



**PARTNERING
WITH PARENTS
COHORT**






**MENTAL MODELS
AND FAMILY
MINISTRY**



I'M ON THE
B-TEAM





A mental model is an explanation of someone's thought process about how something works in the real world.

Mark 8:27–29

27 Jesus went out with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the road he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

28 They answered him, “John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, one of the prophets.”

29 “But you,” he asked them, “who do you say that I am?”

Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.”

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- **Personal Experiences**
 - **Expectations**

A mental model is an explanation of someone's thought process about how something works in the real world.



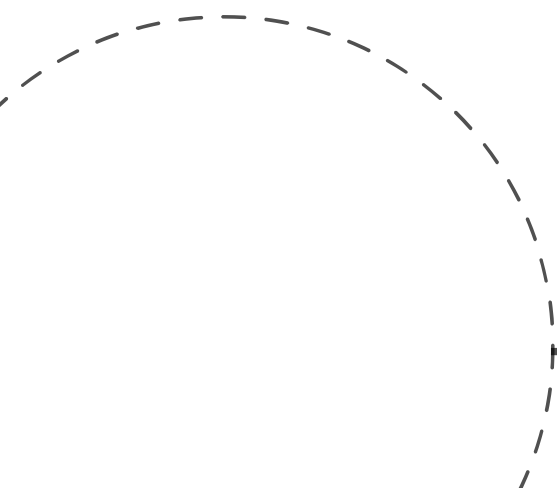
What Is the greatest motor
vehicle ever created?





AT YOUR TABLE

Describe what a
pastor looks like.





MENTAL MODELS AND FAMILY MINISTRY



**How do we bridge
the gap of mental
models?**



How do we bridge the gap of mental models?

Listening

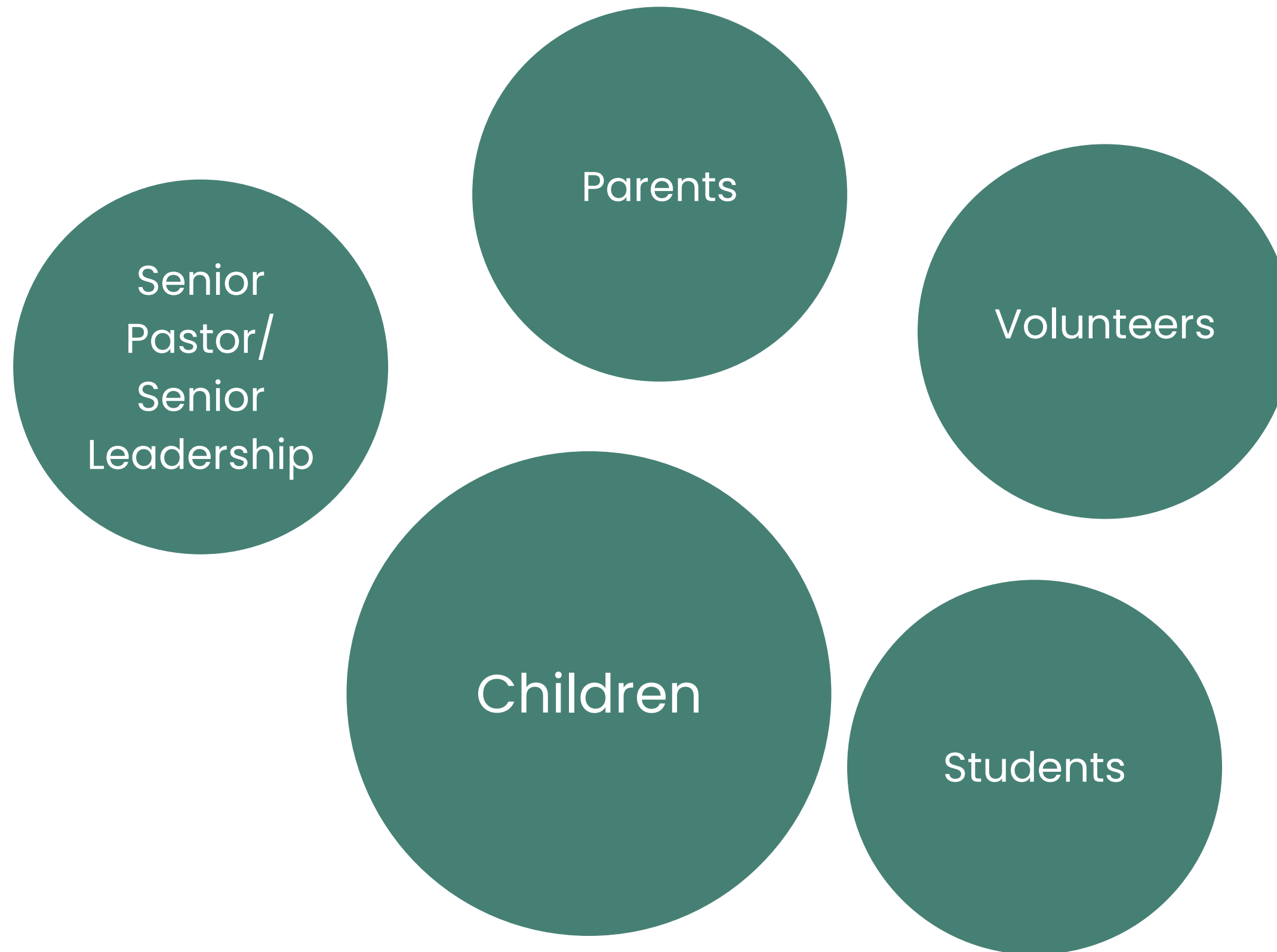


How do we bridge the gap of mental models?

Listening

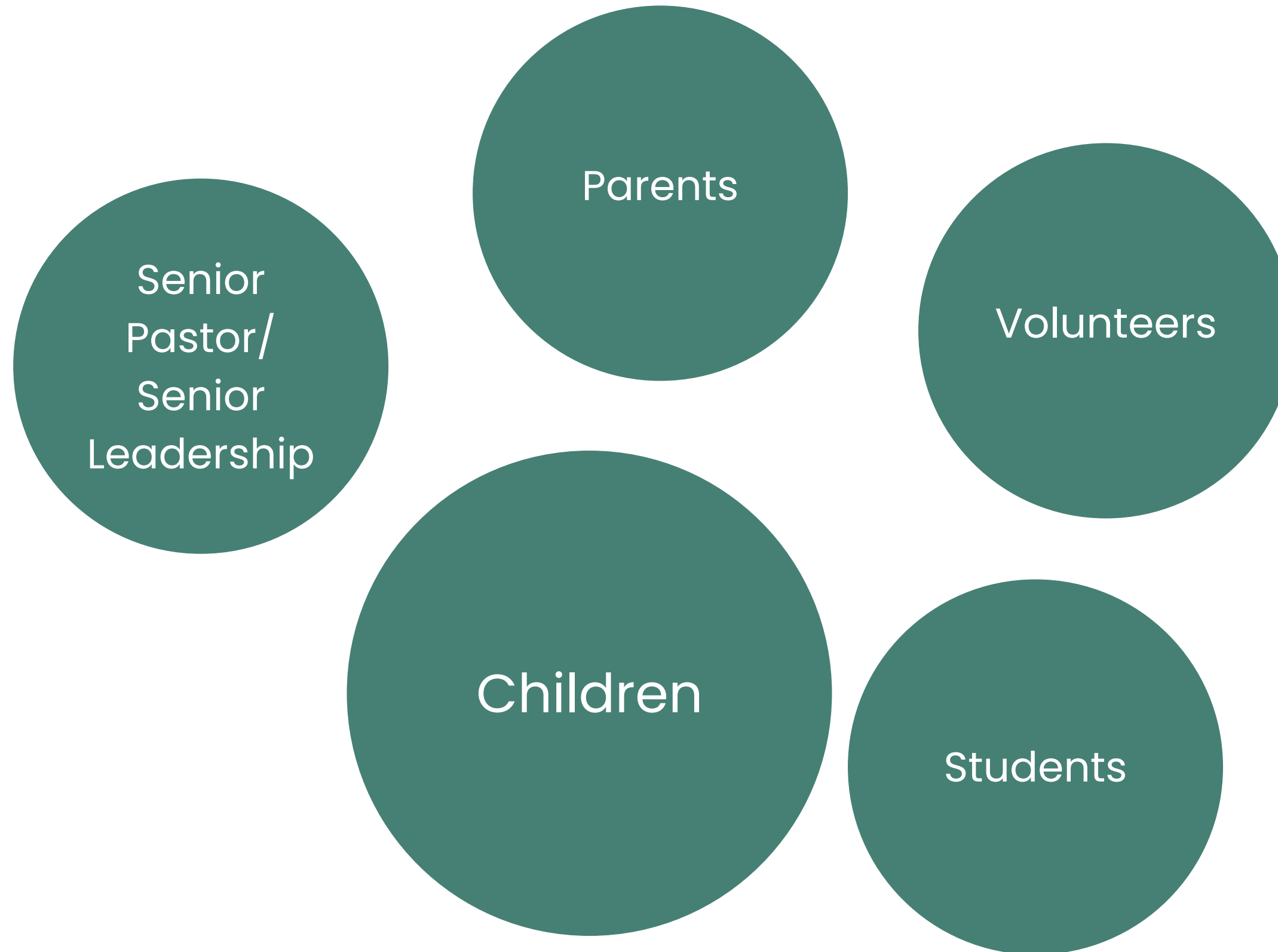
- longings and losses

Mental Models



Mental Models

What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?



Mental Models

What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?

Senior
Pastor/
Senior
Leadership

- Sunday Mornings are priority over everything else
- We have a flat staff and we all make changes together
- Family ministry is what you do during Sunday school
- Just tell me what you need.

Mental Models

What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?



Parents

- This is what we pay you for
- We need more activities for kids/ or less...
- The church is responsible for spiritual growth
- When I was... we did...

Mental Models

What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?

- We are just here to babysit so mom and dad can go to church
- I take my role seriously to help shape the next generation
- I just said yes to watch my kids.



Volunteers

Mental Models

What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?

- Please don't talk to my parents
- My parents need help
- I don't really understand how student ministry fits in the big picture of the church
- I like the snacks

Children

Students

Mental Models

**What is their mental model of family ministry / parent ministry?
What is their mental model of your role?**

