

Student Guide for using the *Book of Hope*

What is the Book of Hope?

- The *Book of Hope* is the message of Jesus as presented in the four gospels. There are special editions for each age group, and it also presents Christ to people at a point of need.

Effective usage of the Book of Hope.

- Observe all the students that sit near you in each class.
- Target some of those students each semester for your ministry focus.
- Pray for those students on a regular basis.
- Endeavor to be their friend.
- Pray for wisdom to know the right time to give each of them a copy of the *Book of Hope*. (You may want to write a personal note inside the book.)
- Take advantage of the privileges given by the Equal Access Act and the Department of Education guidelines concerning the expression of religious views in school.
- Do not attempt to distribute the book to students in any way that could be perceived as disruptive by administrators or teachers in your school.
- Show Christ's love in your actions and words.
- Don't force a student to take a book if he/she does not want it or embarrass him/her in any way.
- Follow up after you give out a book by asking the student questions over the next few days such as, "Have you read some of the book?" or "How do you like the book?"
- Expect God to open the door to reach these friends for Christ.

What do students say when they give someone the Book of Hope?

Here are a few examples:

- Hi, I know that you been having a tough time lately, and I would like to give you this book. If you're ever in trouble or need a friend, check out this book; it helped me.
- I want you to have this book about my best friend.
- Here's a book that helped me when I was having problems in my life.
- This book will help you understand more about my friend Jesus.
- Here's a book that helps you understand how you feel; check it out and see what you think.

How can students lead a person to Christ with the Book of Hope?

The *Book of Hope* contains material that will be helpful in leading a person to Christ. Christian students should be familiar with this material in order to help their unsaved friends come to Christ.

Ideas to help you distribute the *Book of Hope* to your friends

Campus Ministry Group Distribution--Members of a Christian group on campus endeavor to give a *Book of Hope* to each student on campus.

School Assembly Distribution –Copies of the *Book of Hope* are given out at the conclusion of school assembly programs that deal with Abstinence, Anti-Drug, or Motivational in nature. Students either hand them out or place them on tables for students to take.

After School Distribution –Copies of the *Book of Hope* are given out along with a cold soft drink after school in the parking lot.

Special Days – Take advantage of special days to distribute the *Book of Hope*.

- **FLIP THE SCRIPT:** This is a national scripture distribution day that takes place on the third Wednesday in April each year. Students are encouraged to give their friend's a scripture portion such as the *Book of Hope*. **This event is sponsored by His Story.**
 - **See You At The Pole:** National day of prayer for students on junior and senior high campuses. This event takes place in September every year.
 - **Valentine's Day:** Share the greatest example of love ever shown by presenting a copy of the *Book of Hope* as God's valentine to man.
 - **Easter:** Pass out the *Book of Hope* the week before Easter with a special note explaining Jesus' Passion and how it relates to Easter.
 - **Graduation:** Give a copy of the *Book of Hope* to all graduating seniors as a gift from the church or campus club.
 - **Thanksgiving:** Share the most sacrificial act of giving by presenting a copy of the *Book of Hope* to each student on campus.
 - **Christmas:** Gift wrap the *Book of Hope* and present it to every student at school a few days before Christmas break.
- **Five Friend Focus Prayer List** – Target specific students each semester: pray for them, give them a copy of the *Book of Hope*, and share a personal testimony.
 - **Crisis Distribution** – Be sensitive to special times of need for students: parent's getting divorced, serious illness or death of a family member, etc. Give them a copy of the *Book of Hope*.