

JESUS Bracelets Provide a Witnessing Tool

Almost anything can be used with the "Wordless Book" colors to create an evangelism tool. A gentleman shares his instructions for making JESUS bracelets and some testimonials of people who have made and used them. Use the instructions and have a cross-generational event for children, youth, and adults.

What You Need

- Elastic cord—9" per bracelet for children; 12" per bracelet for teens/adults
- Pony beads in black, red, white, yellow, green—five beads of each color per bracelet for children; six beads of each color per bracelet for teens/adults
- White glue or clear nail polish
- Scissors

Where to Buy Supplies

- Craft stores
- Discount stores—Craft Supplies for Less, Inc. (<u>www.craftsuppliesforless.com</u> or 888-882-7238)—They sell kits with everything you need to make the bracelets, except the scissors. Get 10 percent off any purchase by entering promo code: **sbk10ra**.
- Google "pony beads," "inexpensive," etc., for other suggestions

How to Make Individual Bracelets

- 1. Cut cord according to age group needed, and tie a loose knot about 1" from the end.
- 2. String beads of each color, in the following sequence: black, red, white, green, yellow; and tie another loose knot by the yellow beads.
- 3. Tie the bracelet together in a secure knot, place a small dot of glue/nail polish on the knot, and cut off leftover tie ends.

How to Make Several Bracelets at a Time

- 1. Cut 90" of cord. Tie a paper clip to the end (to keep beads from slipping).
- 2. String 5 beads of each color, in the following sequence: black, red, white, yellow, green.
- 3. Repeat this sequence 9 more times.
- 4. Move a single bracelet's worth of beads toward the end, and tie the bracelet into a loop using as little leftover cord as possible. Tie another knot, place a small dot of glue/nail polish on the knots, and cut the bracelet off the strand, removing leftover tie ends.
- 5. Separate the remainder of the bracelets. You should have 10 bracelets ready for "Contacts for Christ!"



Salvation Bracelet Color Meaning

- Black—represents "sin." Sin separates us from God. Romans 3:23 and 6:23
- Red—represents "the blood of Christ." Jesus shed His blood on the cross to pay for our sin. Romans 5:8 and 1 Peter 3:18
- White—represents "clean and pure." When we accept Jesus and turn from our sins, our hearts are made clean and pure. John 1:12 and Romans 10:9
- **Green**—represents "growth." Once we accept Jesus, we need to grow in prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship. Matthew 18:20 and John 1:7
- Yellow/Gold—represents "heaven." God has prepared a place for us in Heaven. John 14:2-3

Who Could Use the Bracelets?

Locally

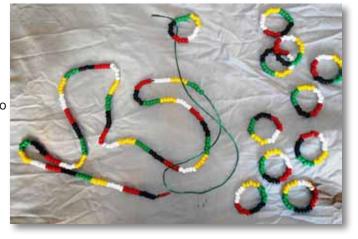
- Your local church or charity can use them.
- If a Work & Witness team or a JESUS Film team will be going from your church or district, they could take a supply with them.
- Make them in Vacation Bible School, and encourage the children to tell their families and friends about what the bracelets mean.

Not So Local

- Missionaries—ask any missionaries you know if they can use the bracelets where they serve.
 - o If they respond affirmatively and are on the field, ask about any shipping restrictions and keep in mind the cost for shipping when packing them. (It helps to have an idea of how much you will be spending when you take them to be shipped; you can learn what that might be on the Web site of the manner you plan on shipping them.)
 - If they are on home assignment and would like to take some back when they return, keep in mind that space may be limited
 in their luggage and that extra weight may cost more. Donating some money to offset the costs would be appreciated by the
 missionaries.
- The following organizations may appreciate donated bracelets for evangelism. Always ask if they need bracelets and if your church can donated toward the cost of shipping.
 - JESUS Film Harvest Partners (<u>www.ifhp.org</u>)
 - Child Evangelism Fellowship (<u>www.cefonline.com</u>)—Look on their Web site for chapters near you. (They also have a book to help during the Gospel presentation of the bracelet.) We gave the local chapter (Portland, Oregon) 500 bracelets; they used 200 locally and took 300 to Italy with them!
 - Luis Palau Association (<u>www.palau.org</u>)

The average cost per bracelet is approximately US\$0.15. For questions or updated places to send bracelets, please e-mail Ralph at Jesus.Bracelets@comcast.net.

Ralph Arnold Gladstone, Oregon Oregon City Church of the Nazarene



Testimonials of the JESUS Bracelets' Use

Our children, youth, and adults have gathered to make bracelets. When we make the bracelets, we share about the meaning of the colors and how the bracelet is a tool—a tool they can use to share Christ with people they come in contact with.

We send the children out with two bracelets, one for themselves and one to share. I always tell them, "If you give away your bracelet, come see me for another one; but you must share the story." We have a 10-year-old girl who has given out over 35 bracelets in her classroom. Another girl (7) sees me every couple of weeks for more bracelets. She shares with children at school, people at the park, or in the store.

Recently we gave bracelets away at Vacation Bible School and a district children's camp.

I have also taken the bracelets to Cuba. On one occasion, I was able to share my bracelet with a girl in La Habana. She was so excited to receive the bracelet; and as I walked away, I could hear her sharing the meaning with her family.

Roxanne Brown Local NMI President Oregon City, Oregon

Thank you so much for the gift of the evangelism bracelets. In Ukraine, we used them in our district children's camp on the Sea of Azov (near Melitopol, Ukraine) and also at a "special needs" camp for the handicapped in Chernovtsy, Ukraine. In the children's camp, bracelets were handed out to the kids with the condition that the older children talk to the younger children about the meaning of the colors on the bracelets. During one evening of the camp almost all of the children heard the Gospel and many told the Gospel to others.

In the special needs camp, we gave the bracelets to the children and their mothers. Many of these bracelets were not removed as camp came to a close. So the participants returned home to explain the meaning of each color to family members, telling the Gospel again!

Today (August 22), the final bracelets will be given to children during a Vacation Bible School in Chisinau, Moldova. The children are very open to the Gospel in Moldova.

Scott Rainey Missionary to Ukraine

I've been working closely with Ralph Arnold for a couple of years now and have built a good relationship with him. I have been telling him that I am promoting these EvangeBracelets everywhere I go and speak. In fact, we've just passed out hundreds of them to the street kid ministry here in Madagascar.

The JESUS Film teams here in Madagascar are adding them as a part of their ministry strategy. I see how important they are in winning people to Jesus. Tomorrow night everyone on the Madagascar JESUS Film team and the Bike and a Backpack team will be wearing both an EvangeHat AND an EvangeBracelet as we go out to a village to show the JESUS Film. The goal and intention of the local JESUS Film team is to start a brand new church this Sunday as a result of the conversions that have taken place in this village by using these EvangeTools along with the JESUS Film.

John Cunningham
JESUS Film Harvest Partners

