

Tips for Coaches

I'm the new quiz coach, what do I do now?

Here is a link to a Quiz Leader's Handbook which could be helpful for a new Quiz Leader

<http://www.nph.com/nphweb/html/nph/itempage.jsp?itemId=YD-90&c=NPH-YO&cs=QUIZ&sc=NA&ss=NA&lid=moreinfo>

Talk to the people in your church. You will be surprised by someone who was a quizzier in the past and is willing to help, even if they were not accomplished when they participated as a youth, anyone who has done it before has some knowledge that can help.

Contact me. I can help you as a sounding board, and perhaps providing you direct support to get you going at the beginning in the form of former quizzers and current coaches who are willing to go to you to help you.

Financial Considerations

You need to purchase materials for the quizzers, generally at least a scripture portion. You will also want to acquire jump seats. The first year, we may be able to round up an old set you can use until you are able to order and receive your own. You also will want to purchase a subscription to youthquiz.com (\$15-\$20)

We try to make district tournaments free. The San Diego Invitational, Grizzly Invitation, and the Prescott Tournament, and other tournaments outside the district during the year generally cost about \$20-25 per team. The Regional Tournament is about \$100 per quizzier. The National Tournament is approximately \$200/quizzier, but you also have to get there.

Raising money quizzing style

Every two years I raise approximately \$800/person to take teams to the national quiz. By far the most effective method I have found is to hold a quote-a-thon. Announce to your quizzers that they need to get sponsors per verse they memorize. Announce to the church that the quote-a-thon will be held on a specific day in the future, and encourage them to drop in for a few minutes and observe. I usually schedule my event right before we are scheduled to complete all the material for the first time in the year, like a few weeks prior to the final District Tournament. On the day of the quote-a-thon, depending on the size of your teams, have multiple rooms where teens are quoting continuously until they cannot quote any more. Allow quizzers to take a turn as many times as they want, so they can brush up on verses they mess up on and say them again. This approach has many benefits. First off, I usually only need this event to raise the money we need. Second, it is great preparation for District Finals. Third, if you get some of your congregation to attend some of this event, you will engender incredible support for your quiz program.

Forth, the amount of scripture your kids memorize will astound you. You don't need to force your kids to be word perfect, but if the verse is a memory verse, you should. If you don't require word perfection, you need to get them to achieve the accuracy they would typically need to get questions correct, so a few minor words missing might work, but not major chunks.

Questions for Practice

Generally my practices go like this:

1. Set up the jump seats
2. Make announcements about upcoming scheduled events, etc.
3. Prayer time (settles them down)
4. Occasionally we have had one of the sponsors provide a five minute walk through of the new material, with some application thoughts
5. Ask if anyone has questions or confusion about any of the passages
6. Run 3-5 quizzes—with 2-3 on the new material, and 1-2 on the review material. If I have enough kids and a wide enough range of capability, and enough sponsors, I will separate into different rooms and run some number of sets separately, coming back together for the review material.
7. Tear down the seats

Youthquiz.com allows you to create question sets across whatever chapter and question type combinations you like. It is the best way to go.