

Helping Hand - My God - His Power in My Life

Requirement

- A. Spend a regular quiet time with Jesus to talk with Him and learn about Him.
- B. Work with an adult to choose one thing in your life that you would like to improve. With Jesus' help, pray, plan, and work together to reach your goal.

Goal of this track

To facilitate the development of a growing and fruitful relationship between the child and Jesus Christ.

Concept Included in This Component

Prayer, Bible study, witness, living for Christ.

Objective of this component

Upon completion of the Adventurer requirements the children will:

- Know: how to build a growing relationship with God,
Feel: the joy which comes from living for Him, and a determination to persevere, and
Respond: by spending a quiet time with God and growing more like Him every day.

Background Information

If a child learns at an early age to set aside daily time for private devotions, and if the child is helped to make this a habit, it will be easier to avoid that long, uphill struggle that most Christians face in "finding" time for God.

Because families have widely differing schedules and levels of commitment, and because children have differing levels of ability and interest, the requirement leaves the frequency, length, and format of these "quiet times" open. These factors can be decided upon by the child in consultation with a parent or leader, ranging from the ideal of daily morning and evening devotions to a minimum of weekly Sabbath, class, or club worship for those who are unable to participate in any other way. In the beginning, a parent or other adult will need to spend the quiet time with the child, teaching him or her how to enjoy spending time with Jesus.

One of the greatest challenges of Christian living is to learn to change unproductive habit patterns and to build positive ones. This responsibility often seems overwhelming to a young Christian. The presence of an older experienced Christian may provide a great deal of help and encouragement.

Teaching Tips

- Present the importance of private devotions after the child has become acquainted with Jesus' love and plan for him or her. Establishing a habit of spending time with Jesus as a friend requires dedicated guidance and supervision from both parents and leaders.
- A commitment card for children is provided in the workbook.
- The Adventurer leader can encourage private devotions in several ways.

1. Share some personal experiences with private devotions.
 2. Talk of the benefits of a regular quiet time.
 3. Provide frequent occasions for children to discuss their experiences.
 4. Frequently discuss times, places and methods for enjoying the quiet time.
 5. Make available a wide variety of devotional reading material.
 6. Help and encourage parents to assist their children in regular private (and family) devotions.
- See the stories and texts in the previous sections. Also use:
 Psalm 146:3-5 - "Put not your trust in princes. . ."
 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "God. . . will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able. . ."
 - Quotations:
 "Each is to improve his talents to the uttermost; and faithfulness in doing this, be the gifts few or many, entities one to honour." (*Child Guidance*, pages 293-294)
 "Have you only one talent? Put it out to the exchangers, by wise investment increasing it to two Use your talent so wisely that it will fulfil its appointed mission." (*Messages to Young People*, page 301)
 "It is a fearful thing to use God-given abilities in such a way as to scatter blight and woe instead of blessing in society. It is also a fearful thing to fold the talent entrusted to us in a napkin and hide it away in the world." (*Messages to Young People*, page 37)
 "All that we are, all the talents and capabilities we possess, are the Lord's to be consecrated to His service." (*Messages to Young People*, page 161)
 - To introduce requirement B, discuss the power of habit and tell a realistic story of how you or someone else worked with Jesus to change a habit.
 - Assist each Helping Hand in choosing a caring and mature Christian adult whom he or she feels comfortable talking with. If parents do not meet the above criteria, other people such as a pastor, Sabbath School teacher, Adventurer leader or counsellor, school principal, or family friend may be suggested. The child and adult should meet together several times to share feelings and ideas, assess the success of the project, and make necessary changes in plans. The meetings may be terminated when child and adult agree that the goal has been reached and acted upon successfully for a reasonable length of time.
 - There is a project sheet provided in the workbook which may be used by the Helping Hand and an adult helper who will guide in this project. The adult helper should assist the child in choosing an individually meaningful and reachable goal. (They may want to plan a way in which the child can reward themselves for making progress toward the desired goal.)
 - The Adventurer leader may hold one or more "debriefings" to allow the children to talk about the feelings and experiences they have had as they worked on their projects.

Norm's Notes

The first part of this component in each class is the same, having to do with the Adventurer spending a quiet time with Jesus, to talk and learn about Him. The second part of the requirement varies with class:

Busy Bee	"Ask three people why they pray"
Sunbeam	"Ask three people why they study the Bible"
Builder	"Ask three people why they are glad to belong to Jesus"
Helping Hand	"Work with an adult to choose one thing in your life that you would like to improve. . ."

Notice the progression growth in spiritual life. Try to influence the children so that the first part of the requirement includes the growth that is there in the second part. Remind them that "talking and learning" means growth, when the person you are talking to is Jesus.

In your discussion while doing this requirement try to make sure that the children have really reached a goal of improving something in their life with Jesus' help

The material here is taken from pages 14, 19 and 152 - 153 of the printed manual.