

Letter from the President

Children have their whole lives ahead of them. And everywhere they go they meet people. Have you ever thought about just how many people one child interacts with throughout the course of his or her life? The best part is that if that child is equipped with the Gospel, then the Gospel goes everywhere they go.

Evangelism Explosion for Kids (we call it Hope for Kids) has been doing just that—equipping kids with the Gospel. The Hope for Kids training has the potential of reaching millions of kids for Christ. It took the best of two ministries, Evangelism Explosion International and OneHope, both dedicated to reaching children all over the world, to unite together to make this happen.

The importance of reaching kids for Christ cannot be understated. Children are a vibrant part of the church today and in the future. They do not need to be entertained. They do not need only character and scripture study. They need to know the Gospel well enough to have it impact their personal lives and they need to know how to share the Gospel with others. What Hope for Kids has taught us all is that kids CAN grasp the Gospel message, share it with others, teach others how to share it, and have impact for the Kingdom. The partnership between EE and OneHope is indeed a partnership made in Heaven.

God bless you as you embark on the greatest adventure of all, equipping kids with the Gospel, and giving hope to millions of kids around the world.

Rev. John B. Sorensen

President, Evangelism Explosion International



Hope for Kids Teacher's Book

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Hope for Kids Teacher's Book

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ORIENTATION

Introduction

Welcome to the Hope for Kids training. This ministry has been developed through a partnership between Evangelism Explosion International and OneHope. Through Hope for Kids, we believe that children can deepen their understanding of the Gospel and that they can share it with others.

The Purpose of Hope for Kids

The purpose of Hope for Kids is to glorify God by

- equipping adults worldwide to teach children the Gospel, and to
 - clarify the Gospel for children,
 - bring children to saving faith in Jesus Christ, and
 - assist children to become witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Biblical Basis of Hope for Kids

- Every Christian is to be a witness. (Mark 1:17, Acts 1:8)
- Christians need to be equipped to share the Gospel. (Ephesians 4:11-12)
- Equipping is best done by on-the-job training. (Mark 3:14)
- Training soul winners is more important than merely winning souls.
 (2 Timothy 2:2)
- Children are a gift from the Lord. (Psalm 127:3)
- Children have a special place in Jesus' heart. (Mark 10:13-16)
- The truths that adults have learned from the Gospel must be passed on to successive generations. (Psalm 78:1-7)
- Children need to understand the Gospel and experience salvation at an early age. (2 Timothy 3:14-15)
- Children can and should be trained to share the Gospel with others.
 (1 Peter 3:15)
- As a model for children, Jesus, at an early age, began serving His Father.
 (Luke 2:41-52)

These biblical truths are the very heart of the Hope for Kids ministry. As you read this manual and use the Hope for Kids materials, we trust you will see how these principles operate throughout it.

Hope for Kids Teaching Approach

In planning Hope for Kids, you should think of the total experience you want your children to have while they are with you. Therefore, the atmosphere and attitudes of those people teaching and sharing are as important as the "lesson," maybe more!

Children's Learning Styles and the Learning and Retention Pyramid

Hope for Kids learning styles are based on the use of seeing, hearing, movement, "touch and feel" and printed materials. Although children generally prefer one learning style to another, using a variety enhances learning. Therefore, Hope for Kids has developed a complete set of visual materials, illustrations, discussions, and practicing for use in teaching children the Gospel Pathway. For example, in every unit, the children make or are given a Take Home Item that provides a practical illustration of one of the main concepts they learned during that unit. They are encouraged to use the Take Home Item to share with others what they have learned.

The "Learning and Retention Pyramid" shows a comparison of different learning styles and the importance of using active learning in teaching children.

Learning and Retention Pyramid

