



DAY 2

VBS
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The Easy VBS®



STELLAR SMALL GROUP

PRESCHOOL LEADER GUIDE

DURING STELLAR



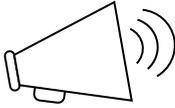
Get Crew Leaders involved!

Guide Crew Leaders to participate right along with kids. When Crew Leaders listen, get involved, and have fun, kids do too!



Call on kids to help.

Every day, allow kids who are paying attention to pass out supplies, read Scripture, or be your helper. Kids love feeling important and helpful!



Use an attention-getting signal.

Attention-getting signals let kids know when it's time to stop what they're doing and look at you. Examples include: **Leader:** "1, 2, 3... Eyes on me!" **Kids:** "1, 2... Eyes on you!"

Leader: "If you hear me, clap once!" (Clap once and wait.) "If you hear me, clap twice!" (Clap twice and wait.)

Leader: "Mission control to crew!"

Kids: "Ready for launch!" (Sit up straight and freeze like astronauts preparing for takeoff.)



Repeat the daily Main Point often.

Every activity focuses on one memorable Bible truth called the Main Point. Repeating the Main Point helps kids remember it and apply it to their lives after VBS.



Repeat expectations often and explain transitions.

Repeating expectations helps kids remember what is expected of them, creating a structured and positive learning environment. Clear transitions between activities prevent confusion and help kids shift their focus smoothly. When we take time to explain what's happening next, kids feel more secure and ready to engage.



Shine Jesus' light!

TOKENS

This year, our kids will participate in a Token Challenge! To recognize and encourage meaningful participation and positive behavior, we will be rewarding kids with tokens throughout VBS!

- **Who is giving out tokens:** All of our volunteers will receive tokens to reward kids as they catch them engaging well in VBS.
- **What are we doing with the tokens:** Kids will work together to reach an Overall Token Goal and receive a celebration on the last night of VBS! Tokens are used to reward kids for remarkable expressions of love, kindness, great listening, participation, and memorizing our Main Points and Bible verse!
- **When are we passing out tokens:** Immediately! We want to help kids connect their positive attitudes, behaviors, and participation with the reward of the token, so as soon as you see a behavior to celebrate, pass out the reward!
- **Where are we getting tokens from:** We will have tokens available for all volunteers at check-in each night. As we use up our stash, there will be designated spots to go to for more throughout the night.
- **How do we distribute tokens:** Our volunteers will keep their eyes and ears tuned in to our kids so they can immediately reward them with a token to celebrate what we want repeated! They will praise the specific behavior that earned the reward when we give them their token. For example:
 - Active engagement during each rotation
 - Invite kids to “Show Me What You Know!” and let them earn a token by sharing the memory verse, finishing the lyrics to a worship song, sharing today’s “Main Point”, etc.
 - Displays of the fruit of the spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, self-control, gentleness
 - Demonstrating good manners, listening attentively, and following instructions the first time they're asked
 - Being respectful to volunteers, peers, and the VBS environment.
- **When do kids turn in their tokens:** There will be buckets available at each rotation for kids to drop their tokens in. All tokens will be brought to the closing session and combined so we can see how we're progressing towards our goal each night!
- **Remember, the goal of using tokens is to reinforce positive behaviors,** encourage active participation, and create a fun and rewarding experience for all kids attending VBS. Thank you for your commitment to making VBS a memorable and impactful event!

MAIN POINT

The light of Jesus brings joy!

Bible Story: Jesus enters Jerusalem as a king.
(Luke 19:28-40)

Bible Verse: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Luke 19:38)

Bible Insights

- Living for centuries under the rule of a foreign king must have felt like a long, endless, dark path for God’s people. Light began to dawn as they started recognizing how Jesus fulfilled God’s promises—although not in the way most people envisioned!
- Hundreds of years before Jesus’ birth, the prophet Zechariah proclaimed this message to God’s people: “Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is humble, riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey’s colt” (Zechariah 9:9).
- The joyful cheers, “Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in highest heaven!” (Luke 19:38) had deep meaning for Jews shouting them. These words are from Psalm 118 and are part of the Hallel, which they sang at Passover.
- During the Maccabean Revolt (167–160 B.C.), a priest named Judas Maccabeus led forces to defeat the Seleucid army and reclaim Jerusalem. In celebration, the people waved palm branches and cheered as he entered Jerusalem. It’s likely that those praising Jesus in Luke 19 recalled this key celebration, hailing Jesus as their coming, conquering king.
- This is the first occurrence of Jesus *openly* encouraging his title of Messiah.



Why It Matters Today

Kids love to celebrate! When something exciting happens, they naturally cheer, dance, and clap. But true joy isn’t just about big moments—it comes from knowing Jesus, the light of the world. Every good thing in their lives, from laughter with friends to a warm hug, is a reminder of His love and care. By helping kids recognize Jesus as the source of all joy, we can guide them to praise Him not just in the big celebrations, but in everyday moments too. Today, encourage kids to let their joy shine by pointing to Jesus, the one who gives us light and life!

Day 2 Supplies:



- **Day 2 Small Group Posters (1/station)**
- Plush Jesus (1/station)
- Yellow, orange, and white tissue paper or streamers (for comet tail)
- Glitter glue or metallic markers (for stars and light effects)
- Small paper plates or foam circles (gold, silver, or white. for the comet's core)
- Stickers of stars/shiny shapes
- Glue and tape
- **Day 2 Main Point Labels (1/kid)**

Before You Blast Off:

- Display Day 2 Posters
- Precut 10-12 in strips of streamers or tissue paper cut into strips for the tails of the comets. (3-4 strips per kid).
- Set out supplies for Joyful Comets in groups for Crews and create a demo to show kids.
- ****Consider attaching the 'Day 2 Main Point Label' to each plate ahead of time.**
- Bookmark Luke 19:39-40 in an Nlrv Bible.



VBS @ ROCK BRIDGE SMALL GROUP PLAYLIST

Blast Off!

Gather children with their Crews. Introduce yourself in case there are children who are new to Preschool Small Group.

SAY Welcome, friends! Today we'll discover that **The Light of Jesus Brings Joy!** And we have so many good things to do today. I'll show you some of them. Please stand on your happy feet and follow along with me! (tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.")

We'll play. (Wave arms and hop from one foot to the other)

And shout, "Hooray!" (Pump your fist in the air and shout, "Hooray!")

We'll draw. (Draw a big heart in the air in front of you)

And we'll crawl! (Crawl around in a small circle)

We'll stand. (Stand up tall)

And lend a helping hand. (Give a few high-fives)

We'll have such a good time. (Show two thumbs-up)

And we'll shine! (Fling out fingers and wiggle them like twinkling stars)

That was fun! Let's do those good things again. Repeat the rhyme, giving kids a chance to catch on.

Today we'll find out that **The Light of Jesus brings joy!**

Sing the Welcome Song

SAY We shine Jesus' light when we sing happy songs with loving words. So let's twinkle and shine as we sing our welcome song.

Have everyone stand as they're able and sing this song to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, (Fling out fingers four times, like blinking lights)

Jesus loves you as you are. (Hug yourself)

You are special, yes, it's true. (Point forward, then nod head "yes")

I'm so glad that God made you. (Put hand on chest, then point up with both hands)

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, (Fling out fingers four times, like blinking lights)

Jesus loves you as you are. (Hug yourself)

SPACESHIP TIP

Repeat, repeat! Feel free to do activities more than once. You'll give kids time to catch on and jump in.



SAY One day, Jesus was walking toward a town called Jerusalem with his friends. These good friends followed Jesus and saw all the good things he did for people. They got to see Jesus' light shine every day!

Let's pretend we're walking with Jesus, too. We'll move in a big circle all around our room, like we're going to town! Crew Leaders, you'll lead the way. You can march, hop, or create a fun moon walk! Kids, follow along and do all the good things your Crew Leaders do as you move around the room.



Play music from the VBS Rotations Playlist and travel around the room for about 30-45 seconds. Call Attention back.

Good traveling! Now everyone stop right where you are and take a rest. You've traveled so far, and you're almost near a town. Please have a seat on the floor where you are and listen to what Jesus told his friends.

Pretend to Be Donkeys

SAY Our true story from the Bible is from the book of Luke. Jesus told two friends to go get a donkey. Hmm. I don't see any donkeys around, do you? Pause for reactions from the whole group. I have an idea! Let's all be donkeys.

Have everyone crouch down on all fours like donkeys.

Have everyone *hee-haw* several times.

Have kids follow Crew Leaders and crawl, braying like donkeys, back to their blankets.

Call attention back.

Good donkeys! It's such a good thing to have fun and pretend, isn't it?



King Jesus

SAY

Well, the friends brought a donkey to Jesus. And Jesus rode the donkey the rest of the way to Jerusalem. Hmm. Let's pick our own very special donkey for Jesus to ride.

Hold up the plush Jesus and select a kid who has been quiet and engaged.

Good drawing, friends! This next part of the story is going to be good!

It's time to carry Jesus to Jerusalem. Jesus riding a donkey was a good thing! It showed people that Jesus was the King they'd been hoping for. Crews, let's make two lines facing each other as we celebrate Jesus riding on our special donkey!

Place the Jesus on the special donkey's back and have everyone clap and cheer and say, "Hooray, King Jesus!"

We are going to line up and create a tunnel for our special donkey to carry Jesus to Jerusalem. Everyone will clap and cheer and say, "Hooray, King Jesus!" Let's practice! Shout "Hooray, King Jesus!"

Show kids the Bible Story Poster, pointing out Jesus riding a donkey and people cheering and smiling.

Think of Good Things You Hope For

Wow! There was cheering and smiles and Jesus! So many good things happened that day! **The Light of Jesus Brings Joy!**

ASK

What's a good thing you hope will happen in your life?

Share an age-appropriate example from your own life to begin. Perhaps you hope to get a new pet, or you hope to go on a special trip with your family.

Invite Crew Leaders to share next, then have kids answer the question, too.

Crew Leaders give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

SAY

The people who saw Jesus riding a donkey hoped he'd bring good things to their lives. They thought Jesus would be a good king who would help them. They didn't know that Jesus wasn't just going to be *their* king then, but Jesus would also be our king now!

Jesus, God's special Son, was riding into Jerusalem so he could bring God's light and love to the whole world—including you and me!



SPACESHIP TIP

You go first! Kids might not have a quick answer to this question. Invite Crew Leaders to share their own story will give them an example and a little extra time to think.



Joyful Comet – Shining the light of Jesus!

SUPPLIES: Black or dark blue construction paper (for space background), Yellow, orange, and white tissue paper or streamers (for comet tail), Glitter glue or metallic markers (for stars and light effects), Small paper plates or foam circles (for the comet's core), Stickers of stars/shiny shapes, Glue and tape, [Day 2 Main Point Labels \(1/kid\)](#)

SAY

The light of Jesus brings joy! Most of the crowd was happy to see Jesus and shined his light with praise. But there were some people in the crowd who got mad. They didn't believe that Jesus *really* is God's Son. They thought he was just a regular teacher and that he should tell people *not* to praise him. Listen to what Jesus said.

Read aloud Luke 19:39-40.

If the people didn't praise him, the stones along the road would burst into cheers! We're going to make our own joyful comets! Just like a comet lights up the sky with joy, we shine with the joy of Jesus. Think of good words to describe and praise Jesus—maybe words from our songs this week!

First, we will start by decorating a small paper plate to represent the core of the comet. You can color it, add stickers, or use metallic markers to make it shine. Next, we will attach strips of yellow, orange, and white tissue paper or streamers to the back of their comet to create a glowing tail, representing joyful praise spreading like light.

Once the comet is complete, they will glue it onto a sheet of black construction paper to serve as the space background. Using glitter glue or metallic markers, they can add stars, planets, or other space elements to complete the scene. Give each kid a Main Point Day 2 Label to put in the center of their comet.

Wrap up by reminding the children that just as comets shine joyfully in space, we are called to let Jesus' light shine through us with joy. Encourage them to think of ways they can share Jesus' light this week.

