

## **The Hymnology for the children and the education for the values.**

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“The only constant things in our world are God and the Scripture. Our society needs are in a continuous change. A teaching and education well documented philosophy based on the Bible, will give stability in the flowing of the changes. Sharing the principles of the Bible and accepting the role of the church in history will give a direction for the future. The God of the Church is the same God of the History. And God is the same Who stands in the centre of the Universe. But not us.”

This is a pathetic declaration in the end of the book “*Christian education: Its History and Philosophy*” by Kenneth O. Gangel and Warren S. Benson. A powerful instrument that can be used by the Christian teacher is, without doubt, the hymn, the song. Its capacity of fixing model is unique in the outfit of the teacher. The history experiences of the Christianity are undoubtedly proofs for the fixing power that the song has on the humanity. So, to render the constant values of the world, God and the Scripture, is the most important objective for the hymns of the authors.

What I am proposing is a case study regarding a way to transmit the Christian values, analyzing the work of an American group of teachers who, as well, used as fundament the text from 2 Peter 1,5-7: “For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness, love.”

What she's proposing to us is: two materials, a notebook for teacher and eight notebooks, books for coloring made for children. Their efficiency comes from the interaction of the proposed tools. In this gearing: word, drawing, song, the last one plays the role of glue.

Starting from the biblical text, we are watching the following patience, piety, kindness, love. A ladder of the whole life and unbreakable for the future.

How the authors proceed?

Respecting the space limits, we will analyze the first value: faith. We will base on the song:

Step one: there will be proposed some questions to prepare the understanding of the lesson.

Step two: there will be made some activities which will underline the fact that the faith will always be born from evidences and not from demonstrations.

Step three: we will sing the song: “I am hiding”. The words underline the play's features of the song. The song will be along with the play of hiding and revealing. The fixing power is in the word. We start from the concrete experience of the hiding and revealing of what already exists. After that, we change the domain of the faith. We believe in Him, the One who is near us. To build the play, first of all the song must be sung by the teacher and repeated by the child: “I am hiding, I am hiding, Can you tell me where?”.

The second part is sung by the mother:

“I can't see you, I can't see you,

But I know you're there.”

The stanza is making the change: “God is watching, God is loving  
Children everywhere”

Presuming the learning, presuming the possibility of being repeated, the song putting the faith  
in a favorable light, will fix this value on the first step on the ladder of life:

It follows a song which underlines this values: “Watching over me”

God is up in heaven watching over me.

God is up in heaven watching over me.

I know He's there.

I know He's there

God is up in heaven watching over me.”

This song stamps like seal a certain value: the faith about the unrevealed God.

The next step is to divide the elements of the faith: trust, thankfulness, courage, confidence,  
confession, safety.

To transmit all this to others it will be used the next method:

-A text from the Bible followed by a commentary;

-A couple of questions that will clarify the meaning of the every element;

-Some activities that help to understand and assimilate the proper behavior to express the  
value;

-And, in the end, the song “Trusting Jesus”

We're a band of happy children, Trusting Jesus, trusting Jesus

On the path that leads to heaven, trusting all the way, trusting, trusting

Trusting Him to lead us safely, trusting, trusting, trusting all the way.

For the thankfulness, the song imitates the sounds from the nature, from the world who praises the Lord for His care. The confidential song is like a play: “I know a secret”

I know a very special secret, It's a secret, It's a secret

I know a very special secret, It's a secret and I won't tell!

For the practicing of the faith the song imitates the rain drops that remind us the promise about the rainbow. Just like Noah, seeing the splendor, the faith exults. Naturally, we will go to the song about safety. The angels are sent to watch over us, in the time of the night, with love, care and safety. The text that is below the drawings of the notebooks to be colored, straightens through exercise the value: I am proposing this way to transmit the values where the song is the principle to an excellent and efficient one:

“Praise the Lord.

Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power, praise Him for His surpassing greatness.” – Psalm 150, 1-2.

His Glory, His Majesty are His character. Those are lent to our weak characters through the songs that put on us His values, starting with our childhood, that period of life when our characters are built.