

## Achiever Activities

Note: Following Lessons #10, 21, 27, and 33 in Part 1 *Roots of Faith* there is an Award Ribbon icon. These are great places to specially recognize those clubbers who have completed the required memory work. Consider tangible as well as intangible ways to reward their hard work. Be creative!

### General thoughts:

Consider ways to express appreciation for their hard work memorizing Scripture in ways that are meaningful, convey recognition, and are appropriate to them. A great resource is *The Five Love Languages* by Dr. Gary Chapman. He shows how individuals feel affirmed through 5 major ways; words of affirmation, tangible gifts, quality time, acts of service, and physical touch. Once you have discovered the way each of your students feel affirmed; incorporate that into how, when, and what you do to motivate them.

This can also be used for more than completing the memory work. Set standards for the students for memory work, attendance, behavior, bringing visitors and so forth. Be creative in motivating the students who come to your TruthSeekers ministry. Don't just think of fun activities but also service activities they can participate in. Remember our prayer: That all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Tangible ways [cost money]:

- Recognize achievement
  - Stickers on a chart
  - Ribbons at craft, teacher's, and other stores that celebrate. Some may say "Great job" "Good Work" "I knew you could do it"
  - For completion of all Scripture work in a ministry year, may want to give a Bible. Also a certificate.
- Celebrate achievement
  - Set of index cards that contain 'coupons' for tasks the young people do but would love for someone else to do such as parent:
    - Will make my bed for [space to write in the time frame]. Example: Will make my bed for one week.
    - Will take out the garbage for [space to write in the time frame].
    - Will do the dishes for [space to write in the time frame].
    - Will set the table [space to write in the time frame].
  - Could also be set of cards for things they would love for parent to do such as:
    - Read me a bedtime story
    - Read me the Bible
    - Help me study my memory verse
    - Play a game with me
    - Throw the ball with me
  - Combination of the two above. Be sure to let parents in on this so they are prepared.
  - Schedule an inexpensive outing and have the students earn their way to attend. Define the requirements to attend. For example: earn one sticker for attendance, two for saying your verse, one for good behavior, and one for bringing a visitor. Then announce: On Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> everyone who has earned 15 stickers is going over to Mr. Steve's (leader) house for a cookout. Other inexpensive places are parks, free museums, bowling, HS football games, movie night at someone's house, and so forth.

- Secret Award
  - All students who completed that meeting's work have a card with their name placed in a container. Each meeting one name is drawn out as the secret award winner. Award should be something the young people would like therefore have a variety of items they can choose from that covers the various ages. Consider such things as candy, baseball cards, hair ribbons, small play cars, colored pencils, and so forth. One winner or more if you have many students.
- Donations
  - Check with area businesses to see if they would donate things or gift certificates to use as incentives.
  - Ask church members if they would donate things or maybe even a service they perform such as a hair cut.
  - Consider having used clothing and gently used toys that the students can pick from for themselves or their family members.
- Trinkets from a Christian bookstore like pencils and bookmarks would be good along the way.

**Intangible ways [no monetary cost]:**

- Recognize achievement through calling up front during Large Group Time
  - Cheer
  - Clap
  - High Five
  - Allow students to give testimony of what they earned. It can serve as a source of motivation for others.
  - Assign points to different activities mentioned above then keep track of them for each student. Announce the top point earners occasionally.
- Communicate to others outside your TruthSeekers meeting
  - Email, newsletter, church bulletin, bulletin board as forms of communication to your church family
  - Call up front in church and have them recite verse(s), explain verse they are learning or give testimony
- Assign special tasks
  - Allow to lead in prayer
  - Help in Story as one of the characters
  - Help lead in worship
  - Help in game time
  - Choose the game(s) to play that meeting
  - Student leader in Small Group Time helping leader
  - Match task to the gifts, talents, and desires of the young person

**Group Award Ideas:** consider doing the below if the entire team/group completes the required work.

- Pizza Party
- Movie Night
- Putt Putt Golf Night
- Field Trip to [fill in the blank]
- A Hike to [fill in the blank]
- Fishing trip to [fill in the blank]
- Volleyball night or other sports
- Go to Minor League Ball game