



DAY 4

VBS
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The Easy VBS®



STELLAR SMALL GROUP

PRESCHOOL LEADER GUIDE

DURING STELLAR



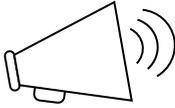
Get Crew Leaders involved!

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!



The light of Jesus shines through us!

Bible Story: Philip helps the Ethiopian. (Acts 8:26-39)

Bible Verse: “He told him the good news about Jesus.”
(Acts 8:35b)

Bible Insight

- While the Ethiopian had wealth and power, he walked in darkness without understanding God’s Word. God provided Philip to shine a light—one that changed the Ethiopian’s life for eternity!
- Philip is often called Philip the Evangelist, to differentiate him from the Apostle Philip (John 1:43). Acts 6 tells of seven men (including Philip) chosen as deacons who would lead the early church.
- The official didn’t come from modern-day Ethiopia. The ancient Nubian kingdom could be found near the Nile, closer to where we would find Sudan today.
- Jewish law prohibited a eunuch from entering the temple (Deuteronomy 23:1). When the Ethiopian went to worship in Jerusalem, he’d only be able to stand in the outer courts.
- The scroll read by the Ethiopian would have been an expensive investment. Considering that and his lengthy trip to Jerusalem, it’s evident that the eunuch had more than a passing curiosity about God.

Why It Matters Today

Kids may feel like they’re usually the ones who *need* help. They know what it’s like to wrestle with challenging Kids might sometimes feel like they’re the ones who need help—whether it’s figuring out tough homework, tying their shoes, or reaching something high on a shelf. But no matter their age, kids have something incredible to share: the light of Jesus! They can make a difference not just by helping others, but by sharing the Good News of Jesus’ love and salvation. Their words, excitement, and faith can point people to Jesus in ways that adults might not. What an amazing truth—God can use kids to shine His light and share His love with the world! Use today’s activities to encourage kids to boldly share Jesus and make an eternal impact on those around them.

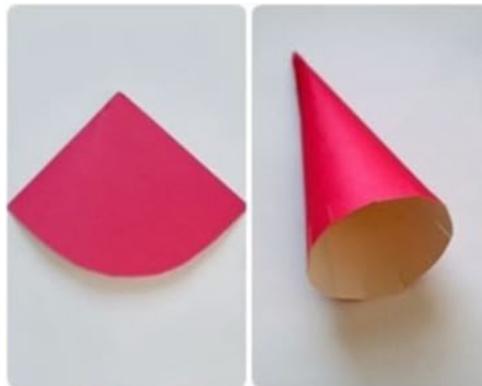


Day 4 Supplies:

- yarn
- scissors
- Small 3 in paper cups (white, silver, or light blue work best)
- Colored construction paper (variety of colors)
- Colored tissue paper (red, yellow, orange for flames) or streamers
- **Cone Template** (on multicolored cardstock. 1 cone/kid)
- Glow-in-the-dark paint markers
- Markers or stickers for decoration
- String or yarn (optional, for hanging)
- Glue sticks/glue dots
- tape
- scissors
- **Day 4 Main Point Label (1/kid)**

Before You Blast Off

- Cut strips of red, yellow, and orange tissue paper to look like fire for the rocket craft. (or use streamers)
- Cut cone templates out of colored paper for the top of the rocket. Roll and staple(or use glue dots) so they are ready for kids.
- Cut Day 4 labels. Attach to each cup.



VBS @ ROCK BRIDGE SMALL GROUP PLAYLIST

Blast Off!

Gather children with their Crews. Introduce yourself in case there are children who are new.

SAY

Welcome to our Bible Small Group for our last day of VBS. Together we've had so much fun shining Jesus' light! Being friends with Jesus brings light and happiness to so many people all over planet Earth.

Earth is part of our solar system. The solar system has stars, like the sun; planets, like the Earth; and comets, too! Comets are little chunks of dust and ice that travel around the sun! Let's pretend we're little comets and move around to say hello to our friends and Crew Leaders.

Have Crews each stand in a circle, facing out.

Invite Crew Leaders to call kids in their Crews by name.

When kids hear their names, they'll move like a comet around the circle, giving friends a high-five.

Crew Leaders continue until all kids have traveled. Then call for Crew Leaders to travel, too!

Use a signal to get everyone's attention.



Sing the Welcome Song

SAY

Today we'll see that **The light of Jesus shines through us!**

Let's help everyone remember Jesus' love as we sing our welcome song one more time.

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

Sitting in knee-to-knee circles helps kids practice good listening skills! Everyone can see and hear each other as they share.

Remember, yesterday we talked about how soldiers led Jesus away to the cross.

Jesus died on that cross because of his love for us.

Today's totally true story happened after Jesus had died, come back to life, and gone back to heaven. It's about an important man from Ethiopia. This guy worked for the queen, taking care of her money. He was super smart and pretty important.

Begin the Bible Story

Have everyone get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Crews.

ASK

Tell about something you've seen on a walk. Invite Crew Leaders to share first.

Crew Leaders give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Walk With Philip

SAY

In our Bible story, a man named Philip was walking from one city to another. Let's pat our legs to make walking sounds.

Lead everyone in patting slowly, one hand at a time.

Practice "walking" faster by patting your legs a little faster.

Return to a slow "walk" as you continue the story.

As Philip walked, he saw a carriage carrying a super-important man! This man worked for the queen of another kingdom. He was far from home. Let's make walking sounds as we click our tongues to sound like the feet of the horse pulling his carriage.

Lead kids in patting their legs and making clip-clop clicking sounds with their tongues for a few seconds.

Philip listened carefully to the important man. Have kids stop patting their legs and quietly listen for a few seconds. **He heard the man reading the Bible! But the man needed some help.**

God told him to go talk to the man. So Philip ran over to the man's carriage. Let's make our hands run!

Pat your legs faster to make "running" sounds.

Listen to what Philip said next.

Read aloud Acts 8:30-31.

Sometimes there are things in the Bible we don't understand—even grown-ups don't understand everything! We need help. **And The light of Jesus shines through us!**

Talk About Questions Together

SAY People shine Jesus' light when they talk about God and help people know God more. That makes me wonder if you have questions about God. Let's talk about this with your Crew friends.

ASK **What question do you have about God or Jesus?** Crew Leaders can share first.

Crew Leaders give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

SAY Those are good questions. You can talk about those questions with people here at church, at home, or even when you're walking like Philip did!

ASK **Who do you talk to when you have questions?** Share about someone from your own life. Then invite a few responses from the whole group.

SAY It's so good to have people who help us with our questions. They shine Jesus' light for us! **The Light of Jesus shines through us!**

Show Excitement

SAY Jesus welcomes all our questions so we can grow closer to him as a friend. And that's just what the super-important man did. He invited Philip to come up on the carriage and talk with him about the Bible!

Show the Bible Story Poster.

Philip got to tell the man about Jesus! When the man heard how much Jesus loves people, he got so excited! How do you look when you're excited? Show me!

ASK **What does your face do?** Raise eyebrows and smile excitedly.

What do your arms do? Clap, wave, or pump fists in the air.

What do your feet do? Hop up and down.

SAY Wow! That's a lot of excitement!

Soon Philip and the man passed some water, and the man asked if he could be baptized. Being baptized is one way to show that we're friends with Jesus.

Listen to what the man said.

Read aloud Acts 8:36-38.

Once Philip helped the man understand more about Jesus, the man wanted to be Jesus' friend! Jesus' love and forgiveness and kindness are for all people—people who live here in [name of your community] and people who live far away.

WHAT WE FOUND

Wow! Kids had so much to say when we asked about their questions about God or Jesus. And later when we asked what they knew about God or Jesus, they shared even more! Their little brains are so full...of questions and insight!



SPACESHIP TIP

Feel free to briefly share your church's traditions related to baptism, as it feels appropriate.

Thank Jesus

SAY You may not know every single thing in the Bible, but I imagine that you know lots of wonderful things about Jesus.

ASK Call out some things you know about God or Jesus.

Invite responses from the whole group.

SAY Let's make those things our prayer. God loves to listen to us, so let's thank him for all those good things.

Pray, repeating some of the simple things children shared. Thank Jesus for the people who help us know more about him.

Say Goodbye

SAY Thank you all for shining Jesus' light to me this week during Small Group. It's been so fun having out-of-this-world adventures with you!

Huddle together, placing hands in the center.

On the count of three, shout, "Shine Jesus' light!"

Thank you so much for spending this week learning about Jesus with me!

Blast Off with Jesus' Light! (Paper Cup Rocket)

SUPPLIES: Small paper cups (white, silver, or blue work best), Colored tissue paper cut in strips (red, yellow, orange), Various colors construction paper cut into triangles, Glow-in-the-dark paint markers, Markers or stickers for decoration, String or yarn (optional, for hanging), Glue sticks, tape, scissors, [Day 4 Label \(1/kid\)](#)

SAY Philip traveled to share the Good News, just like a rocket zooms through space! When the Ethiopian heard about Jesus, his heart lit up with joy. And just like a rocket blasts off into the darkness, we are sent to shine Jesus' light wherever we go! Today we will be creating a rocket to remind them that we are sent to shine Jesus' light.

Begin by instructing Crew Leaders to hand each child a small paper cup. Have them turn their cups upside down so the open end faces down, then let them decorate the outside using markers, stickers, and glow-in-the-dark markers.

Encourage them to attach their 'Day 4 Label' on their rocket so it is visible. Next, provide the strips of red, yellow, and orange tissue paper and show them how to glue or tape the strips inside the open end of the cup so they hang down, looking like a rocket blast. Finally, they can attach the triangle tops to their rockets.

If you want the rockets to "fly," punch a hole in the top of each cup and help the kids attach a string for hanging. As they work, remind them that just as a rocket blasts off into the darkness, we are sent to share Jesus' light with the world. When everyone is finished, encourage the kids to hold up their rockets and say together, **The light of Jesus shines through us!**

