

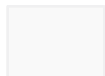


World Community

Discipleship Development for Youth

Michael Hoffman

Community of Christ
Religious Emblems Program



Contact Information

To find out more about World Community, to enroll, or to order awards contact:

Customer Service

Community of Christ World Headquarters

1001 West Walnut Street

Independence, MO 64050 USA

Phone: (816) 521-3015 or 1-800-825-2806; sales@HeraldHouse.org

Printing Instructions

To print the entire resource, print pages 1 to 65. To conserve paper and print for a specific age-level, use the following guide

For the Light of the World level, print 1 to 25 and 62 to 65.

For the Path of the Disciple level, print pages 1 to 7, 26 to 43, and 62 to 65.

For the Exploring Community Together level, print pages 1 to 7 and 44 to 65.

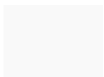
Copyright Information

Cover photo: copyright preachingplus.com. Used with permission.

Version: February 5, 2007

©2003, Community of Christ, Independence, Missouri 64050 USA

All rights reserved. Permission is granted to congregations and mission centers of the Community of Christ to download and print this document.



Contents

	Page
Introduction	4
Serving as a World Community Mentor	6
Light of the World (for ages eight and above)	
Unit 1 Christian Discipleship	
1:1 Following Jesus Christ	8
1:2 Mission: Proclaim and Promote	10
1:3 What We Can Do for God	12
Unit 2 Personal Generosity	
2:1 Time and Treasure	14
2:2 Sharing What We Have	16
2:3 The Impact of Generosity	18
Unit 3 Peaceful Friendships	
3:1 Family: Breaking Bread Together	20
3:2 Sharing Time with Friends	22
3:3 Acts of Kindness	24
Path of the Disciple (for ages eleven and above)	
Unit 4 Restoration Witness	
4:1 Knowing the Sacred Story	26
4:2 Remembering Christian History	28
4:3 Inviting Others to Christ	30
Unit 5 Earth Stewardship	
5:1 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	32
5:2 Helping in Community	34
5:3 Global Impact	36
Unit 6 Just Relationships	
6:1 Justice of Space and Time	38
6:2 Economic Justice	40
6:3 Understanding One Another	42
Exploring Community Together (for ages fifteen through eighteen)	
Unit 7 Spiritual Quest	
7:1 Fasting Forward	44
7:2 Prayer: Talking to God	46
7:3 Studying the Scriptures	48
Unit 8 Discipleship Response	
8:1 Tithing of Talent in Community	50
8:2 Sharing the Community Story	52
8:3 Sharing, Saving, Spending	54
Unit 9 Developmental Leadership	
9:1 Developing Gifts Together	56
9:2 Life Skills for the Community	58
9:3 Networking in Community	60
Appendix	62

World Community: Discipleship Development for Youth

Introduction

World Community: Discipleship Development for Youth program is open to any youth age eight to eighteen, and serves as the Community of Christ religious emblems award for youth serving organizations worldwide.

Young people, disciples or friends of the Community of Christ, have the opportunity to further their discipleship through completing and documenting creative projects and activities. They accomplish this through the creation of a portfolio/scrapbook demonstrating their involvement in the life of the church and the community with the assistance of an adult mentor.

Youth may work individually or in groups as part of scouting units, classes, retreats, camps, youth groups, or clubs.

This program is not designed to replace regular religious education classes that are a part of weekly church school. Youth are encouraged to participate in World Community in addition to their regular church school classes.

Eligibility

World Community is designed for three different age levels: *Light of the World*, for eight years of age and above; *Path of the Disciple*, for youth eleven years of age and above; and *Exploring Community Together*, for those fifteen years of age and above. All though the materials are age specific, youth are encouraged to complete all three levels.

Enrollment

Young people and their mentors are asked to enroll through the International Headquarters Customer Service office using the on-line form or by using the form provided in the Appendix of this resource. The purpose of enrollment is to track the development of youth in the church, to verify completion for recognition, and to provide information to ancillary organizations with which the church participates.

Youth are required to have an adult mentor to assist them in this program. Youth ministers, pastors, other leaders, and priesthood are encouraged to serve as mentors. The adult mentor must be at least twenty-one years of age and must be a registered youth worker with the Community of

Christ or the ancillary organization, if applicable. For more information about this requirement, contact the International Headquarters Customer Service office.

Leadership

The program may be administered through Community of Christ congregations and jurisdictions or through the leadership of ancillary organizations.

Each Community of Christ congregation is encouraged to designate a World Community coordinator to serve as the liaison between eligible youth, qualified mentors, Herald House, which distributes these materials and other resources, and Poul Wilson who coordinates the program.

Units

The program consists of nine units for each age level. Each unit consists of two pages, one with instructions and the other as an entry for the student's portfolio. The instruction pages consist of background information titled "Connection," followed by a section called "Project," which explains what to do. This is followed by a section called "Portfolio," which gives examples of how to

document the project. The last section is "Scripture," which outlines relevant scriptures to the topic.

Youth Recognition

After completing the requirements for a specific level, the youth and mentor should complete an Award Application either on-line or from the Appendix of this resource. The mentor will be then sent the award materials. For the first award (regardless of level) the youth receives a level-specific pin, the World Community emblem, and a certificate.

On completion of additional age levels, the

young person receives a pin specific to that level and a certificate.

Mentors are encouraged to work with their pastor to recognize enrollment, and particularly completion, in a public venue, either in the community or congregation, and to exhibit all or part of the participant's portfolio. A sample order of worship for this recognition is in the Appendix.

Adult Recognition

Adults who serve children and youth in the church and/or the community may be eligible for the *International*

Youth Service Award. The recognition is given at the level of the recipient's service: congregation, mission center, apostolic field, or World Church. Adults must be recommended by their jurisdictional officer or group/unit leader. The denomination does not offer an achievement program for adults.

For more information about the International Youth Service Award, contact Poul Wilson.

**Path of the Disciple
ages 11 and above**

**Light of the World
ages 8 and above**

**Youth Emblem
with Insignias**

**Exploring Community Together
ages 15 to 18**



Serving as a World Community Mentor

Introduction

Serving as a mentor in World Community requires having a heart for youth, being a disciple of Jesus Christ, and being a registered youth worker with the Community of Christ. Membership or familiarity with the Community of Christ is important.

For more information on how to become a registered youth worker with the Community of Christ, contact legal services and request information. This registration is a screening and selection process required for all who work with children and youth in the Community of Christ.

Format of Lessons

There are four sections to each of the instruction pages. The first is "Connection." This answers the question "So what?"—the reason this unit is important and relevant to youth. The second is "Project." This answers "Do what?"—ideas on what the young person can do related to the topic. This is generally an activity, ministry, or service. The third section is "Portfolio." This answers "Say what?"—ideas on how to document the project. For older youth,

this might be in the form of a portfolio or similar record that can be added to a collection of work for determining scholarships, entrance into institutions of higher learning, or other. The final component is "Scripture." This section seeks to challenge the youth to connect the project to relevant scripture.

The opposite page is the "Portfolio" page. This page may be used by the youth as an entry for the portfolio, or they may use it as a guide to create their own portfolio entry pages.

The details of what to do and how to document are left up to the youth and mentor.

The World Community program is designed to be completed individually, but may also be adapted for groups of students with each working with one mentor. Review the materials and adapt as needed. Contact Forefront Ministries if you need assistance or have questions.

The Task of Mentoring

Mentoring serves at least two purposes in the World Community program. First, the mentor serves as a guide to assist the young person in finding information and resources to complete each

unit. Some units require contacting members of the congregation and/or community. The mentor is expected to assist with this process. The level of mentor involvement will depend on the age level of the youth, maturity, and abilities. The mentor is asked to read every part of every unit prior to giving it to the youth to complete. This is an important step in helping the young person complete it and feel successful about the program. Permission is also provided to photocopy any page in this material for distribution to other mentors, youth participants, and interested parents.

When the young person begins the program, the mentor is asked to fill out the World Community Enrollment Form, either on-line at the International Headquarter Web site or using the form found in the Appendix of this resource.

Once the young person has completed all units for one age level, the mentor must complete the World Community Emblem Application, also available on-line or in the Appendix. On receiving funds for the emblem, Customer Service will forward the emblem and appropriate age-level insignia (or just the insignia if the young person has received

it for completing a prior age level) and a certificate bearing the signature of the president of the church.

The Appendix also includes a suggestion for a short worship/celebration ceremony to acknowledge the young person for completing each level of the program. This should be adapted to fit the need of the congregation and situation.

Portfolios

Each young person enrolled is expected to complete a portfolio demonstrating their involvement with their congregation and community. All three levels of the program may be documented in one portfolio or in three separate portfolios, to be determined by the mentor and the youth,

based on the participant's age and how soon the participant completes one level and moves on to the next.

The youth and mentor will review the lesson and determine how activities are to be accomplished and how to document each. Each youth and mentor team should determine their own pace to complete the program and the scope of each and all projects with consideration for family, school, church, and other obligations.

Alternatives or alterations of these activities are acceptable and should be worked out between the youth and mentor based on the interest and giftedness of the youth. For example, if a young person is interested in photography, the entire portfolio could

be a photoessay covering each topic. For younger participants, the portfolio may take the form of a scrapbook. There are many resources specific to scrapbooking available at a department and craft stores and on the Internet.

Continual Improvement

Since this World Community resource is on-line or print-on-demand, it will be improved, expanded, and posted to the Web frequently. Please send corrections and ideas for either improving units or adding new ones. Send this information to Poul Wilson at International Headquarters.