



LEADING A CHILD TO CHRIST



One of the greatest privileges in life is to lead another person to salvation in Jesus Christ. To share the good news of Christ's salvation with a spiritually hungry or sin-laden person, no matter what his age, is a great honor. There are special joys when it comes to sharing the gospel with children. As a worker in Vacation Bible School, you may have the opportunity to lead a child to the Savior. The contents of this page will help you share the gospel clearly and confidently with children.

1. PREPARE

Pray every day for each child. Pray that he may come under the Holy Spirit's conviction and that he will come to know Christ during VBS. Present the plan of salvation every day. Some children may not attend every day of VBS. Be sure to share the gospel daily.

2. PRESENT THE GOSPEL—AS EASY AS A-B-C

A

ADMIT to God you are a sinner. Heaven is a wonderful place with wonderful things. There is one thing that is not allowed in Heaven—SIN. Because everyone sins (“All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23), something must be done about that sin. If the child is under conviction, explain that he must admit he has sinned and repent of his sin.

B

BELIEVE that Jesus died in your place and rose again for you. Encourage the child to trust that Jesus died on the cross for him. “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved” (Acts 16:31).

C

CALL upon Jesus to save you. If the child understands the effect of sin and the fact that Jesus died for him, encourage him to call on the Lord in prayer, admitting his sin and trusting Jesus to save him. God's Word reads, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

Assurance—If the child prays to receive Christ as his Savior, have him read John 6:47 and ask him:

- Who gave you this promise? (Jesus) • What did He say to do? (believe on Him) • Have you done that? • What did Jesus say a person would have? (everlasting life) • What do you have? (everlasting life)

Follow-up—If a child receives Christ, encourage him to tell his parents about the decision. Give your pastor and the Sunday School teacher the child's name and information. Be sure you follow up on the child with a visit after VBS to help him grow in Christ.

3. POINTERS

- When you share the message of the gospel, use words and phrases children will understand. Avoid the use of symbolism because most children are literal thinkers and are confused by abstract ideas.
- Avoid leading questions (questions that contain the answer). A child, eager to please, may simply give you the answer he thinks you want to hear.
- Present the gospel without pressure. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to convict the tender conscience of the child and draw him to Jesus. Avoid pressure, manipulation or scare tactics when sharing the gospel.
- Use an open Bible when sharing the gospel and let the child follow along as you read the verses.
- Let the child pray to God in his own words. Avoid the temptation to put words in his mouth. After he prays to receive Christ, encourage the child to thank God for his salvation.