**Top 3 Reasons Kids Stop Coming**

**1. MOVED - Out of our control**

- There is nothing we can do about kids moving.

- Sometimes, we’re fortunate enough that they move within city limits…

- Sometimes, if they move within city limits, we’re fortunate enough to actually find out where they moved.

- Nothing will frustrate a genuine bus worker more than not knowing where a kid moved.

- Some of the sweetest kids I can remember have moved…

- Sometimes, kids who move, come back at a later time…

**2. LOSE INTEREST - Sometimes within our control**

- To some kids, church is not going to excite them no matter how exciting you make it.

Illus. - Those kids who you try to sign up… - “No!”

- Others are just too lazy to wake up and come.

- Sometimes, this is out of our control…

- But sometimes, it is within our control when we could have done something better or different.

(quality program, personal interaction, lack of excitement)

**3. BULLIED ON BUS - Mostly within our control**

- One of the fastest growing problems both in the public school system and on our church buses is bullying… We’re running into it so much more than ever before.

( includes hitting, being picked on, made fun of…)

- I say “mostly within our control” because the majority of the time a kid stops coming due to bullying of some sort, it is because it has been a ***reoccurring*** situation.

Keys:

\* Early Detection and Separation

- A problem taken care of quickly is often taken care of permanently.

\* Close Communication with Parents (from both sides)

- Parents appreciate when they are kept “in the know.”

(whether their child was bullying or being bullied.)

\* Serious Consequences

Eccles. 8:11 *Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.*

- Bullying should be dealt with as harshly as we deal with blatant disrespect.

I for one don’t want to lose any kids in this ministry due to bullying. If anyone needs to go, it’s the bullies themselves.

Let’s be mindful to remember the top 3 reasons kids stop coming and make sure we do what we can with what ***is*** in our control!