



# TREASURE CHEST

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

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

## SMILE :)

A mother heard her daughter praying:  
"Now I lay me down to rest,  
I pray I pass tomorrows test.  
If I should die before I wake,  
That's one less test I'll have to take."



*I not only use all the brains that I have, but all that I can borrow.*

Woodrow Wilson

## HELPFUL HINTS

1. Subscribe to regular Christian publications that will keep you up to date with current happenings, ideas, trends, etc.



2. Meet regularly with other people involved in kids' ministry - share ideas, resources, etc.  
(Proverbs 27:17)

3. When a distraction occurs in your program, address it immediately. It is the best way to regain the groups attention.

4. Always be consistent and fair.

5. Maintain your sense of humour.

6. Be a model (example) for your group. Be authentic.

7. Gradually build a stockpile of resources.

## A KEY TO DISCIPLINE CHALLENGES

There's one simple word that is the answer to many of your discipline challenges. The word is **engaged**. When kids are engaged, most discipline challenges fade away.

So how do you engage kids? Here's a few tips.

**Stay within kids' attention spans:** Design your program in segments of around 5 minutes each. Some may be longer and others shorter.

**Use methods that gain and hold kids' attention:** Use a variety of visuals and creative methods. Variety is the spice of life.

**Learn what doesn't engage your kids:** Over the weeks and months, get your leaders to note times when your kids lose interest and become disengaged. Brainstorm among your leaders later and make a list of how you can creatively deal with such situations.

**Involve the kids:** Don't just put on an up-the-front presentation, but have some or all of the kids actively involved in the program. For example: questions, discussion/ feedback, drama with kids involved, use a video camera, hands-on activities, craft, games, assisting the leader up front, etc. The level of involvement must be age appropriate.

**Engage kids' senses:** Try and use at least 3 of the senses to assist in your teaching - touch, hearing, sight, taste, smell. And don't forget the sense of humour and also let the kids use their imagination as you creatively describe events in your story. Allow the kids to experience God's Spirit ministering to their spirit - we need to minister to both their mind and their heart.

**Engage kids' learning styles:** Kids learn better when you tap into their 'primary' learning style. - do a study on the various styles. Some people learn best through seeing, some through doing, others through hearing.

The mind is an amazing and complex part of a child. Don't be discouraged if you sometimes see a child daydreaming or disengaged. It happens to all of us at times. It's when it constantly happens that alarm bells should be ringing!

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Nothing is certain except what and taxes?

## How NOT to Raise a Bully

Nobody likes a school bully, and no parent wants to raise one. There's a lot you can do while your kids are young to prevent that from happening



When kids bully, it's almost always a cry for help. They're lashing out against others in order to get attention, or to feel better about themselves. Bullies tend to be deeply insecure and frustrated internally. It's a self-image problem more than an aggression problem.

Make sure your children feel special and important. Kids thrive on love, not criticism. When you

laugh with them, make sure you aren't laughing at their expense. Even harmless joking can damage a child's sense of worth. Praise them when they succeed, and praise them when they don't. Kids need tons of encouragement, even when they fall short. Above all, never discipline through intimidation. Always discipline out of love, not anger.

Kids who feel special seldom feel the need to put others down.

## FOLLOW UP RESOURCE

### Follow-Up with Foxy Discipleship Cards

It is hard to think of a perfect follow up system for children that can help them on the way to discipleship. We think we have found the answer by using cards that children love to collect. They are printed on permanent plastic that not even putting through the wash will destroy! There are twelve cards that can be given out one at a time, week by week. On the other hand, if you are not likely to be in regular contact, they can be given to the children as a whole set and there is enough information laid out in a simple way, to begin their Christian journey.

- One set of cards
- Ten sets of cards
- Thirty sets of Cards

Kit that includes a Foxy Puppet and scripts to go with the message that is on the cards, and ten sets of cards. Contact Kidsreach for current prices.



Available from

Kidsreach Children's Services

North Richmond, NSW 2754

M: 0414 859 020

W: <http://www.kidsreach.org.au/>

E: [david.kidsreach@gmail.com](mailto:david.kidsreach@gmail.com)

## OBJECT LESSON

### What's down in the well comes up in the bucket

**Point:** Whatever is in our heart will come out in our words, actions and attitudes. Garbage in, garbage out.

**Brief Outline:** An imaginary story about a bucket and a well helps us understand that we need to be careful about what we fill our mind and heart with. What's down in the well comes up in the bucket.

**Key Verse:** The mouth speaks what the heart is full of. The good person brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the bad person brings bad things out of the bad stored up in him. (Matthew 12:34, 35)

**Needed:** Bucket with a 2 metre length of light rope tied on the handle; Bible

**Lesson:** Well, well, well. What have we here? It's a bucket with a length of rope tied to its handle. Hand up if you have ever been on a farm? Well, I want you to imagine that I live on a farm and at the back of the farmhouse is a well.

So imagine one day I go to my well and lower my bucket into it and then pull it up. (*Lower and raise the bucket with the rope*) If there was fresh, clean water in the well, what would come up in the bucket? (*Get response*) Of course, fresh, clean water, because 'What's down in the well comes up in the bucket'. (*Get the children to repeat that sentence with you.*) However, imagine if one day, without me knowing, a sheep came to the well and fell into it and drowned. Two months later I come with my bucket and lower it into the well. Well ... the sheep had now all decayed and there were maggots in the water. When I pull up the bucket, if there was polluted water in the well, what would come up in the bucket? (*Get response*) That's right, polluted water, because 'What's down in the well comes up in the bucket'.

Well, let's stretch our imagination a bit further. What if someone sneaked onto my farm with a bottle of poison and poured the poison into the well. The next day I lower my bucket into the well. Now if there's poisoned water in the well, what comes up in the bucket? (*Get response*) - Poisoned water of course, because 'What's down in the well comes up in the bucket'. (*Get the children to say that sentence with you.*)

Our minds are like a well. Sometimes our hearts and minds have been polluted by bad language and dirty jokes. Well, it's then that out of our mouths will come bad language and dirty jokes, because 'What's down in the well comes up in the bucket'. Maybe our hearts are full of bad attitudes or violence because we've filled them with garbage from certain TV shows. It's then that out of our lives will come bad attitudes and maybe even violence, because 'What's down in the well comes up in the bucket'. It may show in our speech or our actions or even our attitudes.

There's an old saying about computers that goes ... 'Garbage in, garbage out.' If you feed incorrect information (garbage) into a computer, then garbage is going to come out. We need to be very careful what we put into our wells, that is, our minds and hearts, because it affects the way we live. (Read Matt. 12:34, 35 - see above)



Resource book: **Everyday Object lessons**. 36 lessons. (\$6.00) Available from **OAC Ministries** [wa@oac.org.au](mailto:wa@oac.org.au)