



# How to make your up front programs as effective as possible

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## PREPARATION

How can I make it so they sit on the edge of their seat and can't wait for what happens next.

### ☺ **Know your audience**

Think about what they are into, what appeals to them, what gets them excited, what engages them.

### ☺ **Theme**

What is it? Can you get into a key sentence or phrase that your hosts can repeat over and over again?

How many different ways can you share that theme – e.g. mime, drama, memory verse, modern day skit.

### ☺ **Songs**

Know the words, know music and know how it goes – be well practised

### ☺ **Dramas**

Have props ready, know your script, think about what you look like on stage, not just getting the words out.

If you're writing your own drama

- Use as many visuals as possible.
- Consider variety – you don't have to do the same type of drama every week.
- Consider content – is it easy to understand? Aim for one clear message repeated over and over again.

### ☺ **Consider children participation and involvement**

- Plan how you will get the children to be involved.
- Ensure that it will be done in a non-threatening way, especially if you're working with children who are unfamiliar with a church / kid's church setting.
- Involvement could include such things as:  
games, getting a volunteer, having the audience help make decisions, holding up song words, demonstrating actions etc.
- When you look at your program, for each element ask this question "Does an adult have to do this part?"

### ☺ **Practise, Practise, Practise**

For your program to be excellent you need to rehearse and practise until you are confident in your presentation.

Keep practising, not just once, practise in front of mirror, practise with microphones, practise action, practise on stage.

### ☺ **Creativity**

Once you've planned your program, ask yourself "Is this the most creative we can be?" and then consider how you can make the program even better through more creative elements.

A place for your own notes...