

One Day Vacation Bible School

B.I.B.L.E.* 2000

* Basic Information Before Leaving Earth

B.I.B.L.E.*

(*BASIC INFORMATION BEFORE LEAVING EARTH)

...VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IN A DAY

B.I.B.L.E. Entertains and inspires Christian kids and their friends age 4-grade 6 as a ONE DAY (4 ½ hours +) summer event filled with memorable Vacation Bible School styled activities.

B.I.B.L.E. Brings God's Word to life as students visit two Bible Stations in one day. MOUNTAIN QUEST concentrates on mountain top experiences with God. EARTH MATTERS features a personal focus with emphasis how we treat each other.

B.I.B.L.E. spotlights a variety of delightful "earth to heaven" experiences. Gather at *From Here to Eternity* Opening. Eat at *Future-teria* and play games at *Gamebreak-Kids In Motion*. Visit *Way Cool Adventures* for a trio of Bible skits. Learn about salvation at the *B.I.B.L.E. Factory*. Sing inspiring songs at *Sound Forth-Rhythms of the Heart*. Create a fantastic craft project at *Art Attack*.

B.I.B.L.E. suggests delicious food at appropriate times. Multiple options include the *Backyard Breakfast*, *Earth Jam Lunch* and *Global Picnic Supper*. Toss in an evening *Friends Around the World Ice Cream Social* and the day is complete.

B.I.B.L.E. furnishes basic preschool curriculum ideas (ages 4-5). Preschool students are named A FEW GOOD KIDS and participate in large group activities with older students. Home Base (private classroom) time is optional for Bible stories, crafting, play and rest.

B.I.B.L.E. is Christ centered and fun. The theme is a hook upon which to hang a memory and helps students build their firm foundation in Jesus while spreading the good news of salvation to their world.



GENERAL PREPARATION

THE SUGGESTIONS IN THIS WORKBOOK ARE A GUIDELINE. Be creative! Build an exciting one day event using B.I.B.L.E. (BASIC INFORMATION BEFORE LEAVING EARTH) stories and activities. Teach God's Word from your perspective.

B.I.B.L.E. INCLUDES PRESCHOOL (AGES 4-5) THROUGH GRADE SIX. Involve grades 7-12 youth and college students as assistants.

STUDENTS GROUPS ARE COLOR CODED. Individual groups display brightly colored name tags. Color is an invaluable tool when trying to identify stray students.

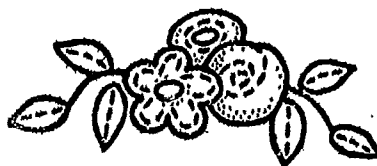
B.I.B.L.E. STATION TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO PREPARE THE ACTIVITIES IN THEIR STATION. Each B.I.B.L.E. Station (*Mountain Quest* and *Earth Matters*) is repeated to separate groups during the day. As age levels change, adjust the teaching activities.

ACTIVITY TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO PREPARE SPECIFIC GAMES, FOOD OR ACTIVITY. Use curriculum suggestions to prepare the activities before Vacation Bible School begins.

PURCHASE SUPPLIES AS NEEDED. Give the bill to the director or ask for a check in advance. Look for sales, discounts for churches, catalog purchases and scrap materials from backyards. Use the church tax exemption number when appropriate.

CREATE EXCITEMENT. Have fun and students will catch the enthusiasm. Greet everyone with cheerfulness while moving from place to place.

Copy all pages needed for the local church. Make as many copies of each page as needed for personal use. Do not give this program to any other church or group. Instead, give interested folks our order form or address and telephone number. This will allow CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MINISTRIES to continue production of exciting, inspiring, positive Christian programs at a low cost to churches across the nation.





DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR

Create a astounding summer event that matches any Independence Day celebration in the nation! This is an enjoyable event that can change the attitudes of people in your church and community about children's programming. Student groups visit special B.I.B.L.E. areas where they learn Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. This One Day Vacation Bible School, when divided into reasonable sections, is completed by people working in cooperation with the director. Sound good? It is!

ENJOYING THE DIRECTOR POSITION. Wear comfortable, casual clothing. No special costume is needed for this summer day program. Spend time praying about the entire program and enter into the task of directing positively. Be assured that the Lord will honor your efforts.

DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITY. Never apologize when asking for help. Approach B.I.B.L.E. as an exciting team adventure. Trust the staff to carry out their assigned tasks.

PRACTICE A POSITIVE APPROACH. Eliminate negative talk. Statements like "We can't do it", "We never did it this way", "There's no money" or "No one will teach" have no place in this program. If the director's attitude is right, even the grouchiest saint responds cheerfully.

PRAY. Pray for the staff, the children and the set up. Take each detail before the Lord and then-RELAX!

PLAN! Read this workbook and mark areas needing special attention. List all details you must handle personally.

ADAPT. It may be necessary to change or eliminate part of B.I.B.L.E. To fit the needs of your local church. Do this during preliminary planning to avoid staff confusion.



SET UP. Provide adequate time for staff members to prepare for the big day. It may be necessary to decorate during the week prior to the program.

STAFF PRAYER. Pray together before the day begins. Those who attend appreciate the “upward boost”. Plan a five minute session one half hour before the day begins.

PRESCHOOL ASSISTANCE. Read curriculum suggestions for A FEW GOOD KIDS. Adaptations may be necessary for preschool students (ages 4-5). Speak to activity teachers to be sure general activities are age appropriate. Eliminate complicated, frightening or exhausting activities.

PURCHASE OR MAKE THANK YOU GIFTS FOR STAFF MEMBERS. There is nothing like appreciation to keep teachers coming back for more next year. Thank them privately and publicly. (Ask an artistic person to paint a small paper weight with a flower, bird, tree, earth or other symbol to present each teacher and helper.)

CLEAN UP. When the last event of the day is over, clean up begins. B.I.B.L.E. is not complete until the church is in perfect order. Encourage staff to remove their props immediately.





DECORATING B.I.B.L.E.,

Decorating is important to become involved visually with the theme. Keep the decor simple yet exciting. When students and visitors enter B.I.B.L.E., they should enter a fun world with interesting people and appropriate props.

Discuss decoration at the beginning of the planning process. Make the event visual and memorable. Teachers in individual areas decorate their rooms or outdoor areas. Follow curriculum suggestions or invent your own "out of this world" look.

Create the theme related atmosphere by using items available from church, family and friends. This is a simple theme based on the letters B.I.B.L.E. representing the phrase *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth*. Have fun using poster board, plywood and paper shaped like the earth. Color in the appropriate nations and oceans on each shape.

Use large flowers, green plants, animals peeking through the plants, suns, moons, stars, clouds and creative lighting.

"FROM HERE TO ETERNITY" CENTERPIECE: An impressive centerpiece for the opening and closing area is a huge representation of the planet earth. Ask someone who owns an electric saw to cut a large circle from inexpensive plywood. Spray paint with ocean blue paint. Paint in the continents. Add glitter to some of the areas and light the earth from the bottom. Be sure the earth is secured to keep it from rolling away or from falling on anyone. The earth could be sitting on top of the open pages of a plywood Bible. Surround the earth with green plants and bright colored flowers and large rocks.

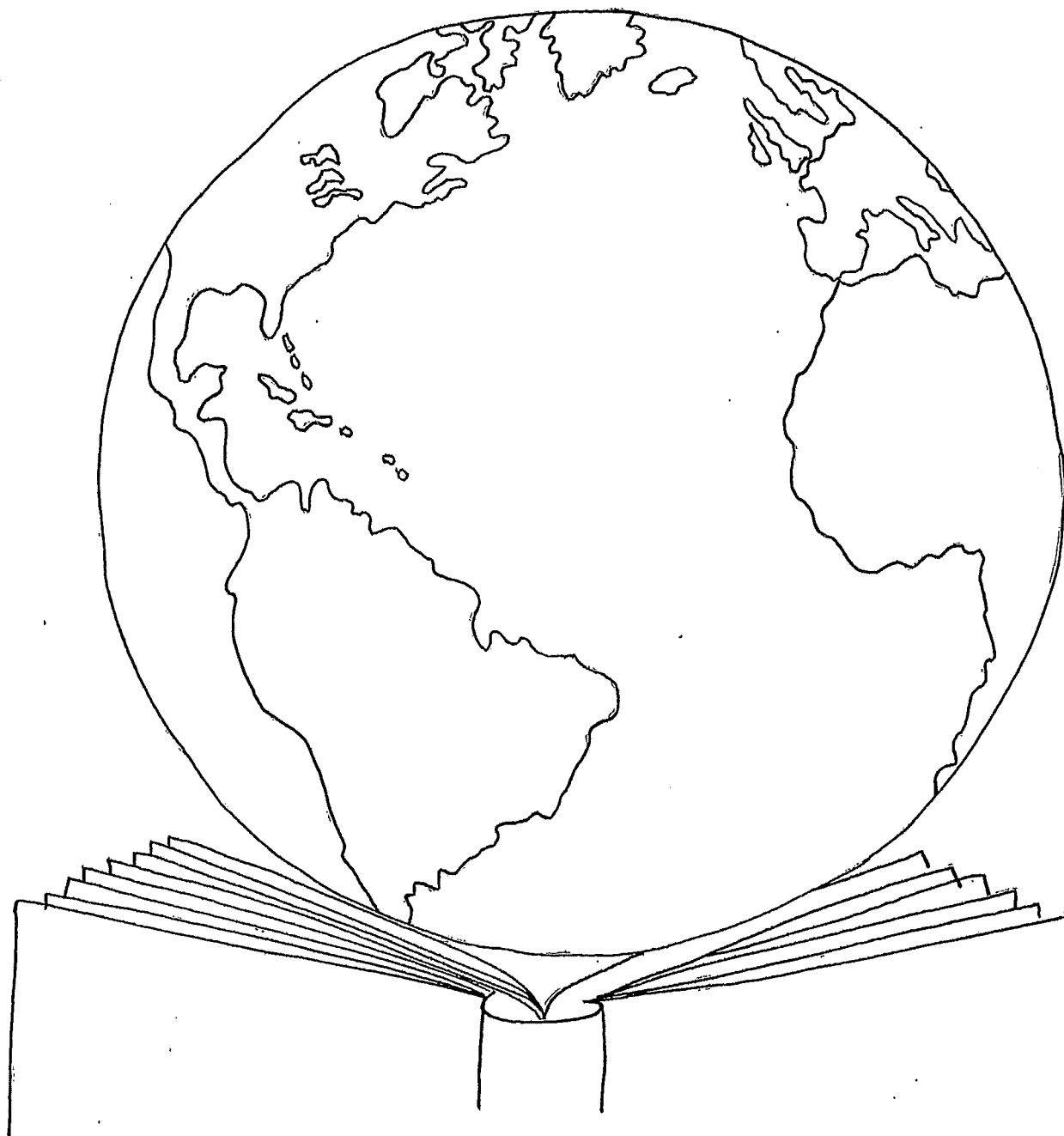
SIGNS: Using poster board, make a variety of items like oversized stars, clouds, planets and earth. These signs may be placed on walls throughout the church and may be hung from the ceilings.



MESSAGES: Print scripture verses and messages on the stars and clouds. Here are samples of messages everyone should understand before leaving earth:

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER
LOVE GOD
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF
BE KIND
PRAY WITHOUT CEASING
TELL THE TRUTH
READ GOD'S WORD
TELL SOMEONE ABOUT JESUS
LEARN A BIBLE VERSE TODAY!**







CHOOSING THE B.I.B.L.E. STAFF ...JUMP INTO THE WORK

Staff choice will make or break B.I.B.L.E. Aim for the best people to fill each teaching spot. Do NOT be satisfied with "any warm body".

RECRUIT. Be aggressive. Approach people personally with a specific task. Explain the job fully—no sugar coating allowed!!!

BULLETIN. Place an insert for 2-3 Sundays in the worship bulletin. Try to give people with specific requests their place immediately. Explain the insert during the worship announcement time. Give this first recruitment effort the personal touch. (See Bulletin Insert sample.)

PICK AND CHOOSE. For vacant positions, ask people you feel will do a good job. The Lord will honor your attempt to have the best staff possible. Pray about staff choices and if someone says "no" assume there is another person waiting to fill that place. Use young teens, older teens, men, women and senior citizens as staff members.

THE "ONE DAY" BENEFIT. People are more willing to teach and assist because the program is short. Planning takes place months before Vacation Bible School but actual time commitment is packed into one long day.





MEETING WITH THE B.I.B.L.E. STAFF ...WE CAN DO IT!

It is important to communicate specific tasks to the B.I.B.L.E. team. Take the time to prepare the staff and watch how easily the event falls into place. It is worth the extra effort.

PLAN ONE STAFF EVENING TO EXPLAIN EXACTLY WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED. Stress 100% attendance so no other meeting will be necessary.

SEAT STAFF ACCORDING TO WORK AREAS. Distribute lesson plans to each group. Provide “chatter” time to create excitement as teachers and helpers plan the day.

PREVIEW THE ENTIRE PROGRAM. The staff needs an overview of all events taking place throughout the church.

BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, ASSIGN CLASSROOMS, GIVE INSPIRATION. Be the person in charge, the B.I.B.L.E. Director!

AFTER THE MEETING, THE DIRECTOR’S ATTENTION TURNS TO OTHER AREAS. Trust the staff to carry out their responsibilities.

THE TELEPHONE IS THE STAFF LIFELINE. Call the head of each work area regularly to check progress. Take the opportunity to ask questions and check on how things are going.





B.I.B.L.E.
(BASIC INFORMATION BEFORE LEAVING EARTH)
...COME OVER AND HELP US...

____ List in order of priority three spots you are willing to fill for this year's One Day Vacation Bible School. That's right! We plan to do more in a few hours than many churches accomplish in five days. It will be fun—we promise!

____ REGISTRATION Name tag and registration team. (LEAD/HELP)

____ PHOTOGRAPHER (VIDEO/SNAPSHOTS)

____ ART CREW I will help make and set up decorations. (LEAD/HELP)

____ SOUND FORTH! Music. (LEAD/HELP)

____ FUTURE-TERIA Kitchen team. (LEAD/HELP)

____ GAME BREAK Games. (LEAD/HELP)

____ WAY COOL ADVENTURES Bible Skits (LEAD/HELP)

____ ART ATTACK Craft room. (LEAD/HELP)

____ MOUNTAIN QUEST Bible Station #1 (LEAD/HELP)

____ EARTH MATTERS Bible Station #2 (LEAD/HELP)

____ B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY Salvation Station (LEAD/HELP)

____ A FEW GOOD KIDS Preschool Staff, Ages 4-5. (LEAD/HELP)

____ NURSERY Babysit (Birth-age 3) (LEAD/HELP)

____ I WILL DONATE FOOD Tell me what you need.

____ I WILL GIVE A DONATION \$ _____

____ I WILL PRAY! Count on me!

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

MY NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE DIRECTOR:





GROUPING THE STUDENTS

B.I.B.L.E. is broadly graded. The curriculum is appropriate for age 4 to grade six. The goal in grouping students is to provide five student groups of approximately equal size.

THE NURSERY (BIRTH-AGE 3). The nursery is separate from the rest of B.I.B.L.E. Two choices are apparent when planning nursery classes: Will we open this for the community or will we provide a nursery babysitting service for our teaching staff?

COLOR CODE EACH STUDENT GROUP FOR VISUAL IDENTIFICATION,

- 1. A FEW GOOD KIDS (AGES 4-5); WHITE**
- 2. LIFE SAVERS (KINDERGARTEN); YELLOW**
- 3. DUST KICKERS (GRADES 1-2); BLUE**
- 4. YOUTH CREW (GRADES 3-4); GREEN**
- 5. GLOBAL GANG (GRADES 5-6); RED**

Overlap ages in any group except preschool. If twenty students are in one group and five students in another, switch some students regardless of age or grade. Keep neighborhood friends together for comfort. Visiting cousins appreciate joining their family members in an otherwise unfamiliar situation.



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Basic Information Before Leaving Earth

ONE DAY YBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

GROUPS	9:30 TO 9:45	9:45 TO 10:15	10:15 TO 10:45	10:45 TO 11:15	11:15 TO 11:45	11:45 TO 12:15	12:15 TO 12:45	12:45 TO 1:15	1:15 TO 1:45	1:45 TO 2:00
PRE SCHOOL A FEW GOOD KIDS	REGISTRATION & OPENING	ART ATTACK	EARTH MATTERS	GAME BREAK REST	RHYTHMS OF THE HEART		WAY COOL THEATER	BIBLE FACTORY REST	MT. QUEST	ESCAPE TO THE FUTURE
KINDER GARTEN LIFE SAVERS	BIBLE FACTORY	MT. QUEST	MT. QUEST	WAY COOL THEATER	EARTH JAM LUNCH		GAME BREAK	EARTH MATTERS	ART ATTACK	
GRADES 1 & 2 DUST KICKER	MT. QUEST	ART ATTACK	ART ATTACK	BIBLE FACTOR			EARTH MATTERS	GAME BREAK	WAY COOL THEATER	
GRADES 3&4 YOUTH CREW	GAME BREAK	BIBLE FACTORY	BIBLE FACTORY	MT. QUEST			ART ATTACK	WAY COOL THEATER	EARTH MATTERS	
GRADES 5&6 GLOBAL GANG	WAY COOL THEATER	GAME BREAK	GAME BREAK	EARTH MATTERS			MT. QUEST	ART ATTACK	BIBLE FACTORY	





REGISTRATION

This team makes name tags and runs B.I.B.L.E. registration. The job is too big for one person. If there is a tangle at registration, Vacation Bible School could be delayed as much as 30 minutes. Mark registration tables with appropriate colors on flags. List group names and grades of student groups. Students line up at their group table to receive a name tag. As soon as they have completed registration, move them into the FROM HERE TO ETERNITY Opening already in progress.

PRE REGISTRATION. A registration card simplifies arrival by having name tags prepared for pre registered students. Register through the church newsletter, bulletin and take home forms. Telephone neighborhood families and visit nearby neighborhoods with flyers.

Consider how much information is needed. Ask for name, grade or age, emergency telephone number and contact person. If cards are the basis for church growth, add address, parent names and specific information needed for local church follow-up.

OPTION: In these days of severe food allergies and health problems, consider a line for diet restrictions.

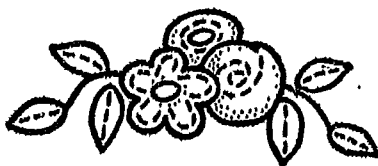
NAME TAGS

Option #1: Make tags in five bright colors. Pin tags to students using huge safety pins.

Option #2: Purchase inexpensive painter's caps and print student names with permanent fabric markers. Splatter neon paint on the caps in the various group colors. S&S arts and crafts catalog offers a sturdy cap:

PAINTER CAPS. Fabric caps to decorate with your favorite designs or slogans. Your own paints, markers and trims make each one an inspiration. Caps only. One size fits all. SR9-CO9 \$18.99 PER PACK OF 12. \$16.99 per pack, 6-11 packs. \$15.99 per pack, 12 + packs. (Prices may change.)





PUBLICITY

Publicity is vital to Vacation Bible School. This is especially true for a one day event. People must know WHAT is going on and WHEN it will be occurring. Be clear and concise.

CHURCH BULLETIN. Begin advertising for staff members. Include reminders in the weekly bulletin until B.I.B.L.E. begins.

CHURCH NEWSLETTER. Write two articles about B.I.B.L.E. Include pre registration forms.

WORSHIP SERVICE GREETERS. Greet people coming into church for worship. Distribute informative flyers and/or registration forms.

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. Send an article several weeks before B.I.B.L.E. to insure publication. Don't forget to include a telephone number for more information.

COLORING CONTEST. Sponsor a coloring contest in the Sunday School. Choose one picture.

VISIT THE PULPIT. Ask a staff member to visit the pastor during announcement time with B.I.B.L.E. information.

LOCAL TELEVISION. Ask a local television station to film a feature story with B.I.B.L.E. in progress. This is great publicity and encouragement for your people. Do not assume a crew will NOT come. Call and ask! Many towns have television Message Channels. Write the important information on the form and begin the message one to two weeks ahead of the actual event.



LOCAL RADIO. Advertise the event on all local radio stations. Write something short, to the point and humorous. Most stations have some community slots to fill which may not cost anything.

DENOMINATION NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES. Does your denomination have a communication network? Send pictures and an article. You may be surprised to find your church featured in the next edition.

SIGNS AND POSTERS. These are the most common forms of publicity. Attach tear off sheets stating basic information.

CHURCH SIGN. Place a large sign at the church. Attach small flags, streamers and balloons to the sign.

TELEPHONE CALLS. Use last year's Vacation Bible School attendance information. Assign a phone committee to call all families. Give basic information in a cheerful and friendly voice.





PHOTOGRAPHY

B.I.B.L.E. is visual. Decorations set the tone for the day. Pictures are a wonderful way to remember the work and the rewards. Assigning a person/team to take pictures is not necessary to the success of this program. Think about using this as involvement for people who would not ordinarily be involved and think about the memory making possibilities.

ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO BRING CAMERAS. Most amateur photographers stand at one side to take pictures and should not disrupt events.

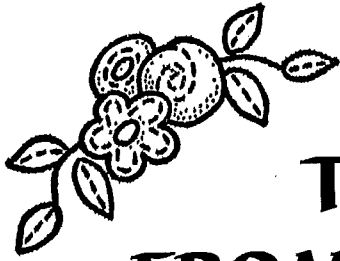
ASSIGN A PHOTOGRAPHY CREW to take pictures for the church. Cost of film and developing are underwritten from Vacation Bible School resources.

35 MM COLOR PRINTS. Take staff and student pictures. Facial close ups are the most popular shots. Make copies available at a later date.

VIDEO TAPE. Assign someone to videotape the events. Some things can be staged for filming but it is fun to record as events are taking place.

SELLING PICTURES. Be prepared to quote a video price. Do you want to cover the cost of the tape or help defray Vacation bible School costs? Prepare a sign up sheet including the cost.





THE OPENING ...FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY is a 15 minute introduction highlighting the day's events, pray, make announcements, collect offering, spark enthusiasm and sing. If desired, add a short Christian music video or group game. As students are registered and assigned a name tag, painter's cap and group, seat them as they enter and incorporate them into the activities as quickly as possible. It should appear that they are joining a party already in progress.

If there are "early bird" students—and there always are—consider starting ahead of time with Christian music videos, crazy games like "Simon Says" and a huge beach ball toss accompanied by music.

DIRECTOR. Prepare the group for their one day adventure. Lead the group with a sense of fun and yet communicate information as needed.

B.I.B.L.E. SPIRITUAL THEME. Tell the group what is ahead of them. Students learn Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. Every Christian must know how to travel this earth while preparing for heaven. They will achieve a God focus during Mountain Quest and then learn a personal focus at Earth Matters. B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY is the salvation station which is truly the basic stop on the journey to heaven. WAY COOL ADVENTURES depicts the lives of the first believers who learned basic information during bygone days. It all meshes together forming a great picture of what God wants us to know about our faith.

OPENING MUSIC. Introduce many of the songs for the day.



GROUP GAMES. Consider playing a game with the large group. Tape several pieces of paper under seats and award small prizes to the students in those seats. Toss balloons or beach balls in the crowd accompanied by taped music. Show a Christian music video.

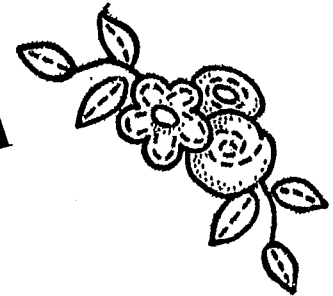
DECORATE. Concentrate decorating efforts in the sanctuary or large meeting room. Duplicate the ideas found in DECORATING B.I.B.L.E. or use your imagination to complete a festive look.

BALLOONS. Think about adding large bunches of brightly colored balloons. Consider the size of the room and purchase the largest balloons possible. Use bright blues and greens to remind students of planet earth colors. Print B.I.B.L.E. on some of the balloons. Rent a helium tank for the day. Don't waste the balloons. Give them to the students at the end of the day.





FUTURE-TERIA ...LET'S EAT!



Every Vacation Bible School needs a memorable snack time. This is especially true for a one day event. Providing one or more meals is a wonderful way to initiate fun and fellowship. Here are several enjoyable options. Choose the option that best fits your situation.

1. Serve breakfast and lunch to students and staff. Add families for a celebration dinner at the conclusion of the day's activities.
2. Serve lunch to students and staff. Prepare a family ice cream social to conclude the day's activities.
3. Serve lunch to students and staff. Serve a church family picnic dinner to conclude the day's activities.
4. Serve lunch to students and staff.

CREATING THE FUTURE-TERIA.

Arrange a large cafeteria styled area with long tables and folding chairs. All students and staff eat at the same time. Place futuristic centerpieces on the tables. (See centerpiece ideas below.) Signs on walls should be shaped like stars and planets. Messages printed on signs should be fun and meaningful. Taped Christian music adds to the cheerful atmosphere.

CENTERPIECES: Here are some optional ideas that can be made with simple supplies.

1. Spray paint small styrofoam balls to resemble several planets. Attach a straight wire to each ball and stick the wire into a large ball painted bright yellow to resemble the sun. Place the completed piece in the middle of cotton batting (or Christmas angel hair) pulled apart to resemble clouds. Make several sets to place on the tables.
2. Collect space ships, rockets, jets, star wars vehicles, etc. and place them on the tables inside cloud like batting or angel hair.



3. Make many sizes of five pointed stars from white or neon yellow posterboard. Trim the stars with gold glitter and scatter on the tables. Star shaped confetti may be scattered among the stars. Batting or angel hair may be used to soften the look.

4. Twinkle lights may be attached down the center of each table. They may even look great if they are blinking.

WALLS: Attach strings of twinkle lights along the ceiling and floor. Tape them around the kitchen serving window. Some lights may even be attached straight down the center of the walls. Place large paper planets, stars and clouds on every wall.

MESSAGES: Print various messages on the shapes. Here are a few samples to start your creativity:

FUTURE-TERIA...LET'S EAT!

GOD LOVES YOU

IT'S FUNDERFUL!

IT'S FUNTASTIC!

JESUS SAID, "COME UNTO ME" -Matthew 11:28

"THE LORD IS FAITHFUL..."II THESSALONIANS 3:3A

"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART..." PROVERBS 3:5A

**THE BIBLE IS A WINDOW THROUGH WHICH WE LOOK AT
ETERNITY.**

**THE BEST WAY FOR CHRISTIANS TO GROW IS TO EAT THE BREAD
OF LIFE.**

THE BIBLE IS MOST HELPFUL WHEN OPEN.

IT IS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY TO OWN A BIBLE.

A WELL READ BIBLE IS THE SIGN OF A WELL FED SOUL.

EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD OWN A READ BIBLE.

SERVING SUGGESTIONS: Serve buffet style. Seat student groups with a leader. Use paper plates, napkins with disposable cups and utensils. Students walk through a line to choose the food they want. Provide large garbage bins and communicate that student groups are responsible for cleaning their eating area.

A GENTLE SUGGESTION TO THE FUTURE-TERIA CREW: *Do not provide*



alternative “safe” meals for students who refuse to eat what is served. Serve sample portions or allow individuals to refuse to eat specific foods or all foods (they won’t starve). Most students take a “no thank you” helping. Refill when students want more. Do not be held hostage to bad attitudes. Complainers often become enthusiastic telling everyone they tried something new. The only exception should be for students with special health concerns.

BLAST OFF BREAKFAST

If serving a cafeteria breakfast, choose a simple menu easily offered as students arrive. This is a terrific way to keep early arrivals busy while others are registering. Greet the students cheerfully and check to make sure they have been registered.

MENU: Choose a variety of breakfast foods popular with kids. Make the menu simple for quick preparation and quick clean up. Use this list of menu items as a suggestion for your own Blast Off Breakfast:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| MENU #1: | MENU #2: | MENU #3: |
| Scrambled eggs | French Toast or Pancakes | Cereal |
| Sausage or bacon | Sausage or bacon | Toast |
| Toast | Fruit Cup | Fruit |
- Beverages: Orange Juice, Milk, Hot Chocolate

EARTH JAM LUNCH

Even if no other meal is served, this meal is necessary. Make it a special time of food, fun and fellowship. Serve a variety of summer foods known to be popular with your students and staff. Seat students and leaders in their small groups. This provides leadership/organization during the half hour lunch.



MENU: Include a variety of lunch choices on the buffet table. Simple recipes are always best. Much of the food can be donated by church congregation volunteers. Use this list of menu items as a suggestion for your own Earth Jam Lunch.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Hot Dogs | Tossed Salad | Cupcakes |
| Potato Chips | Ham/Turkey/Chicken | Watermelon Slices |
| Jello Salads | Fruit Cups | Cantaloupe/Honey Dew |
| Melon | | |
| Hamburgers | Ice Cream Cones | Popsicles |
| Potato Salad | Sandwiches | Pie/Cake |
| Macaroni Salad | Relish Tray | |

Beverages: Juice/Milk/Soda/Sweetened drinks

GLOBAL PICNIC SUPPER

Publicize this meal at the Grand Finale of B.I.B.L.E. Invite student families and the church congregation to participate. After the wild and wonderful events of the day, this is a perfect way to end the celebration.

MENU: Plan an informal picnic dinner. Simple, inexpensive meats can be grilled outdoors by a few of the men (just like at home). Ask for pot luck dishes from each family represented. Serve leftovers from Blast Off Breakfast and Earth Jam Lunch.

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Hot dogs/Hamburgers | Tossed Salad | Potato Chips |
| Potato/Macaroni Salads | Jello Salad | Melons |
| Baked Beans | Sandwiches | Relish Tray |
| Lasagne | Vegetable dishes | Desserts |

Beverages: Coffee/Tea/Cold Drink

B.I.B.L.E, ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Consider an evening celebration of the event by preparing a beautifully decorated ice cream social. Use the theme of the day as table decoration ideas. Offer homemade or store bought ice cream, homemade cakes and pies and beverages of choice.



SOUND FORTH ...RHYTHMS OF THE HEART

SOUND FORTH...RHYTHMS OF THE HEART is a 30 minute music session held right after lunch and designed for students and staff meeting in a large group. Sing a variety of lively choruses and familiar songs. The one day schedule provides time during the From Here To Eternity Opening, Sound Forth...Rhythms of the Heart music time and the Escape to the Future Closing. Choose songs that are easy to learn in a short amount of time. Plan for several more songs than you think you can teach in 30 minutes—just in case the students learn the choruses quickly. Keep the session moving quickly.

DECORATION: No extra decoration is necessary if the large group meets in the FROM HERE TO ETERNITY Opening area.

INSTRUMENTS: Piano, guitar, tambourines and electronic keyboard are possibilities if people are available to play them during song time.

MUSIC LEADERS: Assign several teens/adults as music leaders who sing at separate microphones in front of the group. These leaders may or may not play an instrument. The music leaders will encourage volume, quality and communicate the silliness or the praise and worship attitude needed for each song.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MINISTRIES offers the following books with accompaniment audio tapes. (Call 1-888-CEM-LIFE.) The suggested choruses are upbeat, fun songs with a Christian message. There are other songs in these books which are also fun and appropriate for B.I.B.L.E. You may have your own ideas for music already in your possession. Either way, have fun with the music you choose.

SING A SONG OF SCRIPTURE, 100 Scripture Songs For Kids:
Can You Imagine? Page 4
Nobody Else, Page 10 (first verse only)
The Heavens Are Telling, page 28



Trust In the Lord, page 30
Teach Me, Lord, page 31
How Excellent Your Name, page 32
Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart, page 34
This Is the Day, page 39
I Love You, Lord, page 40
I Will Offer You Praise, page 41

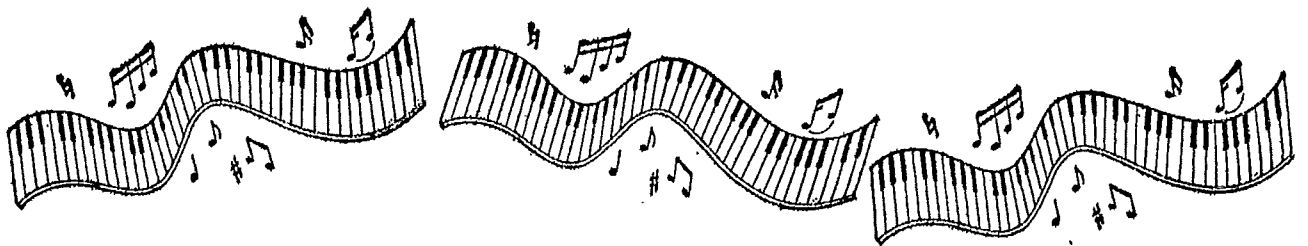
PICK A PACK OF PRAISE, 50 Songs of Fun and Faith for Kids:

Yes, Lord, Yes, page 4
I Am a "C", page 9
Let's Talk About Jesus, page 10
Doxology, page 18
I'm Gonna Hide God's Word Inside My Heart, page 21
Heart To Change the World, page 27

THE ULTIMATE PRAISE SONGBOOK FOR KIDS, 50 Songs, Hymns and Choruses:

What A Mighty God We Serve, page 5
Open Our Eyes, page 15
This Is My Father's World, page 22
Thy Word, page 28

**DON'T FORGET TO FIND THAT OLD FAVORITE
CHORUS, "THE B-I-B-L-E".
IT SURE IS APPROPRIATE AS A THEME SONG!**





GAMEBREAK ...KIDS IN MOTION



GAMEBREAK...KIDS IN MOTION is a 30 minute recreation time for small groups. The students are divided into five groups for the day. The games will be repeated to each group. Use the suggestions in the curriculum or design your own fun and games session.

GAME AREA: A large indoor/outdoor area is needed to play these simple organized games. If outdoors, choose a grassy spot away from traffic. Protect the area with rows of brightly colored pennants. If indoors, remove furniture so students will not be injured.

GAME PREPARATION: Organize a game schedule comfortable for specific age groups. Large muscle games are best. Be sensitive to skills and abilities. Gently encourage at least a minimum of participation. Make adaptations as necessary. It is better to over plan than to have 10-15 minutes with no activity. List game choices and collect the props necessary to keep sessions running smoothly. Repeat popular games and move quickly to the next event when a game falls flat.

GAME SUGGESTIONS: The following activities keep students of all ages actively involved over longer periods of time. The object is not out and out competition. Just have a good time and award small treats to everyone for jobs well done. Choose one or more suggestions or develop your own games.

LIVING TIC-TAC-TOE: Make huge X's and O's from cardboard. Paint or decorate them in bright colors. Using masking tape, mark off a large tic tac toe board on the floor. Choose two players who will direct the movements of their team mates. Each player tells a team mate holding an x or o where to stand on the game board. Winning team gets 1000 points, Losing team gets 500 points. Play as many times as desired. Award winning team a small treat. Award losing team a different treat.

STEAL THE BACON: This game is very popular with elementary students and can be played for long periods of time. Choose an item to be the "bacon". (Bean bag, a knotted sock, a football, or any item which can be grabbed quickly.) Divide the group into two equal teams. Number each team carefully. Each player must remember their number. Each team must have



exactly the same numbers. Stand the teams in straight lines across the playing area from each other. Place the “bacon” in the middle of the area. The adult leader calls one number and the players from opposite teams race to grab the “bacon”. The person who gets it must rush back to his team line before being tagged by the other team’s player. Spice up the game by calling two or more numbers each time. Try at least one call of “everybody”. Award points and small treats to everyone at the end of play.

OBSTACLE COURSE: Before game time, set up a circular obstacle course in a large area. Include stations where students must stop and quickly perform some athletic or fun feat. Time individual student races. (A stopwatch would be helpful.) Provide small slips of paper for each student where individual times will be recorded after their race. Here are a few suggestions for obstacle stations:

1. Cardboard box that student must crawl through before running to next station.
2. Walk a rope line placed on the floor with frisbee on head, drop frisbee before running to the next station.
3. Hockey stick, volleyball, net. Use the stick to hit the ball into the net (laundry basket laying on its’ side may be substituted.)
4. Jump rope station. Jump once successfully before running to next station.
5. Tricycle run. Ride tricycle along short route before running to next station.
6. Walk or run backwards for a few feet between marked lines.
7. 5 jumping jacks at one station.
8. Toss a football into a box.

The number of stations is up to you. Choose the same activities for every runner. Make enough activity to interest the group. It is amazing that the total group will be fascinated in watching and cheering for the individual runners. Award a prize to the shortest time. Give small prizes to all participants.

PARACHUTE TOSS: Use two old bed sheets or two parachutes and several tossable objects like bean bags or balls. If outdoors, consider using water balloons. Divide the group into two teams. Each team holds onto the edges of their team’s sheet. Place one object into the middle of one team’s sheet. They toss it into the air toward the other team and that team must catch it in their sheet. This is a great game filled with screaming, shouting and occasionally getting wet!





ART ATTACK

....EARTHLY CRAFTS WITH A HEAVENLY MEANING

*Give B.I.B.L.E. students an opportunity to make a keepsake of their day at Vacation Bible School. Offer a craft project that can be finished in 30 minutes or less. If the craft takes less than 30 minutes to complete, consider offering two separate projects. Choose from the variety of suggestions listed here or design your own ART ATTACK projects. The projects suggested are from S&S arts and crafts catalog. **Prices may change.** To receive your own free copy of the master catalog, call their toll free telephone number, 1-800-243-9232.*

WWJD? DESIGNER WALL PANELS. Pack includes braid, non toxic glue, woodgrain cardboard slats, crayons, glitter and printed pellen panels. Approximately 9"x 27". SD9-RE394 \$19.99 per pack of 15. (\$1.33 per project)

TILE CROSS PINS. You group will "sparkle" with pride after creating these beautiful, easy to make tile and glitter cross pins. Kit includes assorted tile squares, precut cardboard crosses, pin backs, non toxic glue, glitter and instructions. SD9-RE388 \$13.99 per pack of 24. (58 cents per project)

SHELL CROSS NECKLACES. The cross is the sign of God's love for us. Enjoy making one of a kind crosses and wearing this special symbol. Includes a variety of attractive shells, gold cord, plywood crosses, non toxic glue and instructions. 2 1/4" x 3". SD9-RE201 \$12.99 per pack of 16. \$11.99 per pack, 6+. (81 cents per project)

COLOR ME BIBLE BOOKMARKS. Printed bookmarks are easy to custom color with markers. Perfect for marking your favorite Bible passage or other inspirational books. Complete with bookmarks, non toxic fine line markers, yarn and instructions 1 7/16" x 6". SD9-RE276 \$5.99 per pack of 24. \$5.39 per pack, 6+. (25 cents per project)



CHRISTIAN COLORING PUZZLES. (Great for ages 4-5) The hours youngsters spend coloring and putting together these durable craft board puzzles will reinforce important Biblical messages. Comes with 12 piece printed puzzles with four assorted designs—Cross with rainbow and clouds, Lion and lamb, Dove with olive branch and rainbow, Jesus. SD9-RE262 \$12.99 PER PACK OF 24. \$11.49 PER PACK, ANY 6+. (54 cents per project)

WOODEN FISH KEY CHAINS. These key chains are daily reminders of faith and they make great gifts, too. Hand carved sculptures are just waiting for your creative flair to make them come to life. Ready to paint solid wood fish come complete with non toxic acrylic paint, brushes, swivel link and 3/4" split ring for keys. Fish 3". SD9-RE342 \$14.99 per pack of 12. (\$1.25 per project)

BIBLE SCHOOL COLORING VISORS. Guard your eyes from the sun and look sporty, too, in our white craft board visors. Four printed designs to custom color with markers. Includes visors, elastic, non toxic fine line markers and instructions. Add glitter, shells and more for added interest. One size fits all. SD9-RE271 \$9.39 per pack of 24. (39 cents per project)

INSPIRATIONAL FUN SIGNS. Fluorescent proclamations! Includes 4 designs printed on cardboard (2 sided), non toxic fluorescent paints, brushes and instructions. 4" x 10". SD9-RE165 \$18.99 per pack of 50. (38 cents per project)



BIBLE STATION #1

MOUNTAIN QUEST

...AT THE TOP OF THE EARTH

This 30 minute Bible station gives Basic Information Before Leaving Earth (B.I.B.L.E.) from the Old Testament. The Bible is God's specific communication to believers teaching how we should live and conduct ourselves during our journey to heaven. One of the most important documents given to the wandering children of Israel was written in stone by God Himself. The Ten Commandments have served believers well through many centuries. God's Law is indeed the basic information needed for a safe and fulfilling life on earth.

ROOM PREPARATION: Choose a medium to large classroom. Take everything out of the room leaving bare walls and floors. Decorate the room so that students feel they are visiting the top of a mammoth mountain. Fill the walls with huge clouds (cotton batting, glitter added), flying birds and a huge, shining sun.

Print large signs in the shapes of clouds:

MOUNTAIN QUEST...AT THE TOP OF THE EARTH
SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE STATION

Print one large sign in the shape of stone tablets with
TEN COMMANDMENTS printed individually.

Place a "mountain top" in the middle of the room. Make the mountain top from available items. Stack large rocks to a peak, green plants tucked into the rocks, dirt piled into a peak, or any way possible to represent reaching the summit of a tall mountain. Plant a flag with printed letters B.I.B.L.E. on the top of your mountain.

Fill the outer corners of the room with green plants and trees. A cardboard cutout of a mountain goat (or several goats) may be attached to one wall. Blow a soft breeze over the students by



placing a large floor fan in one corner. Use objects available to make the room look like an outdoor mountain top. Students may sit on the floor in a circle around the peak.

COSTUME: Dress in hiking gear complete with backpack and walking stick. Hold a Bible in one hand during the lesson.

INTRODUCTION: Whew! We made it! We finally reached the top of the earth. What a hike! Are you as tired as I am? This is the perfect place to talk about *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth* or B.I.B.L.E., for short. God's Word is important. It is the one book in the world that tells us exactly what God expects of us. The Bible uses many methods to tell us what God wants us to know. There are stories of people, poems, lists of rules, advice and even many messages of love.

MEMORY VERSE: "The wise in heart will receive commandments...." **Proverbs 10:8**

Memorization Tips—Memorize the verse by printing each word or phrase on separate small rocks or white clouds. Place the items in order on the floor or wall. Take away one or two rocks as students learn the words and reference.

MOSES ON THE MOUNTAIN: After Moses led God's people out of slavery in Egypt, they traveled for a long time in the desert. They experienced many strange events. Many times they were frightened and believed they would die in the desert. They doubted God and they doubted their leader, Moses.

Exodus 19-24: At Mt. Sinai God had talked to Moses from a burning bush. When Moses tended sheep, he led the flocks through the same Sinai wilderness. He knew where to find grassy plains and plenty of water. Now the Israelites camped near the great, rock walled mountain, Mount Sinai.

While the people were busy pitching their tents and settling their families, Moses climbed the mountain to talk with God. God said, "Tell the people that I shall speak to them from this mountain. On the third day they shall hear my voice. Go now, and tell them to wash their clothes and get ready to meet me."

How exciting! However, they soon felt very afraid to meet God. What if He didn't like them? What if He hurt them? They said to Moses, "Don't let God speak to us in this voice of thunder, for we are afraid. We will listen when you tell us his words and we will obey." Moses tried to



convince them that God loved them and wanted to teach them how to serve him only without worshipping other gods. Even though the people could see the wonderful brightness of God's glory, they would not go near the mountain.

Soon God said to Moses, "Come up to me and I will give you tables of stone on which the law and the commandments are written. Teach these to the people" God had Basic Information Before Leaving Earth that He wanted to explain. For forty days Moses listened to God's words.

Forty days is a long time and the people were afraid God killed Moses. They followed the leadership of Aaron, Moses brother, who agreed to build a golden calf so they could worship it as their god. Aaron was not brave. Maybe he thought they would kill him. The people of God were singing and dancing and worshipping a false, powerless god. How disappointed God was. He saw the gold calf. He watched them bow down and worship it. God said to Moses, "The Israelites have sinned against me. They have broken their promise and made a god of gold."

Moses hurried down the mountainside. In his arms were the two wonderful tablets of stone upon which God had written the Ten Commandments. It was hard for Moses to believe they had sinned so greatly. When he saw their sin for himself, he threw the commandments to the ground and they broke into many pieces. He ran into the camp and tore down the idol while the people watched. He ground it into fine dust and put it in the drinking water. Moses insisted that the people drink it.

A sorrowing Moses returned to the mountain the next day and God rewrote the Ten Commandments on new tablets. God talked with Moses and told him how to lead the children of Israel. Another forty days and another long discussion with God produced a set of laws that the people would follow.

MOUNTAIN COMMANDMENTS: Let's take a look at the Ten Commandments that God Himself says are rules He wants us to follow.

(Prepare copies of commandment chains for each student. Make several colors. Allow them to cut out their own chain and string the links with white glue. The top link should be the title THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. This can be accomplished on the floor where they sit. Take the completed chains the next Bible Station where students will add links from the New Testament. Be sure names are on one link. Students will take home one long link listing all of the Basic Information Before Leaving Earth they



learned.)

As they cut and paste, talk about each commandment. Be sure they understand that God has given us *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth* so we will know how to live a God honoring life. These are the most basic of God's laws.

See the list of The Ten Commandments on the following page. Because it is difficult to explain to young children the relevance of this basic information from God, seeing the commandments stated positively may help explain them as the students make their chains. Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancy have done a wonderful job of explaining the difficult concepts.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.



THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

(From "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancy)

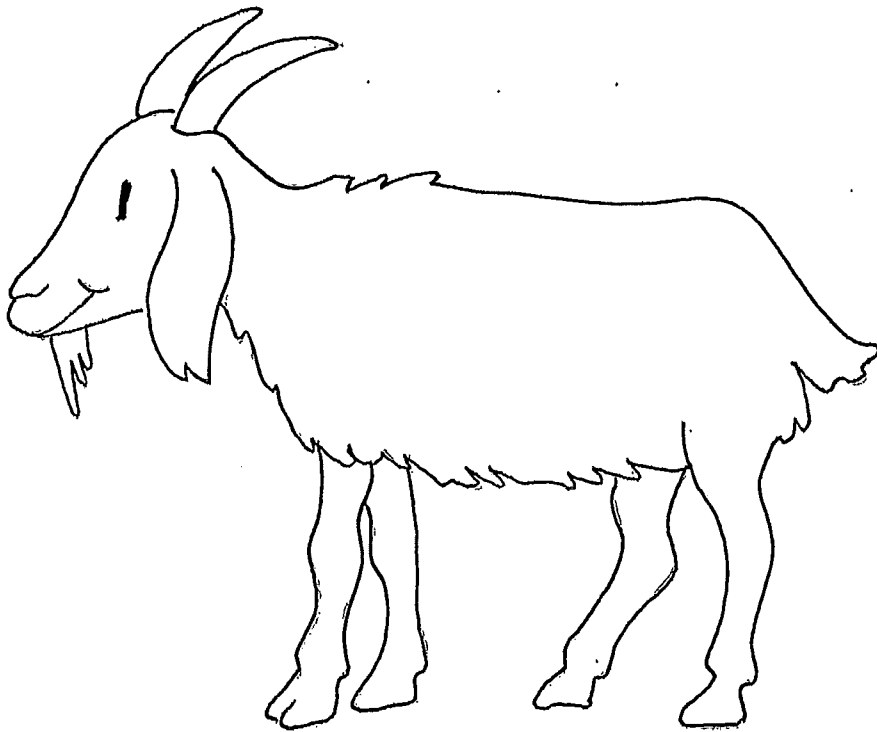
- I. I love you so much that I will give you Myself. I am true reality, the only God you will ever need. In Me alone will you find wholeness.
- II. I desire a wonderful thing: a direct, personal relationship between Myself and each of you. You don't need inferior representations of Me, such as dead wooden idols. You can have Me. Value that.
- III. I love you so much that I have given you My name. You will be known as "God's People" on earth. Value the privilege; don't misuse it by dishonoring your new name or by not living up to it.
- IV. I have given you a beautiful world to work in, play in and enjoy. In your involvement, though, set aside a day to remember where the world came from. Your bodies need the rest; your spirits need the reminder.
- V. Honor your father and mother.
- VI. Human life is sacred. I gave it and it has enormous worth. Cling to it. Respect it. It is the image of God. He who ignores this and commits the sacrilege of murder must be punished.
- VII. The deepest human relationship possible is marriage. I created it to solve the essential loneliness in the heart of every person. To spread what is meant for marriage alone among a variety of people will devalue and destroy that relationship. Save sex and intimacy for its rightful place within marriage.
- VIII. I am entrusting you with property. You can own things and you should use them responsibly. Ownership is a great privilege. For it to work, you must respect everyone else's right to ownership; stealing violates that right.
- IX. I am a God of truth. Relationships only succeed when they are governed by truth. A lie destroys contracts, promises, trust. You are worthy of trust; express it by not lying.
- X. I have given you good things to enjoy but people are always more important than things. Love people; use things. Do not use people for your love of things.



GOD'S MOUNTAIN COMMANDMENTS

- 1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me,**
- 2. Thou shalt not make unto thee
any graven image,**
- 3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy
God in vain,**
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy,**
- 5. Honor thy father and thy mother,**
- 6. Thou shalt not kill,**
- 7. Thou shalt not commit adultery,**
- 8. Thou shalt not steal,**
- 9. Thou shalt not bear false witness
against thy neighbor,**
- 10. Thou shalt not covet,**







BIBLE STATION #2: EARTH MATTERS ...JESUS SPEAKS



This 30 minute station gives Basic Information Before Leaving Earth (B.I.B.L.E.) from the New Testament. The Bible is God's specific communication to believers teaching how we should live and conduct ourselves during our journey to heaven. This time we hear Jesus speak about earthly matters. How we conduct ourselves with each other makes a difference to God. We must learn how to live with each other and honor God at the same time.

ROOM PREPARATION: This station could be taught outdoors under large shade trees while students sit on the green grass. Be sure the area is quiet for the best student response. An indoor classroom may be used to great effect as well. Take everything out of the room. Decorate it to resemble a green outdoor area. Make large construction paper trees for the walls. Add clouds, birds and perhaps a distant village. Bring in real or silk trees and plants. Fill the area with flowers along each wall. Place a fan in one corner which blows a soft breeze over the students. Cover the floor with picnic blankets and wicker baskets. Students may sit on the blankets.

COSTUME: Dress in Holy Land costume. A simple tunic or sheet wrapped around you works well. Wear sandals or bare feet. The idea is to take the students back to the days of Jesus to remind them of the day He spoke on the Mount of Olives.

INTRODUCTION: Shalom! Welcome to the Mount of Olives. We are meeting here today to remember *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth* spoken by Jesus Himself. It is recorded in the Bible as information we need as we live our lives as followers of Jesus. He would not have spoken these words and they would not be recorded in the Bible unless we are to pay close attention to them. So, let's do just that. Let's learn what Jesus thinks we should do when having relationships with other people.



MEMORY VERSE: “LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.” MATTHEW 5:16

Memorization Tips: Place words or phrases of the verse on separate tree limbs. Allow the students to find the proper phrase and say the verse aloud.

JESUS SPEAKS; BEATITUDES /SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 5-7; Luke 6:17-49: After Jesus had chosen his twelve disciples, he wanted to teach them how to do his work. Up the mountainside they climbed. Jesus sat down and everyone gathered near him. Many others gathered around Jesus too.

In this wonderful sermon Jesus taught how Christians should live, how they should pray, how they should treat their enemies and their friends, how God loves and cares for them. At the close of his sermon, Jesus said, “Those who hear my words and do them are like a wise man who built his house upon the rock. When the rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew, the house stood strong. But those who hear my words and do not obey them are like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand. When the rain fell, the floods came and the winds blew, the house fell. Great was the fall of it.”

The people looked at each other in surprise. Surely Jesus was the greatest teacher of all. How could they obey his teaching, “Love your enemies”; “Pray for those who treat you wrongly”; “Do good to those who hate you?” Yet they knew these words sounded like the words of God. Those who loved God wanted to live by these words God would help them. And God will help us too.

EARTH MATTERS IN THE BEATITUDES: Let’s take a look at the *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth* that Jesus taught to the people on the Mount of Olives that day about 2000 years ago. We who are believers still follow His words today.

The Sermon on the Mount of Olives is best understood as a royal announcement by Jesus of the way men and women are free to live when they commit themselves to Jesus as Lord. Because Jesus is the living King and we live in relationship with Him, we can abandon ourselves to the unique kind of life that Jesus describes. To the audience on the Mount of Olives, the advice he gave did not seem logical. In fact, His words seemed to be “upside down”. Another word for “blessed” is “joyful”. We are going to use the word “joyful” as we discuss each of the



beatitudes.

Use the BAD ATTITUDES and THE JOYFUL ATTITUDES to help students understand the words of Jesus. Make a paper chain using the list given. Copy the list on brightly colored paper. Students may cut and glue the chain links while sitting on the floor. Let them attach this completed chain to the chain they completed in Bible Station #1. One long chain will remind the students of all the Basic Information Before Leaving Earth they learned today.

CLOSE IN PRAYER



JOYFUL ATTITUDES FROM JESUS

**JOYFUL ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT,
FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD,**

**JOYFUL ARE THOSE WHO MOURN,
FOR THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED,**

JOYFUL ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH,

**JOYFUL ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY SHALL BE SATISFIED,**

JOYFUL ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY SHALL RECEIVE MERCY,

JOYFUL ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD,

**JOYFUL ARE THE PEACEMAKERS,
FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF GOD,**

**JOYFUL ARE THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN PERSECUTED FOR THE
SAKE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN,**

**REJOICE AND BE GLAD, FOR YOUR REWARD IN HEAVEN IS
GREAT,**

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH,

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD,

**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR
GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,**



THE JOYFUL ATTITUDES

These Joyful Attitudes (The Beatitudes) are from Matthew 5:1-12 in the Sermon Jesus spoke from the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem. The word BEATITUDE means blessed, fortunate, happy, joyful.

JOYFUL ARE HELPLESS PEOPLE WHO HAVE SO LITTLE IN LIFE THAT THEY MUST PUT ALL THEIR TRUST IN GOD. THESE PEOPLE OBEY GOD AND BECOME CITIZENS OF HEAVEN.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO CARE SO MUCH FOR THIS WORLD AND THEIR OWN SIN THAT THEY BECOME SAD AND CRY. GOD WILL COME PERSONALLY AND BRING THEM JOY.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO KNOW THEY HAVE MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR NEEDS AND WEAKNESSES. THESE GOD CONTROLLED PEOPLE WILL BECOME LEADERS ON THE EARTH.

JOYFUL ARE THE PEOPLE WHO WITH ALL THEIR HEART WANT TO BE GOOD—JUST LIKE A STARVING MAN WANTS FOOD AND A DYING MAN IN THE DESERT WANTS WATER. THEY WILL BE FILLED WITH THE BEST OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN SEE AND THINK AND FEEL THE PROBLEMS OF OTHER PEOPLE. THESE PEOPLE WILL FIND THAT OTHERS WILL DO THE SAME FOR THEM WHEN THEY HAVE PROBLEMS.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO ALWAYS THINK AND DO THINGS FOR THE RIGHT REASONS. SOMEDAY THEY WILL MEET GOD IN HEAVEN.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN BRING OTHERS TOGETHER IN SPITE OF DANGEROUS SITUATIONS. THEY ARE DOING THE VERY WORK THAT GOD DESIRES. IT IS GOD'S DESIRE TO BRING PEACE BETWEEN MEN AND HIMSELF.

JOYFUL ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE TREATED BADLY BECAUSE THEY FOLLOW CHRIST. THEY WILL MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOW THEM. CHRIST PROMISES TO STAY CLOSE TO THEM.

WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO YOU BECAUSE OF ME, REJOICE AND BE GLAD. YOU ARE SHARING IN A FIGHT BETWEEN THE WORLD'S VALUES AND CHRIST. HEAVEN IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER AND IT WILL BE WONDERFUL FOR YOU.



THE BAD ATTITUDES

Many people take care of themselves first and forget everyone else. When Jesus spoke about developing a new attitude, it was hard for them to make an attitude adjustment. This is reflected in THE BAD ATTITUDES.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH IN THIS LIFE AND IT IS ALL GOD'S FAULT. YUCK! THE LAST PLACE WE WANT TO LIVE IS IN HEAVEN.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WE DON'T CARE ABOUT YOU OR ANYBODY ELSE IN THIS UGLY OLD WORLD. WE JUST WANT TO DO ANYTHING WE WANT TO DO. THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS SIN—JUST FUN.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WE KNOW IT ALL. WE DON'T NEED YOUR HELP. YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ANYWAY. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES. WHO WANTS TO BE A LEADER FOR THIS GANG OF "DING A LINGS"?

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! YEAH, WE ARE BAD. WE CAN HURT PEOPLE AND LAUGH AT PEOPLE AND WALK AWAY GLAD. GOD BETTER STAY OUT OF OUR HEARTS. IN FACT, LET'S KICK HIM OUT.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WHO CARES ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS. THEY WON'T HELP ME OUT OF MY PROBLEMS.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WE ONLY DO THINGS FOR THE WRONG REASONS. WE MAKE UP STORIES TO GET OUR OWN WAY.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! WE FIGURE OUT WAYS TO GET PEOPLE ARGUING. WE CAUSE DANGEROUS SITUATIONS JUST FOR FUN. PEACE IS BORING.

WE'RE BAD, WE'RE BAD! AREN'T THOSE CHRISTIANS IDIOTS? LET'S HURT THEM AND MAKE THEM LOSE THEIR JOBS. LET'S LAUGH AT THEM AND MAKE THEM FEEL SAD.

WHEN GOOD THINGS HAPPEN TO "BAD" PEOPLE. MAY THEY REMEMBER THAT GOD LOVES THEM. THEY WILL ALWAYS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REPENT AND BECOME JOYFUL. GOD CAN CHANGE "BAD" PEOPLE INTO JESUS PEOPLE WITH A LITTLE CHANGE OF ATTITUDE.



THE B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY ...SALVATION STATION

**“By this all men will know you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another.” John 13:35**

Visiting THE B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY is a wonderful way to present a salvation station that students enjoy and where students learn how to get to heaven. Teach salvation and personal responsibility while students make a small memory verse keepsake.

B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY COSTUME: Wear factory worker clothing. Consider wearing blue jeans, work boots, blue denim shirt, hard hat and tool belt.

B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY ROOM PREPARATION: Choose a medium sized classroom. Empty the room of all decoration. Leave tables and chairs in the center of the room for a small craft project. Fill the room with old tools and machinery. Place large hand tools in the corners and tool boxes on shelves. Fill the walls with factory type signs:

THE B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY
SAFETY IS OUR BUSINESS
THE ONE AND ONLY SALVATION STATION
MY BOSS IS A CARPENTER
SAFETY FIRST
FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN
CAREFUL WORKERS=BIG BUSINESS

MAKING TOOLS FOR LIFE: Copy the page at the end of this lesson plan. Enlarge the four tools and the key onto cardboard or posterboard. Paint each item and print the salvation information from the lesson plan onto each tool. (Use metallic paint—silver, gold, brass, bronze. Wrap black electrician's tape and duct tape around the tools at appropriate spots.) It's more visual if you make the tools huge! They do not have to be realistic. Attach the huge tools to one wall. As you speak, stand near the tools and point out the message.



CRAFT PREPARATION: Students make a *Keys To Salvation* necklace. Copy the key pattern on the page at the end of this lesson plan. (Key pattern may be enlarged if desired.) Make four keys for each student. The keys should be made from posterboard or other heavy paper. Younger students will need help to print the words. Do this before the one day event. All students may cut and color their own keys. Provide scissors, colored markers, black markers, yarn.

TOOLS FOR LIFE

Welcome to THE B.I.B.L.E. FACTORY. I am the Factory Foreman who will teach you about the product we make here in this state of the art Salvation Station. Since this is your first day of work, you must learn the product and then make a set of factory keys. Let's not waste time. Workers in this factory must believe in the product.

SCREW DRIVER: (GOD LOVES YOU) This screw driver represents the first Tool For Life every believer must understand. If you are going to be a follower of Jesus, you must pay attention to the details. There is no doubt that God loves you. He says it again and again in His Word and our plan book, The Bible.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10b

Everyone loves to be loved. Sometimes we don't feel loved in busy families or separated families. We may feel like we are forgotten. Be assured that God never forgets you. His love is real and constant.

HAMMER: (SEPARATION FROM GOD=SIN.) The hammer reminds us that we choose to disobey God and go our own way in life. God wants us to have an abundant life but He won't force us to love and obey Him. This is our personal choice and when we choose to ignore God, we separate ourselves from Him.

For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

SAW: (THE CROSS) Jesus Christ is the answer to our separation from God problem.



He died on the cross and rose from the grave. When we trust in Jesus to be our Savior and Lord, we draw close to God and obey His plan for salvation from our sin. Our belief in Jesus is the only way we can get to heaven.

For Christ also has suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.... I Peter 3:18a

But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

POWER DRILL; (RECEIVE CHRIST) Jesus is the power in our lives. We must trust Jesus Christ and receive Him by personal invitation.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him and he with me. Revelation 3:20

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name. John 1:12

...if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

KEY; (RECEIVE CHRIST) Is there any good reason why you cannot receive Jesus Christ right now? This is how you can do it:

1. Admit your need. (I am a sinner.)
2. Be willing to turn from your sins. (Repent.)
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit. (Receive Him as Lord and Savior.)

Let's pray together: Dear Lord, I know I am a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I now invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as Lord and Savior. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

For whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved Romans 10:13

You do not have to be in a large group to accept Christ as your Savior. If you did not pray this



prayer today, you can do it alone at your house or you can ask someone to pray with you. This is the most important TOOL FOR LIFE you will have. Do it today if you have not already done so.

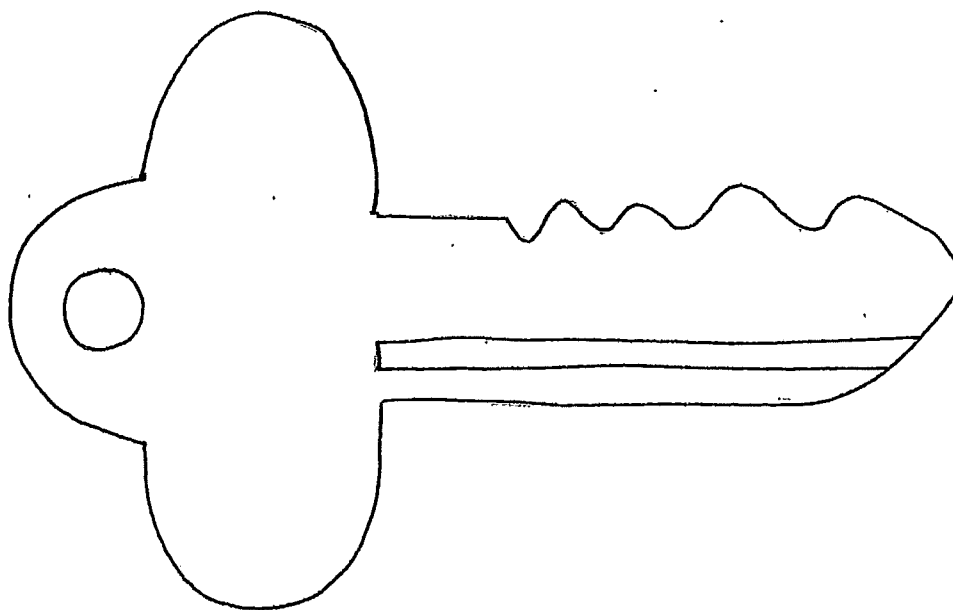
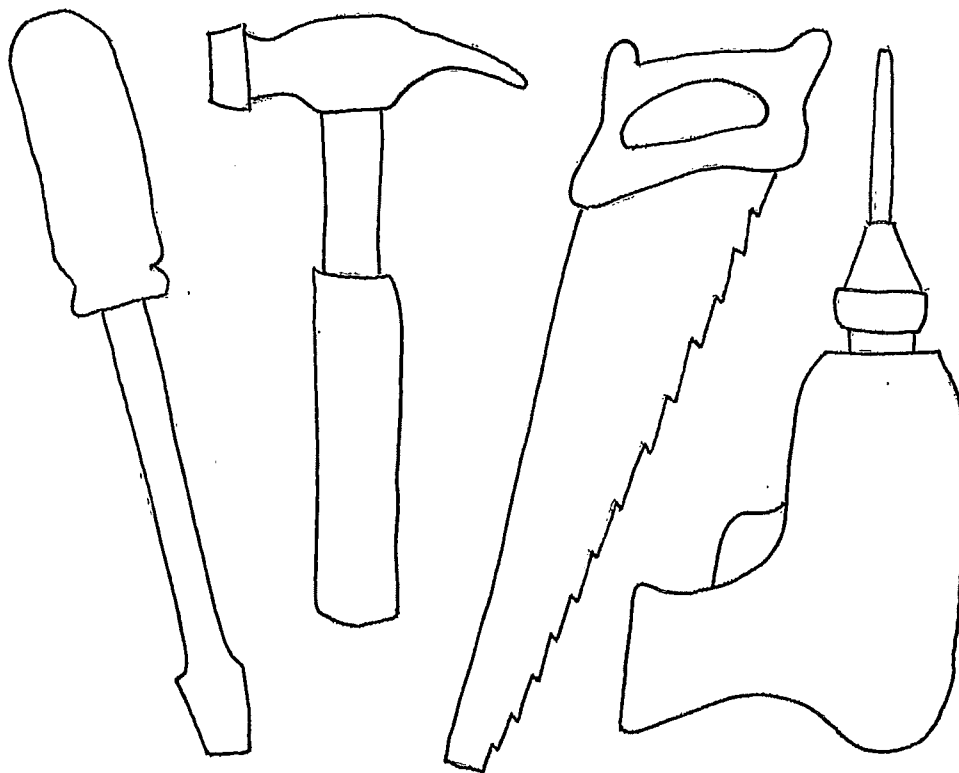
KEYS TO SALVATION NECKLACE; Place the project supplies on the factory table. Assist students with printing the phrases on each key:

**GOD LOVES YOU,
SEPARATION FROM GOD=SIN,
THE CROSS,
RECEIVE CHRIST.**

Students may cut and color their keys. Attach all 4 keys to a piece of yarn. Tie off so student can wear the project as a necklace. If some students would like shorter yarn, they may make a key "chain" to hang on their bedroom doorknob.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.





WAY COOL B.I.B.L.E. ADVENTURES ...B.I.B.L.E. THEATER



This 30 minute theater event is a series of short skits performed by a small team of teens and adults in Holy Land costume. Students are reminded of how important God's Word has been to people who search for Him. The Bible gives us Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.

PREPARATION: Decorate a staging area to resemble a Holy Land outdoor area. Place green plants, old benches, towels and pottery, a pitcher and parchment type scroll. If possible, draw a background containing a village in the distance with sheep grazing on green hillsides. Large sheep may be made from cardboard, painted white, covered in cotton batting and propped up in the background.

Seat students in seats or on the floor in the audience area. Darken the room with lighting on stage. Play soft Christian music as students enter the theater area.

SIGNS: Display one large sign, WAY COOL B.I.B.L.E. ADVENTURES. Make cardboard skit signs which will be displayed at the beginning of each new skit. Use bright colors and trim with glitter. Shine one bright light on the signs.

REHEARSAL AND TIMING: Wait a minute or two between skits while actors change costumes and prepare for the next production. Judge the time by how long it takes to perform each skit. Practice and time each skit before the one day event. Encourage actors to take their time, speak loudly and become the character they are portraying.

ACTOR PREPARATION: Choose a team of teens and adults to portray various characters. Do not memorize parts. Hold a copy of the skit. Disguise it in a scroll or in a basket. Mark individual parts in yellow high lighter for easier viewing. There are several parts for men. If men or boys are not available, women may take the part.

Have fun with these simple skits. If mistakes are made, so what? Be casual and yet be aware of the messages being communicated. These skits are designed to help the student understand how important God's Word has always been.



NARRATOR: Welcome to WAY COOL B.I.B.L.E. ADVENTURES THEATER. We invite you to join us as we travel back in time to the days when mighty men and strong women of old served God in big and small ways. Today we honor their memories with private peeks into the past. Come with me now to the days of the Bible....

THE FORGOTTEN BOOK

ACTORS: Narrator, teen aged King Josiah, High Priest Hilkiyah, optional: temple workers to push paper off stage.

(Scatter scrunched up paper all over the stage floor. Place a parchment type scroll into the hands of the high priest.)

NARRATOR: The king of Judah was eight year old Josiah. Since he was not old enough to rule the land, the high priest Hilkiyah governed until Josiah was sixteen years old. During this time the child king searched for the Lord and did what was right. There came a day when the teen aged king visited the temple...

JOSIAH: What a mess this place is. Look at the dust and dirt. There is so much rubbish I cannot walk properly. Clean it! Now!

(Actors quickly move in to pick up and sweep away rumples paper on the stage.)

HIGH PRIEST: *(Entering with an old scroll in his hand.)* We have hired many skilled workmen to make the temple beautiful again. The heathen altars have been destroyed outside the city. I have been cleaning the rooms of the temple. You won't believe what I found! The moment I read it, I knew you would want to see it, O King.

JOSIAH: *(Arrogantly...)* Well, what is it? It better be important, Hilkiyah. I have kingly stuff to do. Don't waste my royal time.

HIGH PRIEST: It is this old scroll, King Josiah. Look at it's beauty!

JOSIAH: Beauty?!? It just looks old and dusty to me. What is it?

HIGH PRIEST: *(Carefully removing dust from the scroll.)* I am so excited. Finding this book is like finding a treasure. It may be old and dusty but it is the book of the Law found in the house of the Lord!

JOSIAH: I have heard about how Moses wrote words given to him from God. Didn't Moses command that the book of the Law be read to all the people once each seven years?



HIGH PRIEST: Yes, King Josiah, but sadly the people did not keep his command. Soon the book was forgotten.

JOSIAH: Read to me from this book! I want to hear the words of God.

HIGH PRIEST: Well, let me read a bit from here and there. (*Reading and pointing...*) Oh look, it tells about God's promise to bless the people if they served him faithfully. And here, God promises to punish the people if they disobeyed Him and worshiped idols.

JOSIAH: Stop! I'm a teenager and I know trouble when I hear it. I know my people will be punished. They have been worshiping false gods for years. God will not forget His promises. Great is the punishment in store for us because our fathers have not kept the word of the Lord. Oh, Hilkiah, I am horrified!

HIGH PRIEST: I see your distress my young king. I will ask of the Lord about the words in the book. (*Leaves with head down.*)

JOSIAH: (*Praying*) O God, I want to worship and honor you. I will not forsake your law and worship idols. I weep for the sins of my people. Forgive us, O God.

HIGH PRIEST: (*Hurrying to the king*) King Josiah, I have heard from God. He will send great punishment to those who disobey his law and worship idols. But because you have humbled your heart and wept tears of sorrow for the sins of your people, God will not let the people be punished while you live.

JOSIAH: Even yet, there may be hope Hilkiah. I want the people to hear the words of the Law just as God commanded. Send messengers throughout all the land and call the people to Jerusalem.

STOP ACTION! THE NARRATOR COMES TO CENTER STAGE WHILE JOSIAH AND THE HIGH PRIEST FREEZE IN MID CONVERSATION.

NARRATOR: When the people came, young King Josiah read to them from the book. That day the king promised to keep the Law and to serve the Lord with all his heart. He commanded the people to make the same promise and they obeyed.

Later, Josiah prepared for the Passover. People came from every part of the land. They rejoiced together and kept the feast for seven days. Not since the days of the prophet Samuel had there been such a great Passover.

For thirty one years Josiah ruled the people. At the end of his reign, the king of Egypt came to



fight the people of Judah, Josiah would not go back to the palace and safety. Instead he dressed like an ordinary soldier and went out to battle. During the fight he was wounded by an arrow. His servants brought him back to Jerusalem in a chariot. Josiah died and the people buried him among the honorable kings of Judah. So honored was Josiah that we still tell his story today.

ALL ACTORS LEAVE THE STAGE.



GOOD KID, BAD KID

ACTORS: Narrator, Mother and Daughter (Chloe) in Holy Land costume.

CHLOE: (*Calling impatiently...*) Mother! Mother! I'm home! Where are you, Mother? Mother! I'm calling you!

MOTHER: (*Coming on stage with basket of yarn in her hand.*) Chloe, I'm here. Hush child. It is not seemly for a young woman to be shouting. Come and sit with me while I wind my yarn. In fact, you can help me. We have much to do today after such a long Passover trip to Jerusalem. After walking 70 miles from Nazareth to Jerusalem and 70 miles back to Nazareth, my bones are aching.

CHLOE: Mother, I do not have time to wind yarn. The boys are playing on Olive Hill and they invited me to play with them. May I go, Mother? Just this once! I promise I will work hard tomorrow.

MOTHER: Now, dear Chloe, does it seem right for a young girl to go shouting and jumping on that hill where everyone in Nazareth can see you? I think not! Sit! You must learn to do the things that young women do. I will teach you. Look how lovely the yarn wraps today. The color is just right for....

CHLOE: (*Sitting with a thud....*) Well, my body might be here but my mind is on that hill. I don't care how lovely the yarn is. I want to play stone jacks with the boys. And anyway, he's back!

MOTHER: Who's back?and where was he anyway?

CHLOE: (*Rolling her eyes....*) Oh Mother, you are so out of it. Don't you ever listen to the talk around town? Jesus is back. He was lost and now he's back. He's going to be on the hill too. Pleeese, let me go?

MOTHER: Tsk, tsk. Mary and Joseph certainly have their hands full with that boy. I cannot believe he ran off just before we left Jerusalem to come home. And they say he's so smart. When Mary left our group, she was beside herself with panic. Joseph turned their donkey around and they headed back to Jerusalem. Who knows what could have happened to him?

CHLOE: Nothing happened to him. He was in the temple with all the priests and teachers. He was reading God's Word with them, Mother. They were very impressed with how much he knew about our forefathers and about the scriptures.



MOTHER: It proves what a good synagogue school we have here in Nazareth. The boys read the books written by Moses and the prophets. He learned his lessons well. His father should be proud but he should also discipline that boy.

CHLOE: (*Jumping up excitedly...*) May I go to the synagogue school, Mother? I promise to study hard. I want to learn to read God's Book like the boys. There are wonderful things in that book. You could make it happen, you know. People in Nazareth listen to you. I can hear it now, "Look at that Chloe. She's the first girl to ever attend synagogue school, you know. Her mother is as wise as she is beautiful. She made the arrangements. And that Chloe. She is wise beyond her years. She reads God's Book and teaches the women in the village how to live a faithful life. Yes, yes, times are good now that Chloe has been to school."

MOTHER: (*Laughing...*) Chloe, dear Chloe, I'm so glad you think I am wise and beautiful. It is because I am so wise that I can see behind your sweet sounding words. Winding yarn is not as exciting as playing on the hill or sitting at the feet of the synagogue teacher. Women have a proper place in our society. You will not be going to synagogue school, young lady. You will learn to take care of a house and someday you will marry one of those boys on the hill and be a good wife. Get used to it!

CHLOE: Yuck! I don't want to get married. You just don't understand me. All my life you and father have told me how important it is to follow God. Well, I'm just doing what you want. I want to follow God. Jesus has been explaining some interesting things to the boys that I never heard before. If I'm not on that hill, I'll miss everything. Please let me go!

MOTHER: Jesus Bar Joseph has filled your head with fanciful thoughts of God. He is a good boy but he has a lot to learn. He was a bad boy to leave his parents....

CHLOE: His parents aren't angry with him. He came home quietly and the family seems very happy over at the carpenter's shop. Joseph even gave Jesus a hug this morning. I saw him do it.

MOTHER: (*Smiling*) They are a strange family, Chloe. I will be watching Mary and Joseph. They love their children as your father and I love you. Today I must do what is right for you. Now sit down and wind that yarn.



NARRATOR: No doubt, Chloe was a disappointed young woman. Her heart was with the fun on the hillside and her mind wanted to stretch in many directions that were not permitted in those days. In fact, it would be many years until girls were allowed to learn to read and write. Chloe did indeed marry one of the boys on the hill many years later. She was a good wife and was a friend to Jesus. In fact, Chloe became one of the very first Christians.

As the years passed Jesus grew to be a noble young man. He learned to explain the scriptures and to talk with God. By helping Joseph with his work, Jesus also become a carpenter. When Joseph died, Jesus worked to care for Mary and for his brothers and sisters. His kind, thoughtful ways won him many friends. Jesus lived in his Nazareth home until he was about thirty years old.



PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN

ACTORS: Narrator. Philip and the Ethiopian dressed in Holy Land costume. The actor portraying the Ethiopian may dressed with bright colors and lots of jewelry.

NARRATOR: An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go south on the road that runs between Jerusalem and Gaza." Philip, who was a follower of Jesus, obeyed. He wasn't the only traveler on the road that day. A royal chariot was headed south toward Ethiopia in Africa. The head of the queen's treasury was returning home. He had been to Jerusalem to worship God. In his hands was a scroll of the book of Isaiah. Only a man of wealth and position could buy such a book.

ETHIOPIAN: (*Sitting on one of two chairs covered in a brightly colored cloth to represent a chariot seat*) Hey, slow down. How do you expect me to read this thing when you are driving like a crazy person. I'll tell you, you cannot get good help these days. Hey! I said slow down!

Now, I can read the words more carefully. Let's see....it says..... "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before his shearer is dumb So he opened not his mouth, His story who can tell? For his life is taken from the earth." Maybe if I read it again, I'll understand the words. I want to know God better. "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter....

PHILIP: (*Walking up to the chariot....*) Shalom! Beautiful day, isn't it?

ETHIOPIAN: Hadn't noticed. Don't care. Leave me alone. I'm busy.

PHILIP: Hey, it looks like you've got a pretty impressive looking scroll there. Where did you get it? Do you understand what you are reading?

ETHIOPIAN: Can't you take a hint? I am busy. I do not have time to talk to a stranger. I am trying to understand the words in this Bible scroll. It is impossible even for someone as intelligent and rich as me. Go, shoo, run along.

PHILIP: You look sad so you must want to understand the words very much. Would you like me to help you?

ETHIOPIAN: (*Surprised....*) You can do that? Yes, by all means. Come and join me in the chariot. Ride awhile and perhaps you can explain the meaning of these strange words.



NARRATOR: As the two men rode together, Philip explained the words of the scroll. He used the verses from Isaiah to preach to him about Jesus. Jesus was made to suffer and to die. Just as a lamb is quiet before the sheep shearer, so Jesus said nothing to those who wronged him.

ETHIOPIAN: I have not heard the story of Jesus before today. I believe that Jesus is the Christ. How can I thank you, Philip? If you had not come along, I never would have understood the words. At last, I understand what I have longed to know for so long.

PHILIP: No problem! There's more to the story. If you believe with all your heart you may be baptized.

ETHIOPIAN: I do believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Hey you, driver, stop the chariot! What keeps me from being baptized in that water?

PHILIP: Not a thing! Let's go!

NARRATOR: The men climbed out of the chariot and went down into the water where Philip baptized the man from Africa. When they came out of the water, Philip had disappeared. All the way home the Ethiopian rejoiced as a follower of Jesus. He was eager to tell the people of Ethiopia about Jesus. We think the good news of Jesus being spread all over Africa began the day that Philip obeyed God and opened the scriptures with a man from a far away place.



THE LETTER FROM HEAVEN

ACTORS: Narrator. Choose 3 of the actors from other skits to perform this skit in Holy Land costume.

ACTOR #1: We have come to talk to you about God's Word.

ACTOR #2: Yeah, we didn't think you got the message yet. So we decided to look you in the eye and say it right out loud: DID YOU GET THE MESSAGE?

ACTOR #3: Oh stop it. These look like brilliant young scholars to me. They would have done well in the synagogue school. Reading and writing, thinking and growing....yes, they would understand God's message.

ACTOR #1: (*Holding a modern Bible*) Look at this book. It is divided into two sections.

ACTOR #2: Duh, they know that! The Old Testament and the New Testament.

ACTOR #1: Well, how do I know? They might not know and God sent me here to tell them so stand aside while I tell them! The Old Testament is often called the Old Covenant. It was written by many men over many centuries but every man had the same message. God loves us and has planned a wonderful life and a place called heaven to all that call upon Him. Those were hard times. The New Testament is called the New Covenant and tells us about the days of Jesus and beyond to the days of the first Christian church.

ACTOR #3: There are 66 books in the Old and New Testament, 1189 chapters and 31,175 verses. Oh yes, there are 773,692 words and 3,567,180 letters.

ACTOR #2: (*Shaking his head....*) Oh brother!

ACTOR #3: Stand aside, I'm not done. The middle verse is Psalm 118:8. The longest verse is Esther 8:9. The shortest verse is John 11:35. The longest chapter is Psalm 119.

ACTOR #2: You're killin' me here.

ACTOR #3: The longest name is in Isaiah 8:1—Mahershalalhashbaz.

ACTOR #1: Hey, I know some interesting facts too! The word "and" occurs 46,227 times. The word "Lord" occurs 8,000 times. Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except "j".

ACTOR #3: You forgot one. The name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther.



ACTOR #2: Are you two done?

ACTOR #1: I think so. No, wait! Here's more Old Testament stuff. The middle book is Proverbs. The middle chapter is Job 29. The middle verses are II Chronicles 20:17-18. The shortest Old Testament verse is I Chronicles 1:25.

ACTOR #3: That reminds me....

ACTOR #2: I'm sure it does.

ACTOR #3: The New Testament's middle is II Thessalonians. The middle chapters are Romans 12 and 14. The middle verse is Acts 17:17 and the shortest verse is John 11:35.

ACTOR #2: And I bet it says, "Jesus wept."

ACTOR #3: As a matter of fact, it does. You finally get it! Talk about a brilliant scholar!

ACTOR #1: Well, the message of the Bible is what is important. Every reader must understand that God loves us and wants us to spend eternity with Him in heaven. He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Jesus lived and died and rose again with one purpose....to save us from our sins.

ACTOR #2: There's a catch. There's always a catch.

ACTOR #3: Only one. We must believe that the Bible is truth. We must accept what the Book says and ask Jesus to become our Savior personally. Then we are in God's family.

ACTOR #2: Now that's something I can do. I believe God's Word and I believe in Jesus. You know, the Bible *is* an impressive book.

ACTOR #1 AND #3: (*In unison*) He gets it! He really gets it!

NARRATOR: All day we are talking about the Bible. We are learning *Basic Information Before Leaving Earth* that includes stories, lists of things we should know and people we should listen to. The Bible is our guidebook. Be sure to read your Bible every day! This is the end of WAY COOL BIBLE ADVENTURES. Go your way in peace...the peace of God.





B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY



WHO SHOULD COME TO B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY? Children birth through age three who are children of teachers and helpers are invited to B.I.B.L.E. Nursery. It is the decision of each local church to open the nursery to the public or not. The curriculum is not designed for students under four years old. They do not respond well to high activity so loved by older students. This one day event could be exhausting for babies and toddlers and they may be served better by remaining home.

HOW MANY HELPERS SHOULD WE ASK TO BE IN B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY? Ideally, one helper per baby in charge of total care for that infant from bottle to changing diapers.

SHOULD WE PLAN ACTIVITIES IN B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY? The nursery is a babysitting service but tell a few stories, sing some songs, play tapes, give wagon rides and take walks. Decide how much to do by the ages of the toddlers.

SHOULD WE FEED THE CHILDREN IN B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY? Ask parents involved. They may want to provide snacks from home. If you do feed the toddlers, be sure the food is safe and healthful. *(No popcorn, hot dogs, lollipops or hard candy which could be caught in a tiny throat.)* Any meals served at B.I.B.L.E. should include these small children eating with their parent or guardian.

HOW SHOULD WE DRESS IN B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY? Wear clothing that is washable and shoes that are low and comfortable. The key to being happy in the nursery is to be comfortable. Theme costuming is not necessary.

WHAT SHOULD WE BRING FROM HOME TO MAKE B.I.B.L.E. NURSERY A PLEASANT PLACE? Bring Christian tapes. Play music at a low, non threatening volume. Bring a small fan if days are hot and humid. Place the fan away from children, preferable on a shelf or high table.





PRESCHOOL; A FEW GOOD KIDS



This area is for preschool students ages 4-5. Students under the age of three should be part of the B.I.B.L.E. Nursery if they are children of teachers and assistants.

THEME: The A FEW GOOD KIDS group studies the same spiritual themes as older students. Use the curriculum as a study guide but provide plenty of rest time, play and simple crafting. At no time should you feel pressured to move the students to activities if they are crying or upset. Cancel or shorten your appearance in favor of free play time if the group needs rest.

TEACHERS: There should be one helper for every 2-3 A FEW GOOD KIDS students. Parental help is welcome. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Make the One Day event fun and relaxing. Students should be able to chatter and sing without being reprimanded. However, run away children or rudeness must not be tolerated.

B.I.B.L.E. is a One Day Vacation Bible School event with activity stations prepared for large group activities and several stations designed for individual groups.

HOME BASE: Choose one room where preschool stories, crafts, play and rest activity takes place. It is wise to have a separate space for criers and other students who need quiet rest during the day. Two separate ½ hour sessions (morning and afternoon) are reserved as an optional preschool Home Base time.

CRIERS: This age group is unpredictable in behavior. If a few children continually cry, ask helpers to keep them busy separately with play and coloring at the A FEW GOOD KIDS Home Base. Movement around the building and grounds may be threatening for some younger students. If one or two children never calm down, it may be necessary to ask a parent to stay with their child or to take them home and try again next year. While we want to accommodate as many young students as possible, crying and temper tantrums discourage teachers, helpers and students. The child may be too young and will do better at a later time.



PLANNING THE DAY FOR A FEW GOOD KIDS

4 ½ hours is a very long day for preschool students. Plan the day around spontaneous rest and free time. Bring beach balls, balloons, bubbles and other outdoor toys to play indoors or outdoors. Purchase small story books from your local Christian bookstore. Use the stories as extra teaching times.

HOME BASE: Some preschool work may be completed in their separate classroom called Home Base. Prepare Bible stories, crafts, games, rest and free play as optional activities in case students are not able to participate in the same stations as older students.

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY OPENING: A FEW GOOD KIDS may participate in the opening if they can sit still for 15 minutes, sing and respond. This is an opportunity to organize name tags and motivate the group before the day begins. If there are criers, ask a helper to take them to Home Base to color. This avoids chaos and distraction for the older students.

SOUND FORTH—RHYTHMS OF THE HEART: Encourage preschoolers to participate in music time. Take them to SOUND FORTH and stay with them. If the 30 minute session is too long, take preschoolers back to Home Base for free play or coloring time.

WAY COOL B,I,B,L,E. ADVENTURES: This area consists of four separate skits performed by actors in Holy Land costume. A FEW GOOD KIDS should be able to enjoy the 30 minute activity even if they do not understand every concept. Consider a 15 minute session if attention spans are short. Return to Home Base for rest or other activities.

BIBLE STATIONS: Two Bible Stations are presented during the day. Take the group to each station for lessons on The Ten Commandments and The Beatitudes. They may make the same paper chains as older students. They may not understand every concept but they will enjoy the decorations and the stories.



FUTURE-TERIA: Take students to any meals provided. There may be a breakfast, lunch and supper (or any combination of these meals). Sit with the students. Use this time as a bathroom and hand washing break. Everyone in the building eats at the same time so decide if you want to join the older students or eat separately at Home Base.

REST TIME: Allow time for unstructured lay and rest. Darken Home Base, play a tape of Christian music or listen to a taped story while encouraging quiet activity. Time is scheduled as options in both morning and afternoon sessions.



A FEW GOOD KIDS PRESCHOOL CRAFT IDEAS

Use one or two of the S&S arts and crafts catalog ideas suggested or design your own simple crafts. (Prices subject to change.) To obtain your own FREE master copy of the S&S arts and crafts catalog, call 1-800-566-6678.

PUZZLE PIECE FRAMES. Here's an interesting collage activity for framing favorite pictures or photos. Use the non toxic washable markers to color the 28 puzzle pieces and then glue them to the cardboard frame in a unique pattern. (Glue not included.) 5 ½" square frame. Inside: 2 ¼" x 3 ¼". SR9-GP1028 \$6.49 per pack of 12. 54 cents per project.

PAPER MOSAICS. Precut shapes of gummed paper for creating fanciful images. Just moisten and position squares on black background. Display finished panels as a handsome accent. Includes self stick assorted colored squares, black paper and instructions. 9" x 12". SR9-GP1047 \$16.99 per pack of 50. 34 cents per project.

SUPER FOAM PICTURE PAL MAGNETIC PHOTO FRAMES. Kids will enjoy creating these picture frames by sponge painting the Super Foam pals. When completed, they make marvelous gifts—magnets make them great for displaying on a fridge or locker. Kit includes precut Super Foam pal shapes, non toxic acrylic paint, magnetic tape, precut sponge shapes for painting and instructions. SR0-GP1266 \$10.99 per pack of 36. 31 cents per project.

MAGIC COLOR WHEELS. Watch colors mix as these mini frisbees twirl through the air. This easy to assemble project creates a stained glass like design. Kit includes 4 ¼" frisbees, brightly colored tissue paper strips, non toxic glue and instructions. SR9-GP1267 \$17.49 per pack of 24. 73 cents per project.

SQUISH ART. Create squish art by using our special tool. Great fun and so easy to do! Experiment with color mixing and create exotic forms. Includes heavy weight cards, frames, squish art tools, non toxic finger paints and instructions. 5" x 7". SR9-GP231 \$20.99 per pack of 25. 84 cents per project.

SPRINGY SPRINGTIME FLOWERS. Making this cheerful arrangement is sure to bring a smile to one's face. Sharing it with a special someone is sure to bring on a big hug! Kids paint the foam base, twirl the pipe cleaners and decorate the bobbing flowers. Pack includes foam half balls, jumbo chenille stems, sponge sheets, precut construction paper flowers, non toxic green acrylic paint and glue, crayons and instructions. SR9-GP1268 \$17.99 per pack of 24. 75 cents per project.



HOME MADE PROJECTS HIT THE MARK TOO!

Think about creating projects from supplies on hand. Look around the church to see what leftover supplies are tucked away in closets and drawers. Decide what projects are appropriate for students ages 4-5.

CEREAL NECKLACE. What a fun craft and treat at the same time. The craft requires boxes of Cheerios, Fruit Loops, Apple Jacks or other circular cereals. Place them in bowls for students to string (and eat!). For easy stringing, precut yarn and scotch tape one end to form a solid point. Shoe strings work well too. The starting piece of cereal may be died to the opposite end of the yarn. Wear, eat, have fun together!

OIL STAINED PICTURES. Any coloring book picture works with these instructions. Pictures work best if copied from coloring books onto white copier paper. Students color with CRAYON! (No markers for this project!) When their picture is colored, cover the table with newspaper and place small bowls of vegetable oil in the center. Students cover their picture with the oil using small white cotton balls. Once the picture has been oiled, it resembles a transparent stained glass window. Allow students to make several pictures.

REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS. Purchase magnetic strips and cut into small pieces. Consider a variety of small objects which can be attached to the strips and decorated—small painted rocks with eyes glued in place, spring clothes pin with pom poms glued onto them, spring clothes pins with animals, faces, flowers, Bible people, etc. colored and glued onto one side. Paper flowers with memory verse printed in the center. Anything you can imagine, can be made into a magnet.

Provide sandwich bags or paper bags for student take home projects.





ESCAPE TO THE FUTURE

ESCAPE TO THE FUTURE is a fun way to end the events of B.I.B.L.E.—Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. Gather all students and staff in the FROM HERE TO ETERNITY Opening area for fifteen minutes. Seat the students in their graded groups for a grand finale.

As the students enter, play joyful music on CD. Let everyone talk for a few minutes as the groups come together. Sing together, say the memory verses for the day and make appropriate announcements.

This is not a good time for in depth teaching or story telling. Students and staff will be tired and the noise level may be difficult to control. Don't try! Just have fun together for the remaining minutes of the day.

Close in Prayer.

**GO HOME KNOWING YOU HAVE BEEN
A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!**

