppet Theater, Year-Round Bulletin Board, and Year-Round PowerPoint.

Good Samaritan (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—Good Samaritan is a year-round, non-competitive event that takes place at the home congregation. Participants of all ages, including adults fulfill service to others in the following ways (plus many more): mission trips, serving and/or preparing food for the needy, visiting nursing homes and shut-ins, making cards, cleaning homes of the elderly, cleaning the church building, or performing some other service for the congregation or community. Participants are recognized at convention.

Year-Round Bulletin Board—Year-Round Bulletin Board is a year-round, non-competitive individual event completed at the home congregation. All students, as well as adults, are eligible for participation. The purpose of Year-Round Bulletin Board is to have participants train to become more adept at decorating bulletin boards for the local congregation.

Year-Round Puppet Theater—Year-Round Puppet Theater differs from Puppet Theater (a convention event) in that an experienced puppet team prepares and delivers a certain number of performances during the year to such audiences as those at VBS, Children's Hospitals, and nursing homes. Participants are recognized at convention.

Year-Round PowerPoint Presentation—Year-Round PowerPoint Presentation is a year-round, individual, non-competitive event. All students are eligible for participation to create visual presentations designed to be used as visual aids that accompany biblical lessons. Students are not required to present lessons, only to create presentations that are used by a teacher, preacher, or themselves. Participants are recognized at convention.

LEADERSHIP EVENTS

Leadership is promoted in L2L by the majority of events offered. The following are specific events in which participants will be able to develop their leadership skills: Teach to Teach, Year-Round Speech, Year-Round Song Leading, Year-Round Songs of Praise, Keepers, and Providers.

Keepers and Providers (YEAR-ROUND EVENTS)—Keepers and Providers are year-round events that can be earned each year by students in grades 3 through 12. Participants will learn practical skills in homemaking through the Keepers event and in typical areas of heading and maintaining a home and family through the Providers event.

Teach to Teach (YEAR-ROUND EVENT)—Students in grades 7 through 12, as well as adults, are eligible for participation. Participants will follow a natural progression from assisting their mentor teacher in the classroom setting to creating lesson plans and finally being able to teach classes while being observed by their mentor teachers. Participants are recognized at convention.

Year-Round Speech—Year-Round Speech involves a participant preparing and delivering speeches to a specific number of times during the year to different audiences. Participants are recognized at convention.



Year-Round Song Leading/Songs of Praise—Year-Round Song Leading (boys)/Songs of Praise (girls) are year-round, non-competitive events. Participants learn and lead songs before a specific number of audiences in various settings.

Year-Round Songs of Praise is done before female audiences only. Participants are recognized at convention.



The **Red Coat Award** is the highest achievement available for youth in L2L. It represents many years of dedicated effort. It is strenuous but attainable. Few will earn the Red Coat, but those who do will have demonstrated service to God and oth-

ers. The Red Coat is only awarded on the national level after the requirements have been met and certified by Roy Johnson and the L2L Board of Directors. This award is to honor Dr. Jack Zorn and his late wife, Frances Johnson Zorn.

Qualifications

- Must be in 7th grade or above to begin achieving the requirements. Accomplishments prior to 7th grade do not qualify.
- A minimum of four years to complete the award. Must be a registered participant of L2L each year.
- All requirements must be met, and the Board of Review completed, before graduation from High School.
- Must complete the Red Coat Award Application.
- Students in grades 9-12 who already meet most of these criteria (verification required), and are willing to now complete the final requirements, including the Leadership Project, will have their past L2L accomplishments retroactively counted toward the Red Coat Award. Contact the L2L National Office to have your questions answered and to apply for the award.
- Download the Official Event Rulebook from our website to see the detailed qualifications.

CURRICULUM

L2L provides quality curriculum for kindergarten through adults. Well over 100 sound authors have written material for L2L. New material is released each year to help local congregations teach the truth of God's Word.

Field Book of Leadership (NOT AN EVENT)—The Field Book of Leadership is a “how to” book, designed to be an aid for those who train their youth in the areas of speech, song leading, debate and others. Many people want to help their students learn how to write a speech or lead a song, but may not know where to start. The Field Book of Leadership is designed to help instruct students - and adults - about the basics of the different areas involved in the L2L program, as well as roles in corporate worship. It is a tool useful for individual and classroom use. The lessons introduce simple concepts that should help guide them on the path to becoming skilled leaders. They provide your adult mentors with a base from which to start and provide your students with the encouragement to build on the skills they are learning, so they can develop the skills necessary to excel in these areas.

GIFTS—Girls in Fellowship and Team Study (GIFTS) is a study program for girls in grades 6 through 12 written by Hannah Colley Giselbach. GIFTS covers a variety of topics important to teen girls in its 13 chapters, including: modesty, foul language, purity, drugs, and alcohol. The event is designed for groups of 3 to 10 girls who meet monthly with an adult female leader, but the book is perfect for individual or classroom use as well! Participants are recognized at convention.



GUARD—Guys Understanding Authority and Real Discipleship (GUARD) is a study program for boys in grades 6 through 12 written by Caleb Colley. GUARD covers a variety of topics important to teen boys in its 13 chapters, including: leadership, Christian

evidences, purity, drugs, and alcohol. The event is designed for groups of 3 to 10 boys who meet monthly with an adult male leader, but the book is perfect for individual or classroom use as well! Participants are recognized at convention.

Headed to the Office—Headed to the Office is a 13-chapter book for boys in grades 6 through 12 to teach them to become men and leaders in the church. Lessons include: being a terrific husband, being wise, being a gentleman, avoiding alcohol, being patient, being honest, and having a good working knowledge of God’s Word. This is an excellent resource for boys’ classes, and it could also be adapted to adult male classes. Participants are recognized at convention

Junior Leader 1: Bible Leaders Good and Bad

Junior Leader 2: Leadership Lessons from the Master

Junior Leader 3: God’s Big Plan

Junior Leader 1, 2, and 3 are curricula designed for kindergarten through fifth grade. Each edition teaches biblical truths about leadership and provides fun activities and service projects to go along with it. You don’t have to choose between teaching truth and providing exciting activities! They are both provided in these easy-to-use, colorful, spiral-bound books! Teachers, Junior Leader includes everything you need to make your class time fun and meaningful and will make it easy to prepare each lesson. Students will learn the qualities they should develop, as well as those they should avoid. Participants are recognized at convention.



Pearls Study Series—The purpose for the Pearls study series is to teach the meat of the Word from the each year’s Bible Bowl book(s). Students need to be able to connect the dots and make practical application of their Bible Bowl study. Participants can study the book in Bible class as curriculum or individually. Participants in grades 3 through 12 are eligible to take a Pearls test that is given pre-convention to determine the high scorers in each grade division. Adults are not eligible for awards for Pearls, but many adult classes study the book.

The 2017 Pearls Study was a cooperative project with Apologetics Press. Be sure to look for it in the L2L online store.



PRE-CONVENTION EVENTS

Bulletin Board—Students in grades 3 through 12 train to become adept at decorating bulletin boards for the local congregation.

Pearls Test—Participants in grades 3 through 12 are eligible to take a Pearls test that is given during a specific two-week period prior to convention at the home congregation. The high scorers in each grade division are recognized at convention.

Bible Bowl Test—Participants in grades K through 12 are eligible to take a Bible Bowl test that is given during a specific two-week period prior to convention at the home congregation. The high scorers in each grade division are recognized at convention.

Mass Media—Mass Media educates participants to become skilled in the following Mass Media areas: Article/Editorial*, Audio Presentation, Storyline, Video Presentation, and PowerPoint Presentation.

** The Article/Editorial event is sponsored by the Gospel Advocate and includes an opportunity for participants to be published.*



CONVENTION EVENTS

Art Says It—Students in K-12 demonstrate their artistic abilities and talents in various areas of Art, such as: Drawing/Sketching, Photography, Poster, Painting, and Sculpting.

Banner—Banner is a group convention event. It encourages team building skills and creativity among participants.

Bartimaeus—Provides an opportunity for students and adults with special needs to participate in a friendly environment. Events include: Speech, Song Leading, Art Says It, and Oral Bible Reading.

Bible Bowl—Students in grades K through 12 participate on teams of four to answer questions on the Bible Bowl book(s). The top 8 teams in each grade division are recognized at convention.

Host/Hostess—Students are selected for this role to help greet, guide and assist individuals and groups at convention.

Parade of Leaders—Two students are chosen by their group to carry a group banner across the stage in the opening ceremony on Friday.

Puppet Theater—Puppet Theater is a team convention event. Participants learn team building skills in their preparation and presentation. Teams must adhere to the convention theme and teach a biblical lesson.

Scrapbook—Scrapbook can be both an individual and group convention event. Participants learn to develop their creativity in recording activities and growth throughout the year.

Song Leading/Songs of Praise—Boys (Song Leading) and girls (Songs of Praise) participate separately by grade level in rooms of no more than 15 participants. They will lead two verses of a song of their choice.



Speech—Boys and girls participate separately by grade level in rooms of no more than 12 participants. Students research, write and present speeches based on the annual convention theme.

Winners' Circle is a term used for participants who have demonstrated high achievement in the following categories: Speech, Song Leading/Songs of Praise, and Scrapbook. Winners' Circle allows the high achievers to be in a category by themselves and encourages them to strive for excellence. Beginners and intermediate participants are encouraged by being on a level playing field with their peers.



Conclusion

Most things in life that are worthwhile take dedication and hard work. Building a business or growing a congregation numerically and spiritually takes dedication and hard work. In the same way, developing an L2L group takes dedication and hard work, but the benefits far outweigh the cost.

Training youth and adults to be godly leaders in the church, in the community, and in the schools will have lasting effects long into the future. The time to train your youth is now!



How do we get *started?*

Ready to start training your youth to be leaders? Here's how you can begin a L2L program at your congregation:

1. Call (334) 215-0251 or email us at l2l@lads2leaders.com for your introductory material or workshops@lads2leaders.com if you are interested in a workshop.
2. Set a date and time for an introductory meeting with an L2L representative and your church's leadership. Free informational discussions are available in person or online via video workshop.
3. Schedule a workshop and planning session at your congregation with the L2L National Service Center staff. Free workshops are offered to any congregation that wants to begin L2L. A workshop can be held in person or online via video workshop. It involves two hours of training of adult leaders so that they are prepared to use these tools and events to effectively train the youth.
4. View and share with your congregation "The Best Kept Secret," a documentary outlining the history and tools of the L2L program.
5. Visit our website at www.lads2leaders.com, call us at (334)215-0251, or email us at l2l@lads2leaders.com with any questions or for more information!



For more information or to schedule a meeting, contact:

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