

# Sharing THE GOSPEL with kids

The word gospel means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.

## When Will We Share the Gospel?

Throughout VBS, we consistently and frequently present the Gospel because we believe children can personally choose to trust Christ as their Savior. This is most effective when kids hear the message repeatedly and have space to process it. On Tuesday night, 2nd–5th graders will be given the chance to express any spiritual next steps. As a spiritual counselor, you'll have the privilege of talking with kids who are ready to follow Jesus, consider baptism, or ask faith-related questions. Please review our Gospel presentation so you're prepared to guide them with confidence and clarity.

## The Goal: Consistent, Frequent, and Low-Pressure

We aim to share the Gospel in ways that are consistent, frequent, and free of pressure. While many children do trust Christ at a young age, their desire to please adults means we must be thoughtful in our approach. Let the child take the lead. Avoid asking directly if they want to trust Christ unless they've shown genuine interest and understanding. Instead, create a safe space where kids feel free to process with you or ask questions when they're ready.

### What to Say:

-  **GOD RULES.** The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. (Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17)
-  **WE SINNED.** Since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)
-  **GOD PROVIDED.** God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)
-  **JESUS GIVES.** Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)
-  **WE RESPOND.** We can respond to Jesus. The ABCs of Becoming a Christian is a simple tool that helps us remember how to respond when prompted by the Holy Spirit to receive the gift Jesus offers.

### Your Role:

Please take the time to fill out the response form completely. It is okay for a kid to reach you and still not be ready to follow Jesus. Thank them for their questions and pray with each kid for God to continue to make them curious about Him! Kids often need to hear the Gospel message many times before they can understand and respond to it. Praise God that you get to be a seed planter!



# Gospel Counseling

Kid's First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Crew #: \_\_\_\_\_

Your First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Ask:** Do you have any questions about what you heard today or something specific you want to talk about?

*Allow time for kid to think/ask. Respond to questions as appropriate.*

2. **Ask:** What do you think each of these things you heard today means?

*Rank the kids understanding of each concept: ( 3- fully grasps; 2-Some understanding/has questions; 1- no understanding)*

- God Rules \_\_\_\_\_

- We Sinned \_\_\_\_\_

- God Provided \_\_\_\_\_

- Jesus Gives \_\_\_\_\_

- We Respond \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Ask:** Do you go to church anywhere? If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Ask:** What is one thing going on in your life right now that we can pray about?

5. Close in prayer. Walk kid back to Station or Crew.

6. Are you aware of any decisions this kid made about their faith?

*This could be putting their faith in Jesus, desiring to be baptized, or wanting a follow-up conversation.*

Please list any/all: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did you learn anything about this kid that would help the Children's Minister follow up well with them?

*Examples can include hobbies, family dynamics, points of interest or trials the camper is facing.*

For Children's Minister - Notes: