

Making Wonder Time™ Special

“A child is a person who is going to carry on what you have started. He will assume control of your cities, states and nations. He is going to move in and take over your churches, schools, universities and corporations. The fate of humanity is in his hands.”

—Abraham Lincoln

What Is Wonder Time?

Wonder Time is a 5-10 minute segment of the *Good News Club*® (*GNC*®) dedicated to motivating the children to begin and continue their daily quiet time with God using *CEF's 60-Day Wonder Devotional Books* (WDB) as a foundation.

Why Wonder Time?

- A person's spiritual condition is largely established during childhood.
- *Wonder Time* adds long-term value to the *Good News Club* experience.

How Do You Introduce Wonder Time In Your Clubs?

- **Distributing the Devotional Books**
 1. When children come to the *GNC* for the third time they should be given a *GNC* membership card and a WDB, making them “official” members of the club.

(This applies to both saved and unsaved children.)
 2. We recommend that children in each club begin with the same book and progress together through the *GNC* year.

3. For clubs where there are preschool and older children—Give all kids a 60-day *WDB* and encourage older kids to help younger siblings at home.
4. Give the children all six *WDBs* from one set per year. (The fifth and sixth books can be given at the end of the *GNC* year.)

• **Introducing the Quiet Time Concept**

1. In your first *Wonder Time* session, have the children open to the beginning of the *WDB* and read together the instructions about how to have a quiet time.
2. Have the children turn to the first devotional and work through the steps together as a model. (This may take 12-15 minutes.) If possible, divide the club into smaller groups for this activity.
3. It is recommended that whenever possible club time be extended to 75 minutes to incorporate *Wonder Time*.

How Do You Maintain Interest?

After the first (12-15 min.) session when you introduce the devotional books, subsequent *Wonder Time* sessions can be done in 3-5 minutes.

- Be passionate about *Wonder Time*!
- Use the song, “God Wants to Spend Time with You” as a signal that *Wonder Time* is about to begin.
- Let various children share a testimony about what God is teaching them through their devotional time.
- Share something God taught you in your own quiet time.

Notes

- Plan some fun incentives to keep the kids interested and excited
 - a. Put a sticker (or use a stamp or draw a smiley face) on each page that a child completes in his book
 - b. Recognize all who do even one page of their devotional book for the week.
 - c. Have a special drawing each week among those who complete all seven pages. Give away a small prize (bookmark, candy, etc.).
- Focus the children's attention on something to look for or a question to answer in their devotional during the week ahead.
- Plan occasionally to deepen the children's understanding of the value of having a quiet time with God by using special lessons. These could be done in an extended club session.
 - Use special *CEF* lessons like *Digging for Buried Treasure* or *Big Questions about Prayer*.
 - Use songs to deepen your teaching like, "Three Questions," "Did You Ever Talk to God Above" or "Yes, I Can."
 - Use the *Children's Ministry Resource Bible*, pages 1528-1530. Share one segment each week.
- End your clubs with a challenge to remind and motivate the children to continue having their quiet time using the WDB during the week.