

## YOUR JUNIOR CRUSADER CLUB

### NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Everywhere there are boys and girls who need the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. Modern methods of the educational field, television, and the amusement world offer attractive inducements to today's children. We need to make the Bible thrillingly real, its message of salvation so gripping that little hearts will be wooed and won to Christ.

### THE AIM . . .

Since 80% of the children attending Sunday School leave without accepting Christ and since there are scores who never attend Sunday School, we urge that Junior Crusader Clubs be organized in every neighborhood where Reformed Baptists are located. The purpose of the Club is to lead the child into a saving knowledge of Christ, and to aid him in the development of Christian character.

### THE WORD . . .

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee." Memorization of the word of God should become an important phase of the Junior Crusader Club. To motivate interest, a series of verses has been prepared with suitable free awards available. (Write the Child Evangelism Director for the list). Each child should thoroughly master each verse before an award is given. Be sure that he understands the scripture learned.

Memorizing designated parts of our Catechism should also become an important phase of our Junior Crusader Club.

### THE COURSES OF STUDY . . .

There are many courses of study which can be used in the club. Irene Ranney's Gospel of John or Ruth Overholtzer's, "The Bible, the Word of God," are both excellent as beginning courses. In your selection of a course be sure to secure one emphasizing the salvation story. Much depends upon the way the lesson is concluded and the manner in which the invitation to receive Christ is given.

### THE LEADER . . .

A warm heart of love for children, consecration to God, and the realization of the need about you are essential qualifications to become a Bible Crusader Club Leader. A constant study of God's Word with full reliance upon the Holy Spirit and a daily prayer life combine to make you an effective Children's worker.

To become more efficient in methods and procedure it is recommended that each club leader enroll in a Child's Evangelism Training Course. (Recommended courses will be suggested by your Child Evangelism director).

### ORGANIZATION . . .

Begin with prayer. Secure God's guidance, then go ahead with your plans. If the Club is to be held in your home, invite the children nearest to you. After the first meeting they will become missionaries bringing others to the club. Select a home most suitable to the group.

If you wish to hold a club in the neighborhood other than your own, secure the use of a home in a suitable location. Obtain permission to pass out invitations to the school children. Call on the parents of those interested, explaining to them your project. If the response is too great to house all the children in one home, secure another and find a leader to care for that group.

If it seems best to hold services in the church building, make sure reverence is observed at all times.

### THE CLUB ITSELF . . .

Always be in your place a few minutes before the children arrive. Have everything in readiness to start the meeting. Be sure there are plenty of chairs and so arranged that discipline problems will be minimized. A carefully, prayerfully, pre-planned program with every moment filled will enlist the children's interest. Variety in the program, a spiritual emphasis, and memorization of Scripture verses together with some of the old hymns will keep the children coming.

If possible, secure a helper. Good music adds much to the club, and where possible either the director or the helper should be able to conduct a lovely song service. The assistant can also keep the records of the weekly attendance, hear the memory verses, keep the records for the wards, help in the discipline, welcome the children, and otherwise become useful to the successful conducting of the club.

### SUGGESTED PROGRAM . . .

QUIET TIME of one minute with brief prayer by leader.

### CHORUSES — SWORD DRILL

OLD HYMN of the church (Illustrate. Have the children memorize it).

REQUEST TIME (Children give their requests and learn to present them to God. It would be well for the leaders to keep a record and watch for answers to prayer, calling the children's attention to the answers at a later date).

### TEACHING NEW MEMORY VERSE

### GOSPEL SONG

LESSON STORY (Present in variety of ways including flannelgraph, object lesson, chalk talks, outside speakers, missionary lessons, etc.)

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## Just a Child

One day, many years ago, someone asked concerning the news of the day. A reply was made, "There is no news except that a baby boy was born over at Tom Lincoln's last night." Just a boy—but how little thought was given to the potentialities wrapped up in that young life.

Just a boy, just a girl—that is the way some people still consider children today. More and more, however, a majority of people are realizing the great possibilities wrapped up in the heart of a child.

We are all conscious of what has been accomplished by nations who have employed intensive educational programs among their youth, desiring to take from them a knowledge of God and the heart peace attending a salvation experience.

American youth need Christian training. Relatively few enjoy Christian home atmospheres and the blessings issuing from a godly environment. One of the greatest missionary opportunities of the day lies in this field. **WHAT ARE YOU DOING PERSONALLY TO BRING THE CHILDREN IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE?**

One could read startling facts revealing the gross ignorance of our youth concerning the Bible and the way of salvation. As a teacher of youth, I am constantly aware of the unrest and the waywardness for God which is enveloping our young people. It is startling and should drive every adult to his knees to cry out, "O God, what can I do and where does my responsibility lie?"

I am sure if parents were aware of the type of temptation surrounding their teen-age youngsters in this day, we would have churches full of parents on their knees, pleading with God to save their youth. The parents would be willing to do anything and everything to help in regular youth services. Too many parents are asleep to the dangers their child is facing, thus they sit idly by while another child is lost.

The Junior Crusaders set up by the leaders of our denomination marks the beginning of a special campaign to reach these boys and girls with the Gospel.

We need Christian mothers in every church who will do her best to teach the youth, Bible truths. The scripture says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." I firmly believe this to be true, because it is the testimony of many adults who were trained in the ways of God when they were children. Even though some are not saved today, they still are constantly aware of that early training.

Who can estimate the greatness of the task that must be undertaken by the one who endeavors to lead a child in the way of Christ? The Gospel is a wonderful message that can truly grip the hearts of boys and girls. But too often we have been guilty of failure to make the gospel message attractive. With the world using every modern method to beckon the child's mind toward things of sin, we must make the truths of the Gospel as attractive as possible to the children by using various forms of visual education, gospel story-telling and lively singing to make an impression on the pliable mind of the child.

I have been asked many questions about child evangelism. Can a child be saved? Are

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