



James Wahl

Songs of Joy and Hope For Children
Energetic Music Strategies for Ministry with Young Children
Workshop 6-25

Welcome

♪ *Hearts of Mercy*

Storytelling (Scripture):

Children are drawn into the world of story, and music that tells a story allows children to make faith connections at the deepest level. The story of Jesus, the paschal mystery, is the foundation of our faith. We are called to make this story our own, to become characters in the greatest story ever told.

♪ *Elijah*
♪ *Jonah*
♪ *Pequeños Gigantes*

1

Social/Emotional (Discipleship):

A child's social and emotional health is a vital part of early childhood development. In our faith, we ground this development on the social values of the gospel, the discipleship of Jesus. Music can express, teach, and strengthen these skills.

♪ *The Good Kangaroo*
♪ *Jesus, You Are Here*
♪ *Givin' It Up*

2

Language/Learning (Formation):

As early childhood educators, we use a variety of methods and practices to enable a child's language and cognitive skills to flourish. By using a variety of techniques, including rhyming, counting, logic, and memory, music can be a tremendous tool in teaching all subjects, including our faith.

♪ *The Shamrock Song*
♪ *Hokey Pokey*
♪ *God Made You and Me*

3

Movement (Liturgical Gesture):

One of the key milestones to monitor a child's development is large motor skills. Using music that reinforces these skills, from skipping and dancing to song gestures and sign language, allows children to fully enter the music and its message. Our liturgy is full of large motor skills from kneeling, to making the sign of the cross, to lifting up our hands in blessing, we are called to fully enter into the mystery.

♪ *Jump Up, Get Down*
♪ *My Instrument*
♪ *Crosswalk*

4

Sending

♪ *Signing of the Senses*

“Assembling the proper ingredients for effective children’s music is extremely important for composers, performers and publishers, but it is also important for anyone who engages children with music in the classroom, church or even in the minivan! Continually striving to reach the whole child must be our goal, so that the message of Jesus Christ not only engages their hands, arms and mind, but penetrates deep into their heart for life.”

-James Wahl

HOW JAMES’ SONGS CAN TEACH YOUNG CHILDREN	MOVEMENT (Liturgical Gesture)	LANGUAGE/ LEARNING (Formation)	SOCIAL/ EMOTIONAL (Discipleship)	STORYTELLING (Scripture/ Tradition)
Crosswalk	✓		✓	
Elijah	✓	✓		✓
Givin’ It Up	✓		✓	
Go, Go, Go			✓	✓
God Made You and Me	✓	✓		
Hearts of Mercy	✓		✓	✓
Jonah				✓
Joshua and the Walls of Jericho	✓			✓
My Instrument	✓	✓		
Noah and the Noisy Ark		✓		✓
Signing of the Senses	✓		✓	
Thank You God		✓	✓	
The Bear that Has No Hair			✓	
The Good Kangaroo	✓		✓	✓
The Shamrock Song		✓		✓
To the House of God	✓	✓	✓	
Yeah Yeah Yeah	✓		✓	

James is part of the WLP Family

Be sure to stop by the WLP booth after the workshop to say hello!



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