



STRAATWERK

Projek OPRUIM

Recruit's Friend Manual

A new recruit in Projek OPRUIM does not only need a chance (provided by a kind benefactor, who sponsors the recruitment fee) to start participating in this "School of Life", the new recruit also needs a friend to encourage him or her along the way.

Life is simply too hard, too difficult, without the backing of a real friend.

A real friend is someone who is willing to be frank with you; someone who is there to encourage you not to give up when the going gets tough; someone who helps you find wisdom to overcome difficulties.

Projek OPRUIM, as a "school of life", aims to teach the basic principles of an industrious life to participants (the willingness to face and live by the truth; to do what is required; to serve others; to get reconciled again when things went wrong; to believe in yourself and others...). A new recruit in Projek OPRUIM will need quite a bit of encouragement from a true friend to persevere, as the project offers participants the opportunity to practice these skills in the various activities it undertakes.

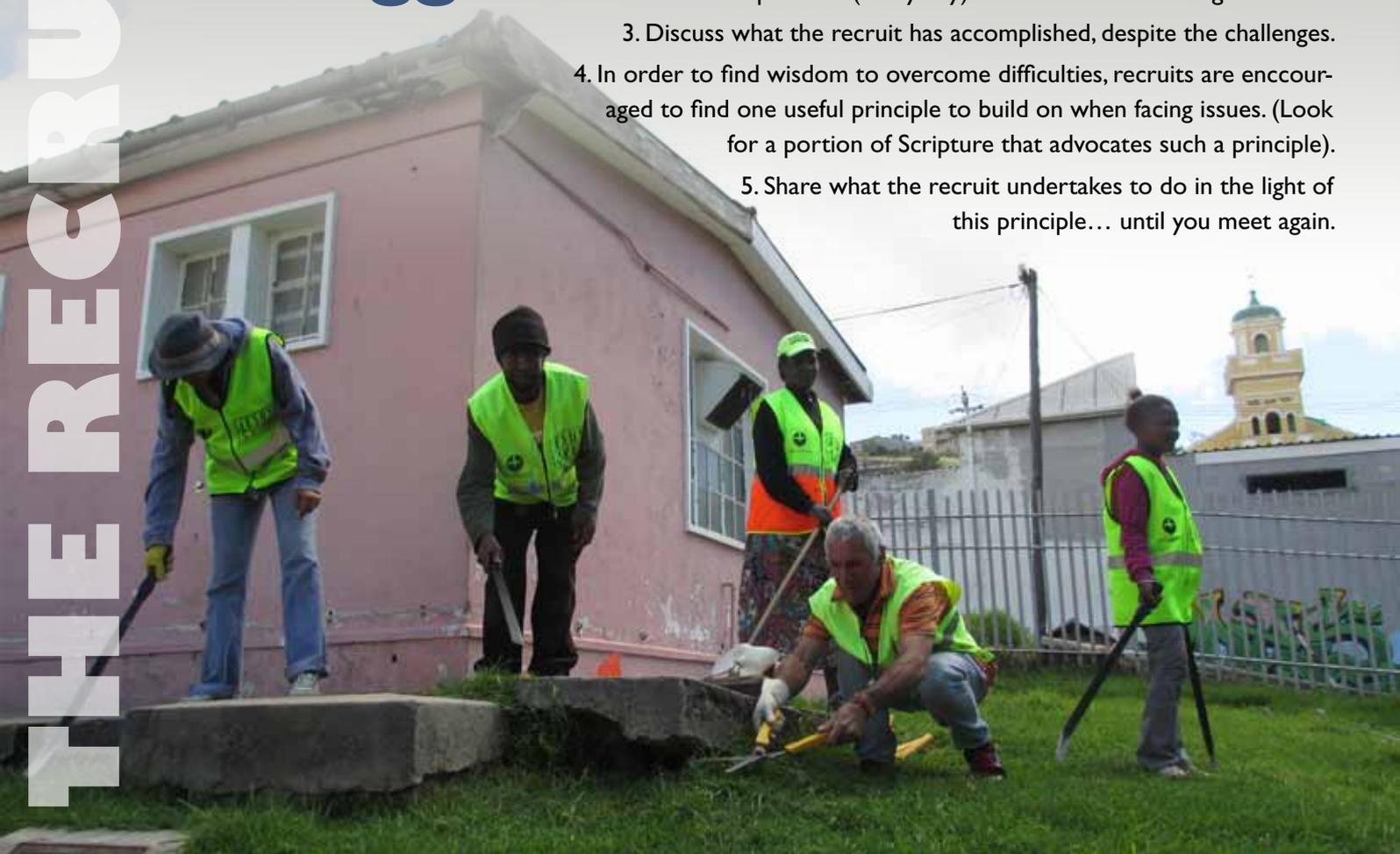
Are you prepared to be a friend to a new recruit?

We suggest

We suggest that recruits meet regularly with their friends to help them deal with the challenges of participating in the "school of life". A wise approach to such meetings could be to:

1. Discuss events of the past week for which the recruit is grateful.
2. Discuss the practical (every-day) issues that arose during this week.
3. Discuss what the recruit has accomplished, despite the challenges.
4. In order to find wisdom to overcome difficulties, recruits are encouraged to find one useful principle to build on when facing issues. (Look for a portion of Scripture that advocates such a principle).
5. Share what the recruit undertakes to do in the light of this principle... until you meet again.

THE RECRUIT



Ephesians 4:28 – He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

What the friend of a new recruit in Projek OPRUIM needs to know

A new recruit will get a first shift (normally four hours) to join a team of workers under the supervision of a foreman, and then get paid R50 for faithful co-operation on completion of the task. (Note: the payment is for “faithful co-operation,” not for labour performed. Projek OPRUIM is, after all, a “school of life” and not an employment agent.)

No participant in Projek OPRUIM is “employed” by the project. This effectively implies that there is no commitment to anything beyond the completion of the task at hand. Instead, the recruit joins a pool of participants who each gets further opportunities to join a next shift, depending on his or her position in the pool (queue). In order to be get onto a shift, a participant needs to:

1. be present;
2. wait patiently for his or her turn to book a next shift (which usually takes place the following day); and
3. report for this booked shift at least 15 minutes before the designated time (sometimes even earlier). If a participant fails to be punctual, he or she

loses the booking. These measures are designed to help participants learn how to be diligent, punctual, patient and responsible.

The new recruit needs to understand how his or her position in the queue is determined, and how shifts are allocated. This helps participants realise that every person, wherever he finds himself, is personally responsible to adhere to certain rules and regulations that are associated with everyday activities. It also teaches participants that it is possible for anyone to improve his situation by making himself more and more available and appreciated.

The queue system basically works like this:

1. Every time a participant has completed a shift he is moved

one step further to the front of the queue. This happens eight times, after which he goes to the back of the queue to start the cycle anew.

2. Should a participant’s position in the queue not result in an opportunity to book a next shift, it is normally possible to volunteer as an extra worker on a shift. Volunteering obviously means there is no payment involved, but it does result in being moved one step further to the front of the queue. In this way a participant can improve the possibility of booking a next (paid) shift the next time available shifts are handed out and booked.

For diligent and co-operative participants in Projek OPRUIM there are additional opportunities, such as getting into the “first team” or being trained and used as a foreman on a shift. This provides suitable progress rewards for diligent behavior in the processes of Projek OPRUIM’s “school of life”.

The goal of faithful participation in this “the school of life” is to have one’s name on the Projek OPRUIM “graduation list”. While the project does not look for, or place persons in employment, the list is made available to potential employers. Participation in Projek OPRUIM remains a free choice. Although the principles taught are based on the teachings of Christ, there is no discrimination against gender, origin, belief or handicap. Faithful co-operation is independent of these classifications.

Participants are, however, given the opportunity to join Christian disciple groups (referred to as the “high school of life”). Such groups are the responsibility of the Church and not of Projek OPRUIM.



How to support the project

- Ask God to make the project a blessing to those who participate or make use of its services.
- Promote the activities of the project. The solution it offers is very simple: The more activities the project can undertake, the more all levels of the community benefit by it.
- Make a donation to make more OPHELP activities possible.

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