

2004 CPR

Introduction

During the 2004 Children's Prayer Revival we will focus on our worship to God: (1) we worship God because of who He is; (2) God should be first in our lives; and (3) how, where, and when to worship Him. These three points are the objectives of each lesson, respectively. A POWer line is given each service. This is a one-line statement the children learn that brings home the objective in simplest terms.

Our theme character is CeeDee, the choir director. This role can be played by your choir director, or by another volunteer, male or female. Of course, you may choose to use his/her given name, but in our lessons, we use CeeDee.

CeeDee has a good heart, but is excitable, frantic, and easily frustrated. She enters each service late, in a hurry, and becomes frustrated when things are not done "right." Of course, her desire is to be pleasing to the Lord; she just needs help learning how to please Him.

CeeDee wears a choir robe (or a baptismal robe), with a whistle around her neck. She keeps her clipboard (overloaded with papers) handy, as well as a stack of CDs which always seem to fall onto the floor in her rush to go places. CeeDee wants to be a perfectionist for God, but learns that all He wants is our sincere worship.

The director/lead teacher carries the bulk of the service. Musicians are needed or a CD player with children's worship songs pre-recorded in the order you want to sing. (This will save time and frustration.) A sound man can be a blessing during these services, especially when using CDs. Give everyone a copy of the schedule of the service so that all know what to play when.

Organization does not hinder the Spirit of God; rather it eliminates hindrances.

The children can be greeters and ushers; let them wear badges or vests to designate their position, and encourage them to do their best. Be sure the greeters know to arrive early to be in position. The ushers should know how to take the offering (which aisle to walk down, how to

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pass the offering plate, where to take the money). Children can also be praise singers, even those who do not have the best voices. Let the children know they are special and can worship God in spirit and in truth. Talent is not necessary to worship God.

Write each child's name on a craft stick and drop the sticks into a jar. Each service, draw from the jar to determine volunteers. Use this method anytime volunteers are needed during the service—praise singers, ushers, Bible readers, skit assistants. Replace the name sticks in the jar after everyone has had an opportunity to be used.

Each service begins with praise and worship. The best way to do this is to treat the service like adult service; sing worship songs the children know from adult service. Visitors will learn them quickly enough. Worship expecting the power of God to fall, just like “big church.” Some allowances will be made in text to reach the children on their level, but worship will be treated as it always is—in spirit and in truth.

More important than all of the above is the need for prayer warriors. This is a prayer revival for children, but revival comes by prayer and fasting. Before the revival can begin, have a time of prayer and fasting. Be sure to include the children; they can fast and pray, too. During the services, your seasoned prayer warriors should be sensitive to God's Spirit, watching for those children who desire something from God and could use some encouragement. Expect great things from God during this revival that is aimed to reach the hearts of the children.