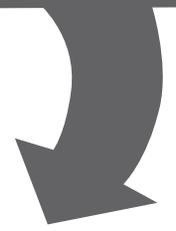


Celebrate With Angels



“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents” (Luke 15:10).

- How often do you celebrate with new Christians?
- How can you rejoice like the angels of God when a child makes a decision to have a relationship with Jesus?

▼ Training Session

Each year we celebrate many special occasions: birthdays, holidays, new seasons, milestones. So why not celebrate the most important thing in a child’s life—a decision to follow Jesus? It’s a birthday, holiday, new season, and milestone—all in one! It’s a time when God’s angels rejoice over spiritual birth.

Let’s rejoice with them.

- Give new Christians an opportunity to share their faith stories with other kids. Kids who love the spotlight will be happy to share. Those who don’t may want to write their stories down.
- Give kids memorable, personalized gifts. Make a plaque. Personalize a Bible. Whatever you choose, make it special.
- Invite the class to pray with the new Christian. Pray for a growing faith and love for Jesus.

- Put an announcement in the church bulletin or newsletter.
- Give each new Christian a prayer journal. Write a special prayer or note on the first page.
- Kids always love parties. Let them help you decorate. Throw on some praise music. Play a fun game.

Always be prepared for a celebration. Since kids make faith decisions on God’s time, it could happen at any moment!

Like to give something to kids when they become Christians? Have some gifts ready to

personalize and present as soon as a child makes the decision.

Want to throw a party? Set some streamers and balloons nearby, ready to be put up on a moment’s notice.

When a child decides to follow Jesus, don’t stop at just a one-time celebration. It’s an ongoing journey. Be a trusted guide. Make sure the child knows you’re available to help him or her grow.

You’re in a special place. Celebrate with the angels.





Take this training deeper as you think over these questions:

- Why do you think it's important to make a big deal when a child makes a faith decision to follow Christ?
- How do faith celebrations affect your children?
- What action will you take to be like the angels by rejoicing when a child makes a decision to follow Christ?

▼ Journal

I'm praying specifically for these kids to make a commitment to Christ. . .

Lord, I celebrate when. . .

Lord, you know the heart of every child in my classroom. Bless me with opportunities to celebrate. I desire to make a big deal of children's faith decisions. Give me wisdom as I lead my children in their faith journeys. In Jesus' name, amen.

▼ Application

Birthday parties take time to plan. Be ready for the appearance of that all-important surprise spiritual birthday party by preparing ahead of time. Keep all your party supplies handy and ready to go.

Whatever the plan for your celebration, being prepared will help things run smoothly—and will allow you to focus on rejoicing with the angels during the party!