

## Finishing Well



The end of the club year is almost here, and I'm sure you are looking forward to a well deserved break. I pray that it will be a refreshing time for you. But, the break isn't here yet, and I want to encourage you to finish well.

Two thoughts come to mind. As the club year draws to a close, so do your opportunities to **INFLUENCE** the boys and girls for Christ, and some of them won't be back in the fall. Make the most of these last weeks. Do they all know Christ as Savior? Do you know where each one stands with the Lord? If not make it a point to ask them next week. Do the children love the Lord? Do you love the Lord, I mean with all your heart? As the boys and girls see your love and hear you talk of your beloved Savior, you will create a thirst in their hearts to love Him. Do they have a heart to serve Christ? Talk with them of ways they can serve the Lord by serving others. Remind them that Christ did not come to be served, but to serve (Mark 10:45). You are going to influence these young people; how well depends on how intentional you are. So, don't coast to the finish line.

Secondly, it is important to **CELEBRATE**. Plan an exciting Award Ceremony that will honor the Lord and commend the kids. Here are some things to keep in mind:

- **Plan**  
Check with each child to see who is close to finishing a book and order their award. You don't want to forget anyone.
- **Impress**  
Display the awards on an attractive table. Take the awards out of the packaging and boxes. Remember, you are presenting awards not boxes.
- **Celebrate**  
Talk about what God has done, giving Him the praise for what has been accomplished through you and in the lives of the boys and girls.
- **Commend**  
Recognize the hard work of the boys and girls and make a big deal out of it. Find ways to recognize the ones that didn't finish books, so that they, and their parents, will come to Awards Night.
- **Evangelize**  
This may well be one of the best attended church services of the year. Don't miss this opportunity to share the gospel with the families. Don't forget to invite them.
- **Appreciate**  
Thank the leaders for their service throughout the year. Awana has service pins which can be used to recognize their faithfulness.
- **Reminisce**  
Show a 5-10 minute video or PowerPoint presentation made up of memories from the club year.
- **Schmooze**  
Provide refreshments afterwards and encourage leaders to connect with the parents of the children.



So you see, the year's not done yet. Make every effort to finish well by impacting lives and celebrating what God has done.

Rick Hattan

