

**HOPE**   
**FOR ONE**

**ONE CHILD**  
**ONE GOD**  
**ONE HOPE**



**LEVEL 2:**  
**Next Level Training Manual**

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# THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING FUN

The purpose of a Hope Club is to preach and teach the Gospel message and reach the children and families in your community with the love of Christ. Although this goal is serious, your approach to reaching children shouldn't be. **Children love to have fun!**

- If you have fun the children will have fun. They will want to come back and bring more friends with them. Your Hope Club should be the most exciting and fun thing happening in the community and the best time of their week.

## Helpful Tips:

- **Play games.**
- **Bring something to play with** - *ie. soccer ball, jump rope, etc.*
- **Don't be afraid to be silly** - *don't take yourself too seriously!*
- **Find things to laugh about** - everyone loves to laugh!

## HOW & WHEN TO HAVE FUN

It can't be all fun and games, it's important to know when to have fun and when to be serious.

- **Fun Time:**
  - Group games that involve a lot of children.
  - Play tag or other chasing games.
  - Foot races and running competitions.
  - Dance contests.
- **Praise Time:**
  - Songs - all songs should have actions.
  - Gospel Points - include fun movements or a fun dance move.
  - Memory Verse - include actions that match with the verse each week.
- **Game Time fun:**
  - Lead the children in cheering for their team and celebrate a win with them also!

# PRAISE AND WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN

Praise and worship are key aspects in the life of any Christian, and that certainly includes children too of course! That's why the Hope Club program is designed with a specific time just for songs.

## WHY IS PRAISE & WORSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Praising God is an important time that seeks to lift up God's name, sing about His goodness and thank Him for the things that He's done in our lives. Usually, Praise songs are fast and upbeat, accompanied by clapping and dancing.

Generally, worship songs are slower paced, centered around who God is and how great He is. Worship is an important time that allows us to focus and go deeper into the presence of God.

Children are not too young to have a personal relationship with God. Teaching children how to praise and worship God will strengthen their relationship with Him in their everyday lives.

### **Practical Tips:**

- Plan to sing 2-4 simple songs at your Hope Club. Try starting with upbeat and fun praise songs that are easy for the children to remember. Also try singing 1 slower, also simple, worship song.
- Teach the children the words to the songs. Don't assume that everyone knows the song, take a moment to recap the words and briefly summarize what they mean.

*\*Note: be sure to sing child-friendly songs! Don't sing songs with big 'church' words. Simplify the words so that a child can understand the meaning of what they are singing, that is when praise and worship can become personal and real to them.*

- Teach the children the actions to the songs. Go over the actions for each part of the song, that way any new children can feel included and are able to fully participate.
- Lead by example. Don't just instruct the children on what to do, let the children follow your example.

# WORKING TOGETHER AS A TEAM

## TEAM - THE BIG PICTURE

Being a part of a Hope Club team is so much bigger than just your local community and church. In fact, you are a part of a larger global Hope Club team; one that extends beyond your city, your country and even your continent!

### **TEAM means:**

- **T**ogether
- **E**veryone
- **A**chieves
- **M**ore

## YOUR LOCAL HOPE CLUB TEAM

Remember, no position is more important than any other! Every position is important and necessary to the success of the overall Hope Club program.

- **Position A:** *Action on Stage.*
- **Position B:** *Background Helper.*
- **Position C:** *Crowd Control.*

### **Practical Teamwork Tips:**

- **WATCH:**
  - Always watch the children and your fellow team members.
- **LISTEN:**
  - Always listen to the person on stage.
- **HELP:**
  - If you see a need, whether with a child or fellow team member, be the one to meet.
- **PRAY:**
  - Pray together as a team. Nothing unites people like prayer.

## CONNECTING WITH PEOPLE

Connecting with people is very important and the unseen strength of your Hope Club. If you don't make an effort to connect with the children and their families in your community, then you won't have as many people attending your Hope Club. Ultimately, the more you connect with people, the more you will see your Hope Club grow and the greater impact you will have in your community.

### PROGRAM PROMOTION & PERSONAL VISITATION

**Promote your Hope Club out in the Community** - on the day of your Hope Club, or even 1 day before, have some members of your team go out together into your local community and talk up the program. Be excited and literally invite everyone you see! Tell people where the Hope Club will be and what time it will start.

- *Helpful Suggestion: find highly populated areas, such as a marketplace, shopping area or even a school. Go where the people are!*

**Make at-home Visits** - again, either the day of or 1 day before your Hope Club, have some members from your team visit children and families at their homes. A personal home visit is really about going the extra mile to show children and their families that you care about them personally.

- *Helpful Suggestion: as you get to know children and their families, ask them where they live. Be up front, tell them that you would like to come by to visit them if they would be ok with that. Building a roster with home locations/addresses can be very helpful in organizing your team to go out and make home visits.*

### BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

#### **Practical Tips:**

- Introduce yourself - ask people their names and tell them yours.
- Give people lots of high-fives, hugs and smiles.
- Ask people questions and show interest in their lives.
- Compliment and encourage people as you talk to them.
- Offer to pray for someone.