

RECOGNISE

Sunday 13th July



RECOGNISE (7-13 July) is a national week of recognition for everyone involved in ministry with children, young people, and their families (CYPF). Sunday 13th July is a day for churches nationwide to celebrate and thank those involved in this vital ministry. Within your normal church service on Sunday 13th July, give 10 minutes to 'recognise' those involved with CYPF Ministry in your church. Follow this plan...

Thank: 2 minutes

Invite all your children and youth leaders to stand up or come to the front. Acknowledge, thank & invite the congregation to 'clap them' for all they give in serving children, young people & their families in your church.

Share: 6 minutes

It can be really encouraging for leaders to hear good news stories and appreciation from those they are serving. You could invite a few children or young people to the front to share a favourite memory or a particular thing they appreciate about their group.

Pray: 2 minutes

We can only do what we do with God's help and the power of prayer, it would be great to take some time to pray for your leaders and volunteers.

A Church leader could pray the 'Recognise Blessing'. It's available on page 2.

Bonus ideas:

- *Give a gift or card to each leader/volunteer*
- *Encourage people of all ages to gather around your leaders/volunteers to pray for them.*

RECOGNISE BLESSING



*Blessed are the youth workers, the children's ministers, the all-age specialist,
You team coordinators, volunteers, youth pastors, support workers, growing faith leaders,
missional outreachers, school chaplains, community enablers and pioneers of emerging
generations...*

Whatever we call you, we bless you... as you bless us.

*No title could capture this brave big job that you do because God doesn't just start caring
about us when we turn 18.*

Bless you in the work we see:

When you welcome us, make us toast, lead us in fun, and then lead us in prayer.

When you speak to us, and maybe even more importantly, when you listen.

Bless you in your party planning when all is wild and chaotic,

And bless you in your gentle care when we know we are safe because you are there.

Bless you in the work we don't see:

The chair stacking, rota juggling, risk assessing, supermarket dashing.

*Answering emails, answering phone calls, answering to the incredible breadth of needs that
you could have never imagined when you first said, 'Here I am, Lord'.*

Blessed are you, the first to arrive and the last to leave.

The community curators, the anxiety absorbers,

the conversation starters, the creative educators,

the form fillers and administrators,

entertainment generators, ice breakers and craft innovators.

Preparing, praying, waiting, hosting, explaining, guiding, nurturing, building, giving...

*faithfully leading us forward into a future that we don't yet see, but because of you we know
to hope.*

Today you are recognised, and we bless you.

