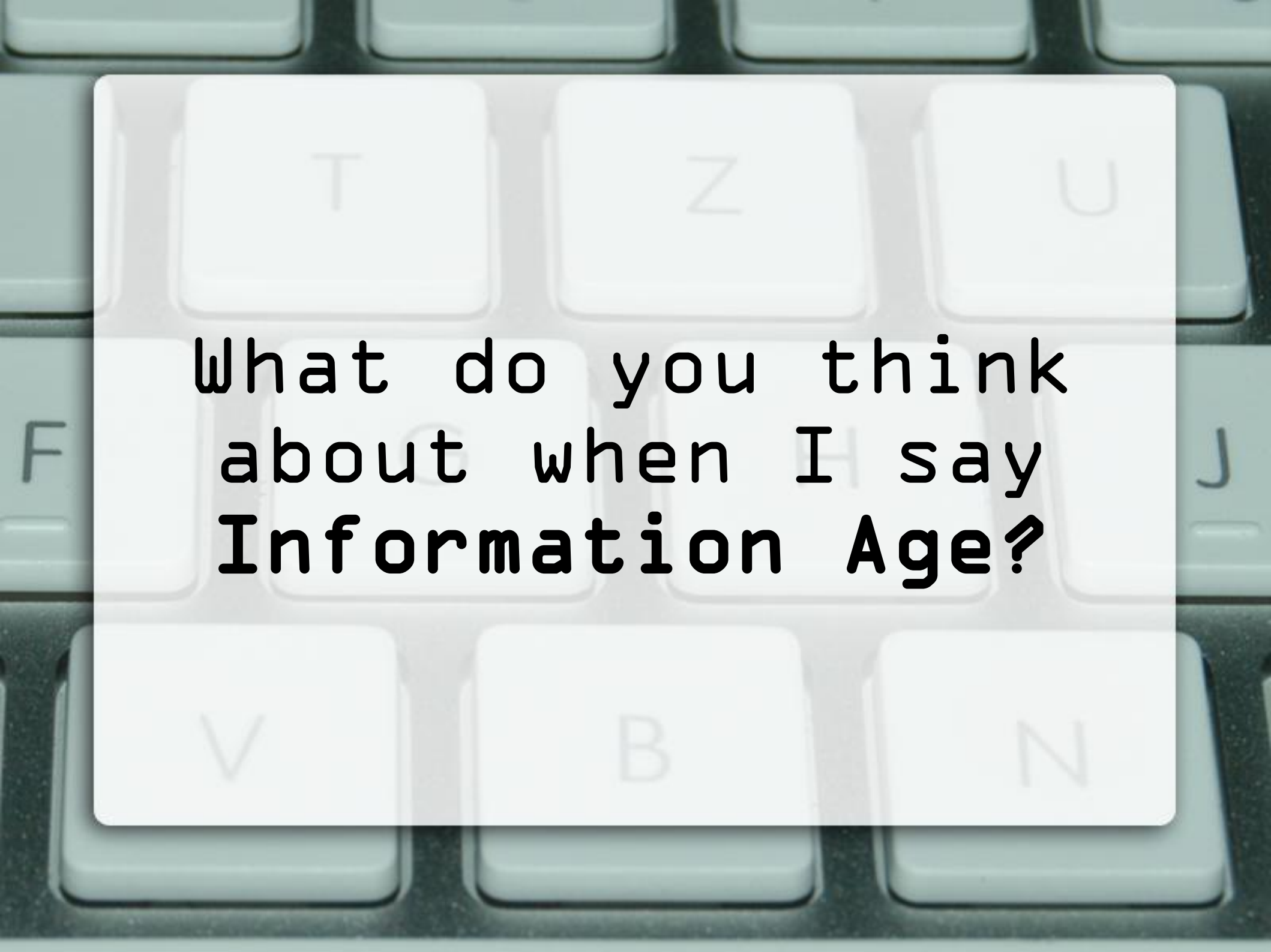




Kids Ministry Networking
in the Information Age

By Tony Kummer



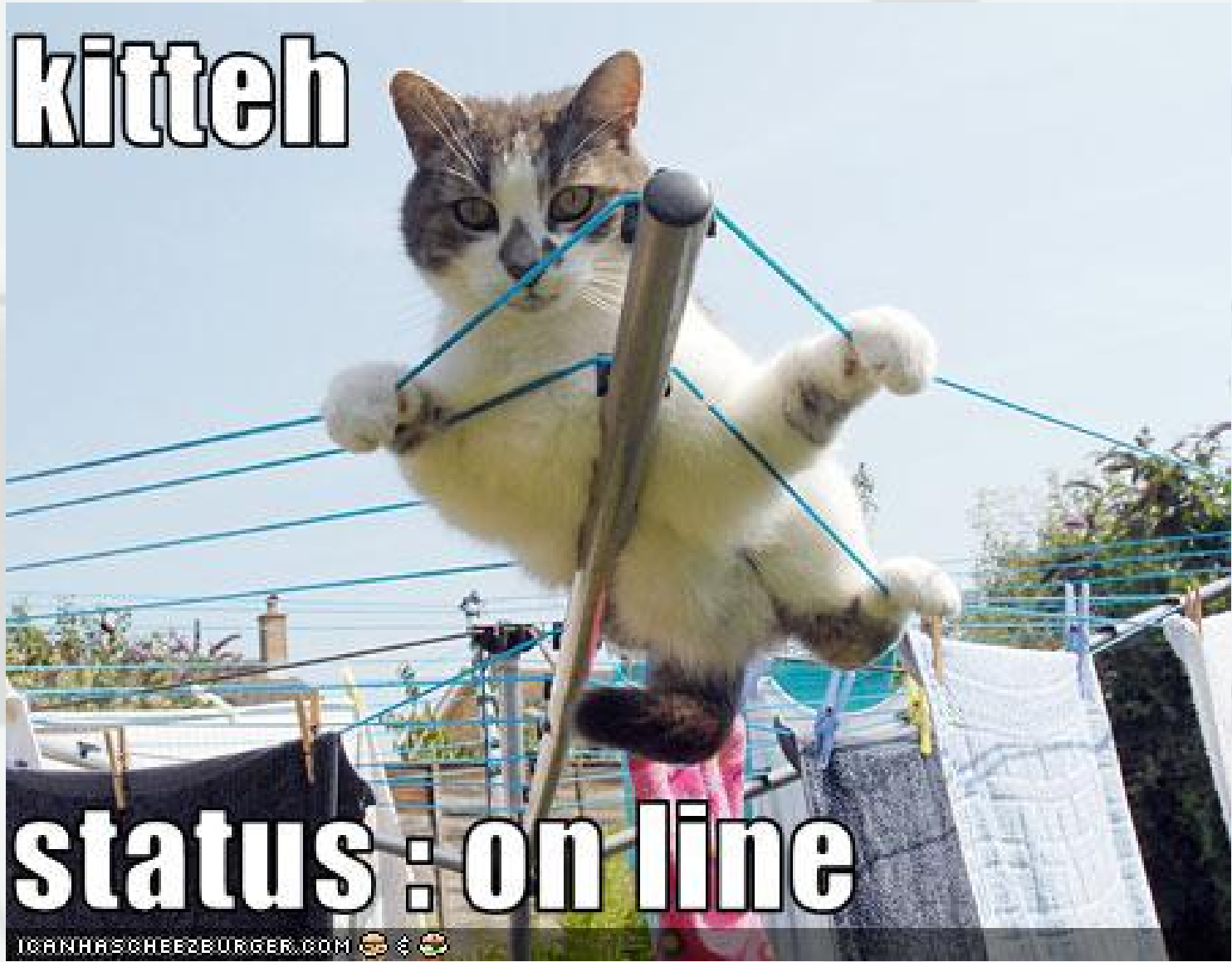
What do you think
about when I say
Information Age?

OH HI



i come from internet

kitteh



status : on line

ICANHASCHEEZBURGER.COM 🍷 🍷 🍷

Information Age

individuals have the ability:

- to transfer information freely
- to have instant access to knowledge that would have been difficult or impossible to find previously.

So What???

- You can now produce and distribute information across the global village
- Christian educators can collaborate like never before
- You can get help and help others with the smallest kids ministry issues

Agree or Disagree

- Using free curriculum off the Internet will hold back your children's ministry

Agree or Disagree

- Most people use Facebook to waste time or spy on old friends from High School

Agree or Disagree

- You can't make real friends over the Internet.

Agree or Disagree

- The Internet will eventually change everything about our society.

Agree or Disagree

- If your church can buy curriculum, then you don't need to go online for ideas.

7 Tools for Online Networking

Can you name them?

Facebook.com



- 500m users
- Publishers Pages (like LifeWay VBS)
- Easy Church communication

Tip: Use groups for church communication

Tip: Always introduce yourself when adding someone as an online friend.

Kidology.org

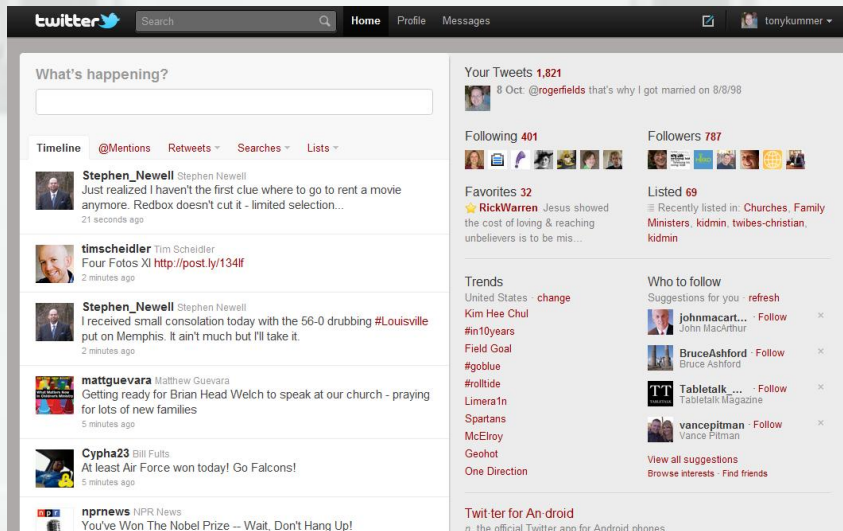


- \$60 per year
- Active forums
- Resource library called 'zones'

Tip: Use 'garage sale' to find used materials.

Tip: Free access to forums & their 'open curriculum'

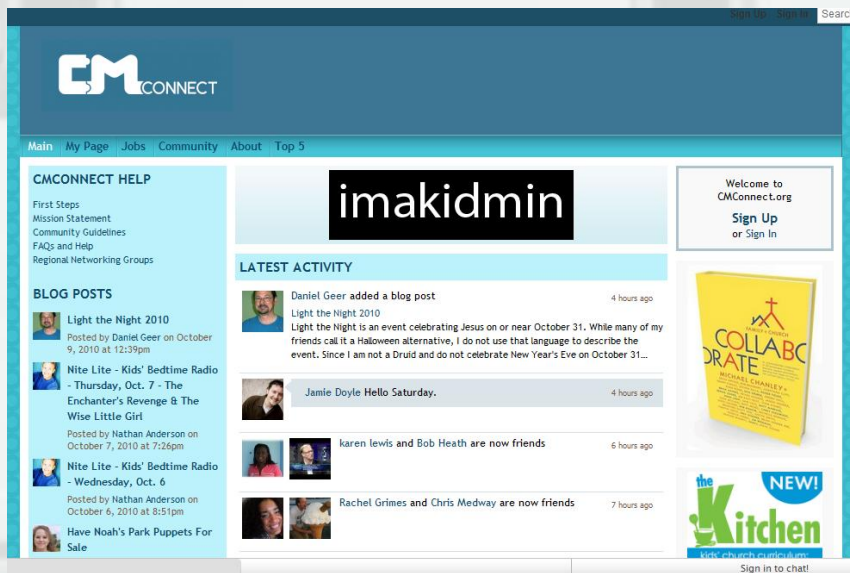
Twitter.com



- Like a giant chat room
- #kidmin tag
- Mobile phones
- micro-blogging

Tip: easy to follow conferences from home

CMconnect.org



- Free social network for kids ministry
- Local networks
- Active forums

Tip: new spinoff website imakidmin.com

Publisher Forums



- Most major publishers have one
- Lifeway stands out with their VBS community

Tip: upload pictures & video from your VBS decorations

Kids Ministry Blogs



MINISTRY-TO-CHILDREN.COM

HOME ABOUT NAVIGATION BIBLE LESSONS CRAFTS COLORING PAGES PRESCHOOL BLOGS FORUMS

The Top 100 Children's Ministry Blogs

2010

Top 100 Children's Ministry Blogs

by TONY KUMMER, on WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2010

In the past, I've tried to rank some of the top kidmin blogs. We even had a bracket style blog tournament last March. But those attempts were too subjective and didn't offer a real ranking for blogs below the very top.

That's why I've spend many hours over the last week building this nearly definitive ranking of children's ministry blogs. [Click here](#) to read about the ranking factors or [grab a badge](#) for your site.

Rank	Blog Name	PPW	GRS	PA	PI	Bonus	Total
1	Children's Ministry Online	5.8	217	47	627	576	303.4
2		6.1	38	45	1030	530	296.3

22072 Readers

Latest Reader Feedback

Giveaway: Christmas Musical for Children on DVD

Delores Parish said: I love Christmas because everyone's spirit seems to be heightened during this season...

Innovative New Curriculum from Spark House

Lindsay Whitney said: Sounds like it holds really promise! I'll have to head on over and check it out.

Pastor Appreciation Coloring Page

Linda said: Great coloring page. Thank you

Silly Bands Lesson for Children's Church

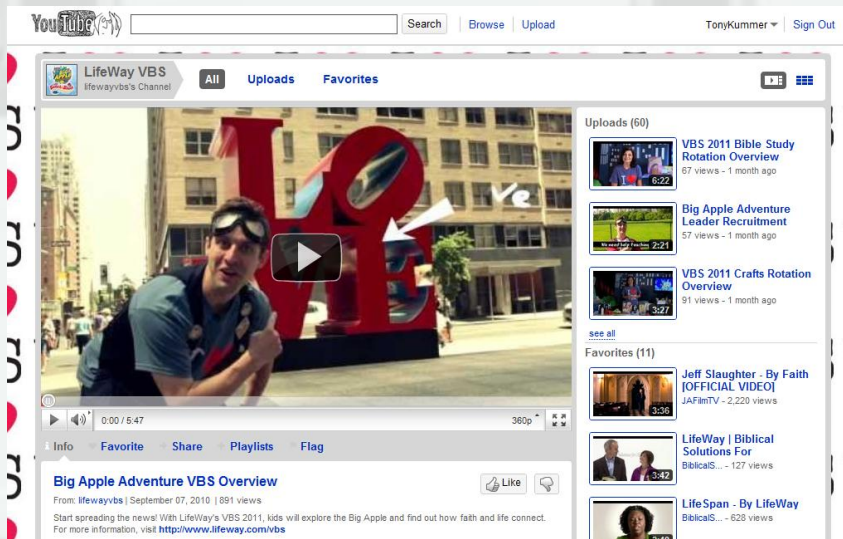
sarah said: Thank you so much for sharing this innovative way of reaching

- Personal sites with frequent updates
- Leave comments
- wordpress.com

Tip: custom search with google
"site:samluce.com lesson plans"

Tip: search for "top kids ministry blogs"

YouTube.com



- Free video sharing
- Leave comments
- Easy with a flip camera

Tip: Make sure to require approval before comments appear on your videos

Case Studies

Given the following situations, where would you go online to find help or help others?

#1 VBS Game Disaster

You decided to try a new VBS publisher besides Lifeway. It was a big mistake because the directors manual basically says find your own game ideas. Which online tool could help you? Where could you leave a note telling others to avoid that same mistake?

#2 Discouraging Monday

You've just had the worse Sunday since you've been serving in ministry. Where can you go to talk to someone in confidence about your ministry struggles? Where can you find something encouraging to keep you motivated to try again?

#3 Starting a Local Network

You've discovered that ministry can be lonely and you want to connect with other kids ministers. Where could you go to find people within a few hours to join a networking group? What can you do if you discover you are in the middle of nowhere?

#4 Rewriting Your Church Nursery Manual

You're new pastor is passionate about a well organized church. He wants you to create a policy manual for the church nursery. Where can you find help for this project?

#5 Pass It Forward

You've been in ministry for 25 years and want to share what you've learned with others. Which of these online tools could help you serve younger kids ministers.