

Kohlberg's Levels of Moral Reasoning

Level I: Self-Interest

Stage 1 - Ages 4-7

Children act according to their interpretation of the rules laid down by parents or teachers in order to avoid punishment. Moral understanding is related to quantity rather than intention. They can understand physical pain they cause another, but not psychological pain.

What is the implication for discipline and ministry?

Stage 2 - Ages 7-9

'What is good for *me*?' becomes the ultimate moral authority. Children seek either equality or personal advantage. If children in this stage believe they can get away with something without punishment, they deem it okay. They value people for what they can do for them.

What is the implication for discipline and ministry?

Level II: External Standards Models and Rules

Ages 10-25

Some people never get beyond this stage. Right is what good people do, or what the law says one should do. There is a desire to please important persons and perform one's duty to society, to make allowances for intentions and understand the perspective of friends and society.

Factors That Affect Moral Development

- Role Taking
 - Emotional warmth
 - Communication
 - Responsibility
- Social Interaction
 - Experiencing just treatment
 - Participating in providing justice for others

What is the implication for discipline and ministry?