

Schools Ministry Sunday 'Christ in the School Zone' WORSHIP IDEAS

Various churches have shared their ideas for enhancing the worship experience on Schools Ministry Sunday, making the moment more relevant for your church members and situation. Please use any of the ideas listed below or come up with your own! Feel free to share any ideas that your congregation uses to help celebrate this special day by sending them to coord@ceis.org.au.

Interview

Host an interview with any member involved in school ministry: a CEIS volunteer, SU volunteer, chaplain, catechist, breakfast-club volunteer, KidsHope mentor, teacher, school assistant or a general school volunteer.

Some possible questions might be:

- How does this role connect to your faith and to reaching the next generation?
- How do the students accept you in your role?
- Do you find students genuinely interested in faith and spirituality?
- What issues are students facing today?
- What is a precious moment that you have had in this role?

Alternately, host an interview with one or more schools students.

Water bottle or other small gift

Provide each student in your congregation with a new drink bottle for the year. This simple gesture can show your support for the students and also symbolize the 'living water' of God being with them each day (see John 4:14 and John 7:38). If you don't have students in your congregation consider donating some water bottles to your closest government primary school. This could be the first step to a whole new community relationship!

Students dressed in uniform

Invite all students to wear their school uniform to worship on the day. Bring them forward during worship and find out which schools they represent and what grades they will be in.

Puppet play or skit

Take this opportunity to hold a skit or puppet play, that might focus on the mixed feelings of going back to school for students, parents, staff and volunteers. Some humour is always effective and a conclusion that highlights God's presence with each one of us, even on the toughest of days, could be just what one of your members needs to hear at this time.

Chocolate hearts or energiser bar

Provide each adult volunteer in your congregation with a chocolate heart or energiser bar, symbolising God in their heart and giving them the energy they need to step out in faith into the secular world of schools. It is also a simple way to acknowledge their service and to show your support and thanks.

Other ideas here...