



Teaching Kids to Evangelize

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Jodi and Jeff were now a part of our family. With the remarriage of my father, I now had a new mom, a new brother, and a new sister. At age 12, that's a big deal! Soon I had the opportunity of kneeling by my bed with my new brother and sister and leading them to Jesus. What is it that prepared a bus kid like me to be able to lead my two new siblings to Jesus? It's the "brick by brick" principle.

Brick by brick children are taught the things of God. Brick by brick children learn the Bible. They learn to pray. They learn that Jesus died for our sins and that all need to receive Him.

Many adults are afraid to witness. They are afraid to share their faith. Many have never led someone to Jesus. Kids can be different. Kids are full of faith and trust. They are as bold as a lion and open to God's voice. So how do you teach kids to evangelize?

Give Them the Truth

First, teach kids that God wants all people to be saved. Children need to understand that without Jesus, all people are lost. Their friends, teachers, neighbors, and relatives are lost. Have children pray for the lost people in their lives. God will place a passion in their hearts for individuals He wants them to reach.

Give Them the Tools

Second, give kids the tools to witness. Children will witness even without tools, but tools will give them confidence and help them to be more successful. Teach children simple salvation methods, such as the ABCs of Salvation or the Roman Road.

ABCs of Salvation



Admit we are sinners.
(Romans 3:23)



Believe in Jesus. (Acts 16:31)



Confess our sins. (1 John 1:9)

Roman Road

Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:8;
10:9,10,13.

A great video for teaching about witnessing is entitled "Who Cares?" Once you own a copy, you are free to make copies for all your kids. They can take the video home and use it as a witnessing tool to witness to their friends. The BGMC flying disks are great witnessing tools as well. On the back of each disk is the plan of salvation for kids to present to their friends.

Hold witnessing practice sessions in your children's church or your classroom. Using one teacher and one child, have the teacher pretend to be a child

witnessing to an unsaved friend. Then switch roles and have the child witness to the teacher. Finally, pair off children and have them witness to each other. This gives them a chance to practice their tools, and it builds confidence.

Give Them the Gift

Third, help children seek God to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Jesus told the disciples that they would receive power to be His witnesses after they had been filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8). Children as well need to be filled with God's power. Teach children that according to Acts 1:8, God has this free gift for each of them to give them power and to help them witness. Have special altar times for kids who are seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Some great resources for teaching kids about the Holy Spirit are: the Young Explorers unit entitled *Super Sleuth: Lessons on the Holy Spirit*, and the books Mary and I have written entitled *The Infilling of the Holy Spirit* and *Why We Need the Holy Spirit*. These resources were written to help you help your children receive this gift.

Give Them the Time

And last, encourage children

to witness, and affirm their attempts. Give children time to testify in future class periods about their witnessing attempts. Praise them for their great efforts. Rejoice when kids lead people to Jesus. The enthusiasm to witness will spread from child to child!

As a child, I led my new sister and brother to Jesus. I don't remember who it was who taught me how to witness. Probably it was a combination of several of my teachers.

Somehow, by age 12, it was a natural part of my Christian walk. By that time, I understood that my two new siblings were lost and without Christ. Teachers had taught me God's Word and the plan of salvation. The Holy Spirit had anointed me to be a witness. My immediate desire for my new siblings was for them to know Christ. Brick by brick my young life had been prepared to influence theirs. Now it's our turn to prepare the next generation of young lives.

The "Who Cares?" video, BGMC flying disks, and all Young Explorers units are available from Gospel Publishing House, 1-800-641-4310.

If you would like information on Dave and Mary Boyd's booklets, *The Infilling of the Holy Spirit* and *Why We Need the Holy Spirit*, send an e-mail to: bgmc@ag.org.

Questions for Further Study—

1. Why do kids sometimes find it easier to witness than adults?
2. How can you place a passion for the lost in the hearts of the children you serve?
3. What is the best "tool" children can have to help them witness?

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