

# Music with a Message

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## Why Should We Sing?

1. It is scriptural (Colossians 3:16).

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
2. It is a natural part of the child’s life—children often hum or sing as they play and work.
3. It is a tool to communicate Bible truths.
  - Music reaches the total child—his mind, heart, and will.
  - Truths are more easily retained when set to music.
  - Music gives the child an opportunity to participate.
4. It is a way to worship (Psalm 89:1).

## Six Things to Consider in Selecting a Song

Is the song—

- **Scriptural**—true according to God’s Word?
- **Singable** for you and the children?
- **Simple** for the children to understand?
- **Related** to the rest of the program?
- **Suitable** in length for the age level?
- **Enjoyable** enough to go into the week with the child?

## Four Steps of Teaching a New Song

**Know** the song yourself—the teacher must know the melody, the words and how to use the song visual.

- 1. Introduce** the song in a meaningful way.
  - Be enthusiastic.
  - Capture the children's attention.
  - Tell them when the song has a familiar tune.
- 2. Sing** or play the song for the children (You may wish to have it prerecorded).
  - Give them something to listen for.
  - Let those who know it help you sing.
  - Demonstrate motions.
  - Have the children sing the song with you while it is fresh in their memory.
- 3. Explain** the words and concepts and apply the truths to both the saved and unsaved children's lives.
- 4. Sing** the song together at least two or three more times.
  - Think of different ways to sing the song to add variety.
  - Sing the song one more time later on in the club.
  - Sing the song during club for at least the next two or three weeks.

## **Types of Songs to Use During Good News Club®**

- Opening and closing songs which bring unity and fellowship
- Songs with the message of salvation
- Action songs which teach a truth to help the children relax
- Songs about God's Word to help them appreciate the importance of God's Word (i.e. *Wonder Time*™, names of the books of the Bible)
- Songs related to the specific teaching of the memory verse and Bible lesson
- Songs for Christian living which will encourage and challenge the saved children

- Missionary songs
- Prayer songs
- Hymns which will help the children to “feel at home” in a church service
- A quiet song before prayer or the Bible lesson to help set the mood for that time

## Tips for Using Visualized Songs

- Hold the visual so that all the children can see it.
- Be careful not to cover the words with your fingers.
- Don’t sing to the visual—maintain eye contact with the children.
- Use children to help hold the visual only after they know the song.
- Have the helper stand on the side of the visual to receive the pages so that you can be in charge of turning the pages.
- Turn the page a word or two before the end.

## Visualized Songs Shown on DVD

From *CEF Press*®

- “I Believe the Bible”
- “Work on Your Attitudes”
- “Go”
- “Nothing But the Blood”
- “Good News to All the World”
- “1, 2, 3 Jesus Loves Me”
- “That’s the Gospel!”
- “Do You Know About Jesus?”
- “God Wants to Spend Time with Just You”
- “Do What’s Right”
- “Children All Around the World”
- “Let the Lord Have His Way”
- “Just Turn Around”

### From Bible Visuals International

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

### Teaching Aids to Help You Convey Music with a Message

1. Visualized songs (*CEF Press*®) [www.cefpres.com](http://www.cefpres.com)  
*CEF Press* offers visualized songs featuring large, bold type and printed in color. Music is available on a variety of subjects such as salvation, Christian growth, prayer, missions, worship and witnessing.
2. Songbooks and CDs (*CEF Press*)
  - *Growing Songs for Children 1 and 2*
  - *Kids Sing the Gospel 1 and 2*
  - *Salvation Songs Favorites*
3. *Children's Ministry Resource Bible* (*CEF Press*)
  - Full-page articles
    - “Teaching Children to Worship” (page 711)
    - “Books of the Old Testament” (page 1066)
    - “Books of the New Testament” (page 1271)
    - “Put a Song in Their Hearts” (page 751)
4. Visualized Songs (*Bible Visuals International*)  
[www.biblevisuals.org](http://www.biblevisuals.org)
5. *Teach Kids*® magazine [www.teachkidsmag.com](http://www.teachkidsmag.com)
  - Many ideas and helps for teaching