

Dare to Be VBS Overview Notes

Goals for this VBS:

1. Preach the gospel message to children through the book of Daniel (UPA)
 - a. Make the gospel **U**nderstandable
 - b. Make the gospel **P**ractical
 - c. Make the gospel **A**pplicable
2. Uphold the Bible as a valid book that has the information needed for us to be prepared for Jesus' second coming
3. Reach neighborhood children and their parents

VBS Schedule: **Book 1**

1. Advertisement - needs to start 1-2 months before VBS program
2. Registration - pre-registration starts 1 month in advance, actual registration needs starts 1 hour early on the first night!
3. Meal first vs snacks later - 15 minutes
4. Song Service - 10-15 minutes
5. Theme talk - 15 minutes
6. Stations: (1) Game (2) Memory Challenge (3) Craft (4) Character Trait - 80 minutes
7. Follow-up

Advertisement (found in the marketing and graphics folder):

- Helps to have an Advertisement coordinator:
- Facebook
- Bulletin inserts
- Local newspaper
- Banner in church yard

Registration (found in the forms Folder):

- Consider an online form such as VBS Pro. It's made by "group VBS" but has a free version for churches to use even if not using the group program. It is an excellent, easy to use system, and even has a great way to record attendance. <https://www.group.com/childrens-ministry/vbs/vbs-pro/>
- Google forms is also an excellent option that allows online registration
- We have included a form you can use
- If you are looking for just paper, we have included an easy to fill out paper registration option.
- Medical Release form and a Media Release Form (found in the forms folder)

- If you purchased VBS program before Jan 2024, then you may not have media release form, just email me and I'll send it to you

Meal time: **Book 6**

Music: **Book 2**

Theme Talks: **Book 3**

1. These are fully scripted
2. I recommend you practice ahead of time so that it's not just "read"
3. Will need powerpoint or some other screen (we used large TV with HDMI adaptor)

Break out sessions (Books 4, 5, 7, 8)

1. Recommend having stations children rotate through - builds movement into the day.
2. If church too small, then consider having kids leave room for 5 minutes and march around church before returning
3. Allows you to accommodate more groups

Character segment: **Book 4**

- These theme talks are designed to introduce children to character traits that will help them be successful not only in this life, but in the life to come! Each character trait is illustrated with activities, stories, and object lessons. A practical application is included in each session.
- The following character traits are emphasized this VBS program:

Faithfulness	Wisdom	Humility	Courage	Trustworthiness
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- A materials list is included below as well as with each separate presentation to aid you in planning ahead for what you will need. Don't be afraid to get a teenager to be your assistant—kids love learning from young people.
- Consider having a character segment coordinator who works to make sure all the materials are ready for the presenter each evening. The talks are fully scripted, but work BEST when they are internalized and presented rather than just read.
- *Practice giving the talks 2-3 times in front of a mirror. Really makes a big difference*

Memory Challenge: **Book 5**

- In this segment of Vacation Bible School, you have the opportunity of reinforcing the theme talk, memory verses, and character trait with fun activities and games.
- Through games and fun activities, This station capitalizes on the different learning styles of children—visual, auditory, tactile—to reinforce the lessons they are learning in the other stations.
- The goal is **participation NOT winning!** Children are rewarded for trying rather than getting the correct answer.

Games: **Book 7**

- Kids need wiggle time and movement. Game time is an opportunity to build cooperative skills while channeling those wiggles into productive, healthy exercise!
- We have found older teen boys do a really good job at leading this station!
- Our book has suggested games with detailed instructions for each night. If you have the opportunity to play them outside—even better—otherwise a gym works great.
- Whoever is leading this should play all of the games ahead of time to work out any kinks.
- You may not play all three games each time—but it's better to keep things moving than to have too much time!

Crafts: **Book 8**

- The crafts are meant to reinforce the lessons each evening. There is a script that goes with each craft and is meant to be read before kids start the craft.
- Consider playing the memory verse songs and theme songs while the kids are doing the craft.
- The crafts are purposefully easy and use supplies readily available.

Decorations: **Book 9.**

- All kits have the jpeg or pdf for a backdrop. We can get this printed and shipped to you, however, in my experience, it is often less expensive if you find a local printer who can print the backdrop for you, locally.
- Some of you are VERY good at decorating. Some of you are like me, and decorating makes you very tired.
- For those who are like me, I've included a countdown calendar for when to start planning decorations. We also include a supply list for items to have on hand when you go to set things up.

Sabbath Celebration: **Book 10.**

- Opportunity to invite community members and their children to attend church to celebrate finishing Vacation Bible School.
- Make sure your members are aware about this Sabbath several months in advance.
- Work closely with your pastor or head elder or worship committee, well in advance (how? see preparation checklist, book 10).
- Include local Adventist school.
- Publicize early.
- Have a display table of their crafts in the lobby of the church.
- Be sure to have a gift for each child who attends (or one per family).
- Have a special fellowship dinner following the service.

Remember, the goal of VBS is childhood evangelism.

- Make sure that you get contact information from the families that attend.
- Follow up with them.
- Invite them to other events.
- Offer Bible studies.
- Many parents have been converted after they followed their children to church!

Other Notes
