



TREASURE CHEST

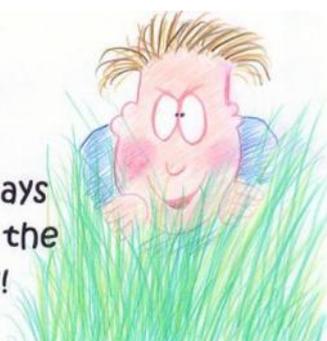
Quarterly/ Free
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e-NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE INVOLVED IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY.

Produced by Children's Ministry Network in W.A.

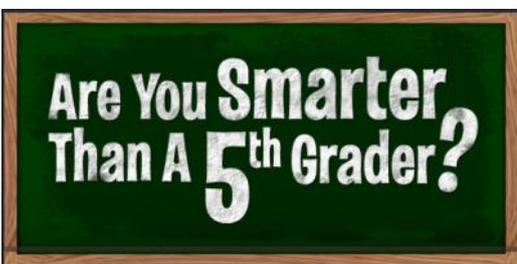
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Dear God
Remind me
that the
grass is always
greener on the
septic tank!
Amen



I declare to you that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that he was buried and that he rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15: 3, 4



THE MEMORABLE TEACHER

Have you ever seen the TV Show "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?" You know why it's so funny to watch?

Because it illustrates how many facts we adults have forgotten, even after our hundred-thousand-dollar education by our well trained school teachers!

I have a feeling that the thing we will remember most from our school teachers is not that the history teacher knew a lot of facts, but that the teacher ... (continued over page)

EASTER - already?

I was in a Woolies store back in mid January when I heard a lady yell out to her friend, "Oh no, they've got Easter Eggs already. We've hardly finished celebrating Christmas."

Easter is becoming as commercial as Christmas (or is it Xmas?) and sadly the true meaning of both celebrations can become lost in the middle of all the 'hoo-ha'.

Even the children in our kids ministry may lose the true message, unless we as parents and teachers remind our kids of the message in a fresh and meaningful way. If children hear the gospel message constantly presented in a boring, dull, irrelevant way then they may become immune to it (and even turned off). As communicators of the greatest message in the world, we need to present it in a creative, fresh, passionate and life changing way. The message doesn't change, just the way we present it.

Here are some websites that may help you with fresh ideas and resources for your Easter presentation. (click on the links whilst online)



- * <http://tinyurl.com/8yp85p8> ... a few free downloads
- * <http://antonsantics.com/store>
- * www.childrensministry.org.au/2012/02/
- * www.kidology.org
- * www.kidzmatter.com

- * www.akidsheart.com/holidays/easter/eprint.htm
- * www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/teacher/easter.htm
- * <http://mrn.sa.uca.org.au/childrens-ministry/online-resources/>
- * <http://ministry-to-children.com/childrens-ministry-links-for-easter>
- * <http://resources.ccca.org.au/products/Resurrection-Eggs.html>

Do you have resources and ideas you would like to share with other Treasure Chest readers? Send them in by email and you may be fortunate enough to have your idea shared in a future edition. (no promises!!!) email: wa@cmn.org.au



Keep up the good work. For Aussie kids and the KINGdom,

Rob Adams

for Children's Ministry Network (WA)

The Memorable Teacher (cont.)

... cared about two things. Firstly, the teacher cared for the students in the class and secondly, the teacher cared about the piece of history he/ she was sharing. If you have a passion for what you are teaching and you care for those you are teaching, then you will have a great foundation for being a memorable teacher.



This is also true for the Christian Education teacher - care for the kids and a passion for the gospel message.

How do I care for kids?

- * Show an interest in their interests (sport, music, hobbies, family, etc).
- * Remember next week what they told you the previous week, and mention it again to them. (*Is your dog getting better after your dad took it to the vet?*)
- * Ask them questions and then get them to talk about their recent experiences. This will show them that you are taking an interest in them. (*How did your team go at basketball yesterday? Tell me a bit more about your game.*)
- * Let the child know that you have been praying for them. (*I prayed about the problem you're having at school that you told me about. How are things going there?*)
- * Send a card, email or make a phone call if a child is absent or sick.
- * Just a simple hi-five or a "good to see you again, Kim" comment indicates you are showing an interest in that child.

How do I express a passion for the message?

- * Don't overdo it! Nobody likes an over-zealous, over-bearing person. But they will admire someone who speaks enthusiastically and genuinely about their faith.
- * Don't be embarrassed to actually say that you love Jesus. Don't say it in a gushy way but in a genuine, sincere way.
- * Every so often mention how God impacts your everyday life - today! Share what you've learnt from your Bible readings.
- * Tell stories of how you had to make choices when you were a child. Don't be embarrassed about sharing some of the poor choices you made (within reason) as well as the smart/ good choices.

Twenty years from now, your students may not remember the items in your lesson plan, but they will remember the joy you expressed in seeing them and the passion and love you had for following Jesus. Remember that the facts about Christianity are very important and we must do our best to share the facts faithfully, creatively and in an interesting way. However what your students will remember in the future is whether you cared for them and if you really believed passionately in your message even to the point of sharing how it affects your life, your attitudes and the way you treat people.

Work hard at becoming a memorable teacher.



Recruiting to fit specific jobs

Here's what we've learned about recruiting that may help you find people you may never have thought of before - to serve behind the scenes. Keep your eyes open for people's hidden gifts and interests.



- **Camera-Toting Dad** -- You know that father who always has his camera out for his kids' performances? He'd make a great photographer for your publicity items, bulletin boards, and PowerPoint presentations.
- **Computer Whiz** -- Ever had a mum who complains about her teenage boy spending too much time with his multimedia toys? He'd make a great techie for you. He may even teach you how to do PowerPoints.
- **Divine Designers** -- The women who love to decorate their homes would make a great team to spruce up your large group area with signs, banners, props, and more.
- **Happy Chappies** -- You know these folks. They always have a smile and are eager to shake your hand. They're your next greeters, of course!
- **Filers, Not Pilers** -- It's the people who love to shop, organize, and get together with like-minded people who'll make a great behind-the-scenes supply-gathering team for your program.

When people serve in an area of interest that energizes and fulfils them, they're much more likely to sign on for the adventure. We've heard it again and again from kids min leaders: *"This program brought out people's talents in wonderful new ways! People who never imagined that they could work with kids had a great time -- and they were even willing to sign up for kids events throughout the year."*

So go for it! Look beyond "the usual suspects" of volunteers, and bring in some new faces. You'll find that as you begin asking people to fill smaller, more specific roles, folks will come out of the woodwork.

Carmen Kamrath is associate editor for Children's Ministry Magazine. Subscribe at www.childrensministry.com



Have you been passing on the baton to the next generation?