

Fall kicks off Awana. From preschool to high school, children and youth meet in local churches around the world. In Awana they learn God's Word, participate in exciting games and make new friends. Awana runs in most churches during the school year calendar, but the important values Awana imparts last all year and beyond. Here are a few:

### **Value #1: Hiding God's Word in Young Hearts**

Learning Bible truth is an important part of Awana. By the time a child has graduated from high school and finished 10 years of Awana handbooks, he will have memorized 760 Bible verses! Such memory work requires discipline and effort.

But memorizing pays off. Kids develop a biblical foundation for their faith in Christ that sustains them far into adulthood. Children who learn to memorize verses have an easier time memorizing at school. Multiplication tables and state capitals are easier to learn when a child's brain has been accustomed to memorization. And the very habit of working through a handbook builds the discipline to tackle other projects and see them through.

### **Value #2: Teamwork**

Awana provides a sense of belonging for children. The uniforms worn each week help kids feel part of the group. Each child is a member of a team that competes weekly during Game Time. They learn to encourage each other and work together as a team to win games. As a result, your child learns to be a team player and interact better with others.

### **Value #3: Confidence**

Memorizing verses is hard work. Ask any kid in Awana. But also ask those who have finished a handbook to show you their award, and you'll see a proud smile. Reaching goals and earning awards teach children they can achieve whatever they set their mind to do. They'll receive ribbons, patches and badges, signifying the importance of their accomplishment.

### **Value #4: The Bible: a Guide for Everyday Life**

In the culture around us, we clearly see a lack of direction in many kids when it comes to spiritual matters. Awana trains children to use the Bible to develop a biblical perspective, morals and strong character.

Kids are taught biblical principles such as helping others, obeying authority and choosing friends wisely. They learn about God and how much He has blessed them because of His great love. As a child grows older and begins to encounter difficult moral dilemmas, he has a compass to guide him in making good decisions.

### **5. Value #5: Fun!**

One of kids' favorite parts of Awana is fun! They'll put-on clothes they wouldn't dream of wearing in public, as will other kids for nights such as Tacky Night or Silly Sock Night. Or they may laugh in the car on the way home about the fun they had during Game Time.

### **Awana is good for kids**

When your child asks you to take her back to Awana next week, you don't have to hesitate. Sending your kids to Awana is good for them, and they'll have fun at the same time.