

FAQ Sheet

I've never done this before, where do I start?

If you are new to the VBS planning process, welcome, we're glad you're here! We would suggest talking to volunteers in your church ministry who might have VBS experience and conversing with leaders in your church to brainstorm ways and dates to hold an event such as this. Recruiting volunteers after a date has been picked is also a very necessary first step to planning a VBS. Our guide is very user friendly, and we provide explanations of each activity and lesson, so simply following the script is a great place to start!

What is included in this guide?

Our guide includes an overview chart of the five "Big Ideas" and all of the aspects that go with it. It also includes a leader's guide, "Base Camp" guide including music, explanations, scripts and skits. Next is the Bible Path packet, including the Forgotten Voices stories and Bible stories, as well as reflective questions, applications, and memory verses. Fourth is the Craft Guide, including craft ideas and instructions to go with each lesson and lists of all supplies needed. A Game Packet is also included, consisting of supplies lists, instructions and transition questions to correspond with each lesson. And lastly, the Snack Section includes snack ideas related to each day's lesson, a list of supplies needed and instructions for each snack.

What age group is this program geared toward?

This particular VBS is geared toward ages Pre-K through 5th grade, although adaptations can be made to reach older children as well.

How many children need to participate?

There is not a requirement of how many children this program needs, however, we suggest aiming to include as many as you would like and as many as your venue can accommodate. Our activities have both large group and small group applications, so it is up to your discretion how you adapt the program.

How many volunteers do we need?

Typically, we recommend that there is at least one volunteer for every 4 preschoolers or kindergarteners, and one volunteer for every 6-8 children between the grades of 1st and 5th. NOTE: The guide is divided into functional roles including Opening Skits, Bible Lessons, Craft Guide, Game packet and Snack Section, so you can easily share expectations and info with specific volunteers,

What denomination are these lessons aligned with?

depending on their assigned role within the team.

Our program is designed as a nondenominational Bible-based program, and there is room for flexibility with many denominations. Our curriculum has been used by churches of a wide variety of denominations

including: Baptist, Brethren in Christ, Lutheran, Methodist, Pentecostal, Seventh-Day Adventist, Assemblies of God, United Methodist, Presbyterian and many more.

Do we have permission to make copies of the teaching materials?

Of course, please do! We suggest that every group leader has a copy of the guide. Other assistants and volunteers may wish to have one, too. We also allow sharing of our VBS program among groups and churches. If you found it to be a success, please help us spread the word!

Can we use the art for promotional purposes?

Most definitely! You will find a variety of print-outs throughout the guide that will be helpful in promoting the VBS. In fact, we ask that you please use the materials we have provided for sharing and advertising, so that we can maintain the branding integrity of the overall curriculum as a publication by Forgotten Voices. In the event that you prefer to develop your own materials, please refer to our style guide.

Is it free?

Yes! Our VBS program has been specifically designed to share the gospel and help kids consider real-life applications for loving others and living generously. We are delighted to share this at absolutely no cost.

Are there hidden costs? Or things that I need to purchase later?

Curriculum downloads are free. Forgotten Voices does not specifically send printed VBS materials by mail, but we encourage you to print and copy the free downloadable materials as you need! Any additional materials you need for VBS activities, snacks, crafts and games are to be purchased at your discretion, and recommended supplies are listed for each activity.

Can these messages be adapted if we don't do a five-day VBS?

Absolutely, all of our materials correspond with a particular day and theme, but you are welcome to pick and choose which messages and activities you produce. We do, however, ask that you maintain the connection of specific stories with Forgotten Voices.

Who is Forgotten Voices?

Our Mission: To demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ by equipping local churches in southern Africa to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children orphaned by AIDS in their communities.

Our Vision: To innovate orphan care through the local church by catalyzing a sustainable, community-based response to the orphan crisis.

Our Founding Values: Christian, Partnership, Inclusive, Integrity, Stewardship, Servant Leadership, Creativity, Transparency, Sustainability.



1215 Gettysbrug Pike, Dillsburg, PA 17019 717.506.3144 vbs@forgottenvoices.org

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