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Evangelism Soccer Ball Project

"An Evangelism Tool for Kids Around the World"



This is an easy way to engage your children in the global ministry of the church while instilling the knowledge they can make a difference for other children around the world by helping them know Jesus.

Children's Pastor, Greg Nash of Gallatin, Tennessee First Church of the Nazarene created this activity for his kids (see the enclosed "Success Story" for more details.)

AUDIENCE: Children's Ministries

PURPOSE:

JESUS Film Harvest Partners and other Nazarene entities are joining forces to make the Evangelism Soccer Ball a global outreach to children and youth. Plans are in progress to coordinate soccer camps using the evangelism balls around the world. The goal is to distribute 10,000 Evangelism Soccer Balls by mid 2010.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- Awareness that children can make a difference in the lives of other kids.
- Knowledge about other world areas and cultures.
- Lead the children in your church to a personal relationship with Jesus using the Evangelism Soccer Ball.
- Children learn about helping others.
- Evangelism Soccer Balls sent to all parts of the world as an outreach tool to introduce others to Jesus.

MAKE THIS WORK FOR YOU:

1. Adapt the following supporting materials for your own needs.
 - Note to the Parents
 - Order Form
 - Stickers for the Money Bottle
 - "SCORE" Sheet Describing the Program
 - Paper Soccer Balls to Hang in the Church Window
2. Show the children the Evangelism Soccer Ball and explain the meaning of the colors. Visit www.JFHP.org for a link to order your own Evangelism Soccer Ball. Use this as a tool to lead your own children to Christ.
 - Black represents sin
 - Red is the pure blood of Christ
 - Gold represents the holiness of God
 - White is a pure heart before God
 - Green is growing in God's way
3. Work with the children to set a goal for the number of soccer balls to be "bought". Each ball is \$10. The global goal for the project is to distribute 10,000 soccer balls by mid 2010.
4. Set a date for the project to conclude - the recommended time is 4-6 weeks.

PRAYER EMPHASIS:

- Use the JESUS Film weekly Prayer and Praise email to pray for a specific world area. Sign up for the email at www.JFHP.org (Prayer and Praise Email). Show the children the area on the map and pray for the children in that country to know Jesus.
- Weekly, pray over each new paper soccer ball “bought”. Ask God to use this soccer ball to reach children and youth for Jesus.

KEY POINTS OF THE PROJECT:

- The point is not to buy soccer balls - the point is to reach people for Christ using the soccer balls.
- The children should pray over each paper soccer ball and for the lives which will be changed because of this project.
- The children are helping others around the world know Jesus.
- The children are helping do mission work for the Church of the Nazarene.
- Focus on talking with friends and family outside the church about “buying” soccer balls.

IDEAS FOR SUCCESS:

1. Kick off the project by having children explain the meaning of the soccer ball colors during a service.
2. Use a clear plastic water bottle. Put an “Evangelism Soccer Ball” sticker on the bottle. Allow the supporters to put their money in the bottle. The child will bring the bottle to a service similar to an alabaster march and place the bottles full of money at the front of the church.
3. Have children decorate small boxes to look like the Evangelism Soccer Ball using crayons, markers, fabric, glitter, construction paper, paint... to create their own money collection banks to take with them when asking for donations. The child will bring the box to a service similar to an alabaster march and place the box full of money at the front of the church.
4. Buy Halloween pumpkin shaped candy buckets, spray paint them white. Then allow the children to decorate these to look like an Evangelism Soccer Ball and use for money collection. The child will bring the bucket to a service similar to an alabaster march and place the bucket full of money at the front of the church.
5. Have a simple contest recognizing the child raising the most money and the child “selling” soccer balls to the most individuals.
6. Have children wear their own soccer uniforms when they collect the money and when they present the money to the church.
7. Ask businesses to “buy” soccer balls.
8. Invite local soccer teams (child or adult leagues and school teams) to “buy” 1, 2, 5 or 10 Evangelism Soccer Balls.
9. Kick off the project with a soccer camp. Have a two hour camp where members of school teams offer tips and drills for the children.
10. Start an Upward Soccer program at your church as an outreach tool. Learn more at www.upward.org. Kick off the Evangelism Soccer Ball Project as part of Upward Soccer.
11. Have a mission service focusing on the countries where soccer, also known as football, is most popular such as South America and South Africa where the 2010 World Cup will be held.
12. Celebrate the success of the project. Take lots of pictures and send them to drobbins@JFHP.org along with any special ways your children used to help other children know Jesus through the Evangelism Soccer Ball Project.

PROJECT CONCLUSION:

At the end of the project, please make your check payable to “JFHP” and include code AHE1023 in the memo line. Mail to JFHP, 15055 W. 116th Street, Olathe, KS 66062. Your church will receive 10% mission credit for this offering. We will process the funds in our office and then forward the information and funds to the Global Treasury Services Office.