



MAKING THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT MEANINGFUL

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Workshop #111

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INTRODUCTIONS



CHALLENGES

- Lack of child development knowledge
- “Entertaining” the adults in the room
- Low numbers of kids
- Scripture that is not kid-appropriate
- Neurodiversity among children
- I’m out of ideas!

Let’s turn our challenges into **opportunities!**

CHALLENGE:

**LACK OF CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
KNOWLEDGE**

OPPORTUNITY:

LET'S LEARN!



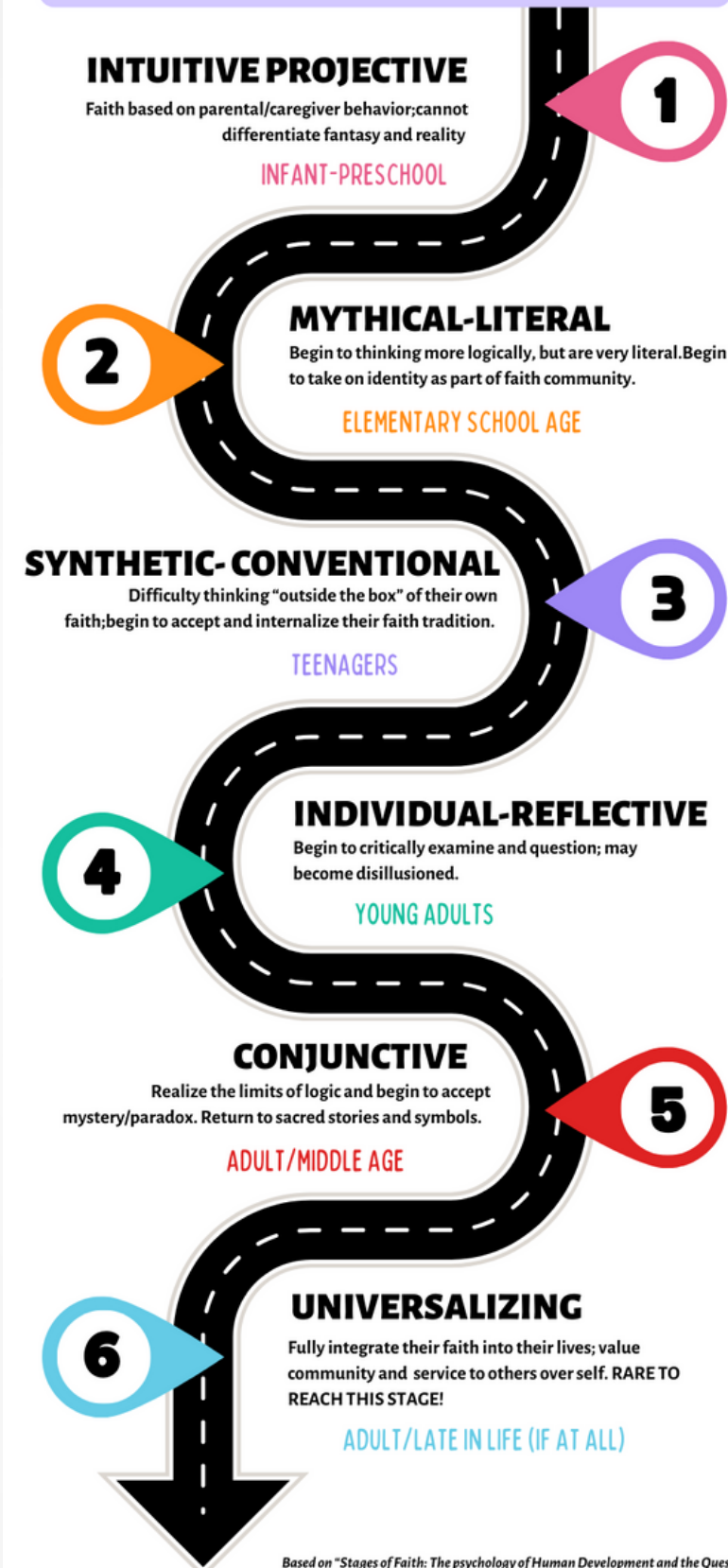


Stages of Cognitive Development



Age Range	Description	Developmental Events
Birth–2 years	Sensorimotor Experiencing the world through senses and actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stranger anxiety• Object Permanence
2–6 years	Preoperational Representing with words, images, but lacking logical reasoning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language Development• Pretend Play• Egocentrism
7–11 years	Concrete Operational Logical thought about concrete events; mathematical reasoning; concrete analogies..	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conservation• Less egocentric• Still struggle with abstract
12 years+	Formal Operational Capable of abstract reasoning, moral/ethical logic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deductive reasoning• Sense of future/planning

STAGES OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Based on "Stages of Faith: The psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning" written by James Fowler, published 1995.

All the way through elementary school, children, in general are VERY literal thinkers.

The younger they are, the more true this is.

CHALLENGE: **THE ADULTS**



OPPORTUNITY:
“IT’S NOT FOR THEM!”

CHALLENGE: **LOW NUMBERS OF CHILDREN**

OPPORTUNITY:
**INVITE PEOPLE OF
DIFFERNT AGES**



CHALLENGE:
SCRIPTURE IS NOT CHILD APPROPRIATE

OPPORTUNITY:
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO MATCH!

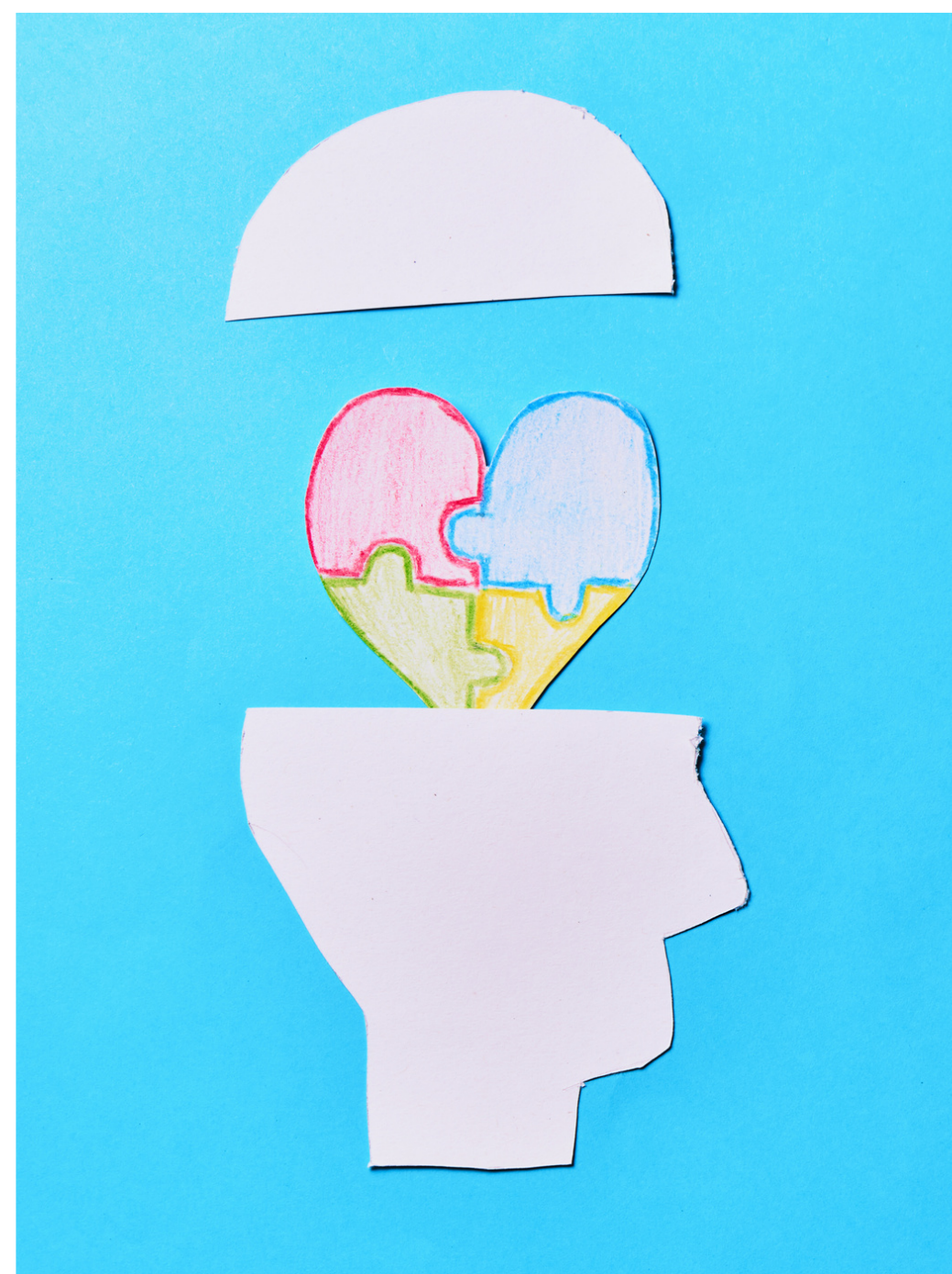


CHALLENGE: **WIDE VARIETY OF AGES**



OPPORTUNITY
**AIM IN THE MIDDLE AND
DIVERSIFY!**

CHALLENGE: **NEURODIVERSITY**



OPPORTUNITY: **INCLUDE AND ADAPT**

- ANTICIPATE AND PREPARE
- INCLUDE BRIEF INSTRUCTIONS
- TALK TO PARENTS
- USE HELPERS
- GO WITH THE FLOW!

A LOT OF THE OTHER
STRATEGIES DISCUSSED
WILL HELP!

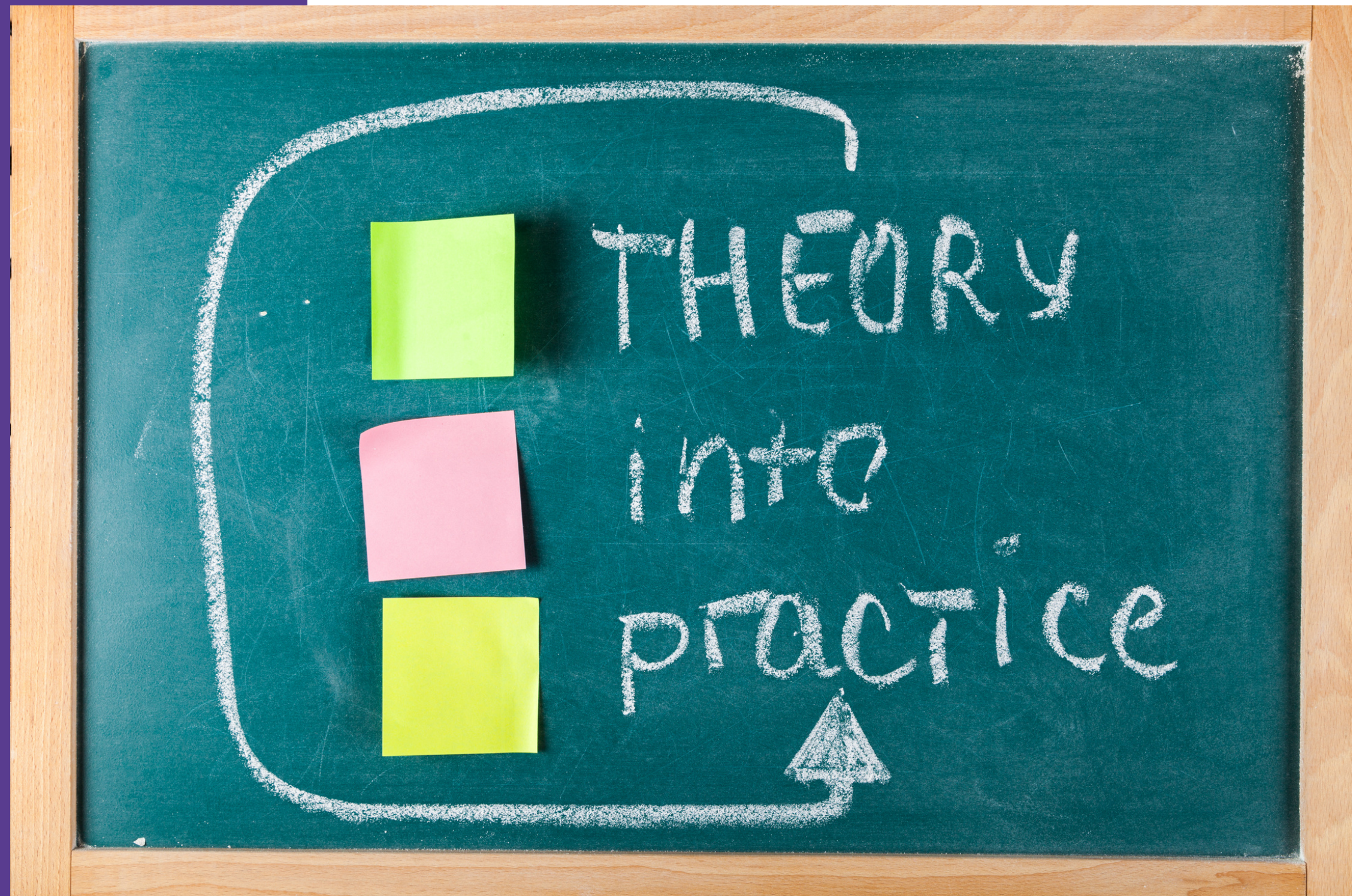
CHALLENGE: **I'M OUT OF IDEAS!**



OPPORTUNITY: **TRY SOMETHING NEW!**

- CHILDREN'S BOOKS
- CHOOSE A THEME
- CHRONOLOGICALLY THROUGH THE BIBLE
- SPIRITUAL PRACTICES
- MUSIC
- GODLY PLAY
- REPEAT & RECYCLE!

LET'S PRACTICE!



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**Thanks
for
coming!**