



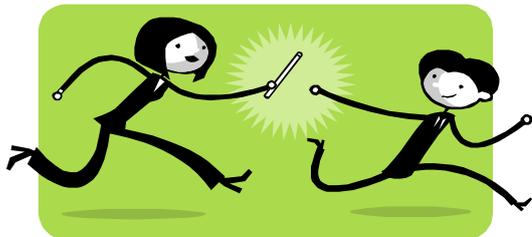
TREASURE CHEST

Quarterly/ Free
Aug 2010 issue

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

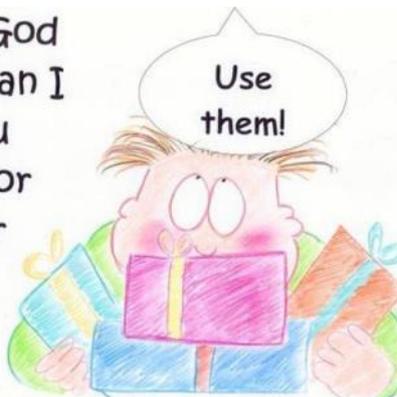
Produced by Children's Ministry Network in W.A.

e: wa@cmn.org.au w: www.cmn.org.au/wahome



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

Dear God
How can I
pay you
back for
all your
gifts?
Amen



www.prayercartoons.com

ENCOURAGEMENT - Just do it!

"The finest gift you can give anyone is encouragement. Yet, almost no one gets the encouragement they need to grow to their full potential. If everyone received the encouragement they need to grow, the genius in most everyone would blossom and the world would produce abundance beyond the wildest dreams."

—Sidney Madwed

Yes, these are words from a motivational writer - yet they are so true. In Hebrews 10:24 & 25, 1 Thessalonians 5 and several other Bible passages, it talks about encouraging one another. For many people, the Aussie mentality is to "knock people" rather than to build them up.

Encourage is to give courage, inspiration or hope to people in order to help them continue on in life.

QUOTES & COMMENTS

- God wants to bless children, and often times He uses you to do it on His behalf.
- *George Barna* in his book 'Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions' writes, "the greatest evangelistic window currently available is among young children. According to the data gathered, children, ages 5 through 13 have a 32% probability of coming to Christ while teenagers and adults have just a 4% and 6% probability respectively of doing so". Barna continued in the report to state "that if a person does not accept Christ as Saviour before the age of 14 the likelihood of ever doing so is slim."
- "Save a man and you save a unit; save a boy and you save a multiplication table." - *Gypsy Smith*
- *Dr. Paul D. Meier*, Christian medical doctor, psychologist and author estimates that 85 percent of a person's attitudes toward life are formed by the time he/she enters school.
- "We in the church are really not too smart, because we put 85 percent of our efforts where we will get 15 percent of the results, and we put 15 percent of our efforts where we will get 85 percent of the results." *Howard Hendricks* (Dallas Theological Seminary professor) on the importance of reaching children.

There are numbers of different ways that we can encourage people ... through our actions, our speech, our attitudes, our teachings, our prayers ... the big things and the little things.

To your volunteers or co-workers, bless them -

- *Mention something specific that you saw your volunteer do well.*
- *Pray for your co-workers.*
- *Write a personal note, email or card; make a phone call or give a small gift in appreciation of their ministry.*
- *Mention their value as a person as well as their accomplishments for God.*
- *Speak positively about them in front of others (but don't over-do it).*

To the children in your ministry, bless them -

- *Send written notes (via their family) to let them know they are an important part of your church/ club.*
- *Use words that build self-esteem and to let them know God has a plan for their lives.*
- *Remember birthdays and other special events in their lives.*
- *Pray for them, and let them know they are in your thoughts and prayers.*
- *Show interest in their everyday lives - sport, pets, school, family, etc.*

No matter what approach you take to encouraging your family, friends, pastor/ leader, co-workers or children in your kids ministry, the most important thing is to **Just Do It!** Have a plan and follow it through - and 'mean what you say' because people can sense 'phonies'.

CMN Training Events/ Conferences – 2011

- **Passing the Baton Training Day & Expo** - Saturday 12th February 9.00am—5.00pm
Tammy Tolman, David Goodwin plus many other elective presenters from around Australia. 40+ expo stalls of children's ministry resources. Venue: TBA (Perth). Put it in your diary now & enthuse others. *Details available and registrations commence in November 2010.*
- **Leaders To Go** - a national (live-in) conference for leaders of Australian & NZ children's ministries. 17-20 May 2011 **Maroochydore** in Queensland.
- **Power Up** - small group intensive training for children's ministry workers. 6 full days spread over 2011 (June to November). We currently have 20 doing the course for 2010. In Perth metro area.

Contact CMN WA for more details wa@cmn.org.au

What to include in a kids holiday club:

*Games Stories Craft Teaching
Refreshments Singing Object Lessons
Puppets Cooking Small Groups Drama
... plus loads of fun and activities*

Mr Perfect the Mug

There was once 3 mugs that lived in a palace. They were specially made for the King's use. Sometimes he drank coffee, sometimes tea and sometimes just a boring mug of iced double chocolate flavoured milk with a scoop of toffee flavoured ice cream and sprinkled with hundreds and thousands ... and a curly straw.

Now mugs don't always have good ideas, but it was a Saturday and one mug said, "Let's go down to the muddy creek and have a swim. Then we'll fill up on green slime from the river and finally stain our inside with oil that's dripping out of the palace's ride on lawn mower." This sounded great fun to two of the mugs. However, the other wanted to keep himself clean because the King might have wanted to use him one day. The other two mugs called him names and laughed at 'Mr. Perfect'. He felt lonely and upset because that's often how you feel when you're the odd one out - and everyone is laughing at you. But deep down inside he knew keeping pure was the right thing.



Late one evening, the King, dressed in his pyjamas, slippers and beanie, came into the palace kitchen when all his servants were asleep in bed. He desperately felt like a nice mug of warm chocolate with a marshmallow floating in it. He came to the 3 mugs and they all cried out, "Pick me! Pick me!" The King looked at each of the mugs and screwed up his nose at the two stained smelly mugs. In his best royal voice he said, "Stinky pooh! How on earth can I use these two mugs?" He picked up the pure, clean mug and made that delicious drink. "Aahh! Yummie chocolate with marshmallows," he said. The mug smiled. "I'm glad I kept myself pure & clean for the King," he whispered to himself.

Read the full story (plus others) in **More Than Gold** resource book.

16 stories for kids with a message - \$5 plus post

Available from OAC Ministries

e: wa@oac.org.au w: oac.org.au/wa

6 Reasons to Run a Kids Holiday Club at your Church

Many churches around Australia run a 4 or 5 day kids club during the school holidays - either 9.00am - 12.00 or 1.30 - 4.30pm. Often parents are looking for cheap activities for their kids to attend during the school holidays.

1. Kids love it. If you're doing it right, Kids Club is just plain fun, and the kids love it. Fun is, of course, not the major reason we run it, but when kids are having fun, they are more apt to be paying attention and learning, and also they are more likely to invite their friends.

2. It's a great outreach opportunity. Again, when something is fun, kids are likely to invite their friends who may not necessarily attend a regular church or hear the good news of Jesus elsewhere. Families may also be contacted and even attend the final program where church activities are introduced, enthusiastic adults are met & the gospel is simply explained.

3. It is an opportunity to give children a positive experience of God in a safe environment. Too often 'religion' is a negative experience for children and so over the rest of their life they judge God and the church on those early experiences. By providing a safe environment (no put-downs or negative talk but encouraging words and a build-up zone) the child can have a far different attitude of God which will be carried right throughout their life.



4. It gives the kids in your church a chance to spend some time together in a healthy environment.

In addition to reaching out to the community, holiday clubs lets your regular church kids spend some time together building relationships with each other as well as with godly adults, who are to be a role model. This relationship building is usually limited during the regular 1 hour weekly program.

5. It gives adults a chance to serve. Many people who won't sign up for a six month or year long commitment will commit to one week. Many older people will be delighted to help with catering, craft or other activities. It may be a great opportunity for finding new volunteers for your regular kids ministry.

6. You get to build relationships with adults. In addition to relationships with kids, you get to serve with other people from your church that you might not have a chance to meet otherwise. It is a great time to initiate lasting friendships and helps build a community spirit within your church.

Want more ideas on how to run a kids holiday club?
The WA Children's Ministry Network can help put you
in contact with the right information.

Email: wa@cmn.org.au