



February 25, 1015

Fellow servants of Christ,

Camp Gilead/CBM Ministries of FL recently began using a new curriculum in all our after school Bible club programs. We had been using our own “in house” produced materials and they were certainly good and sufficient. However, as we were introduced to the Venture Club materials, produced by the Mailbox Club of Valdosta, Georgia, we saw a curriculum that would help us better achieve our overall mission of evangelism and discipleship.

As we seek to reach the young people of our communities with the Gospel we are seeing widespread Biblical illiteracy and not just among unchurched students but also among many of the students that say they attend church. We could no longer take for granted that the children of our neighborhoods knew basic Biblical truths. As we sought to address this issue we found that the Venture Club curriculum is basically a “mini” theology proper manual geared for school children, and it does an excellent job of communicating the foundational truths of the faith. We wanted students to have a more foundational understanding about God, so that they will better understand why the Gospel is such “Good News.”

Also, the Venture Club curriculum incorporates Scripture memory so that the students are encouraged to hide God’s word in their heart, and God’s word is also carried into the homes of the students and they are encouraged to have their parents work with them in memorizing verses. The format of the materials also leads the students beyond just simple memorization but to the place of actually understanding and being able to communicate what the passages mean, so students not only know “what” they believe but “why” they believe what God’s word says.

We want to see students not only respond to the Gospel and receive Christ as Lord and Savior, but we also want to see them disciplined and spend their life serving Christ. So we are very excited to be able to use this curriculum because we believe it is one of the best options available for carrying out that mission.

Camp Gilead has no vested interest in nor do we officially represent Venture Clubs, but we were asked to share our thoughts with other ministries like ourselves. We are very excited about this curriculum and highly recommend and encourages other children’s ministries to check it out as well.

In Our Lord’s Service,

Tim Newborn

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