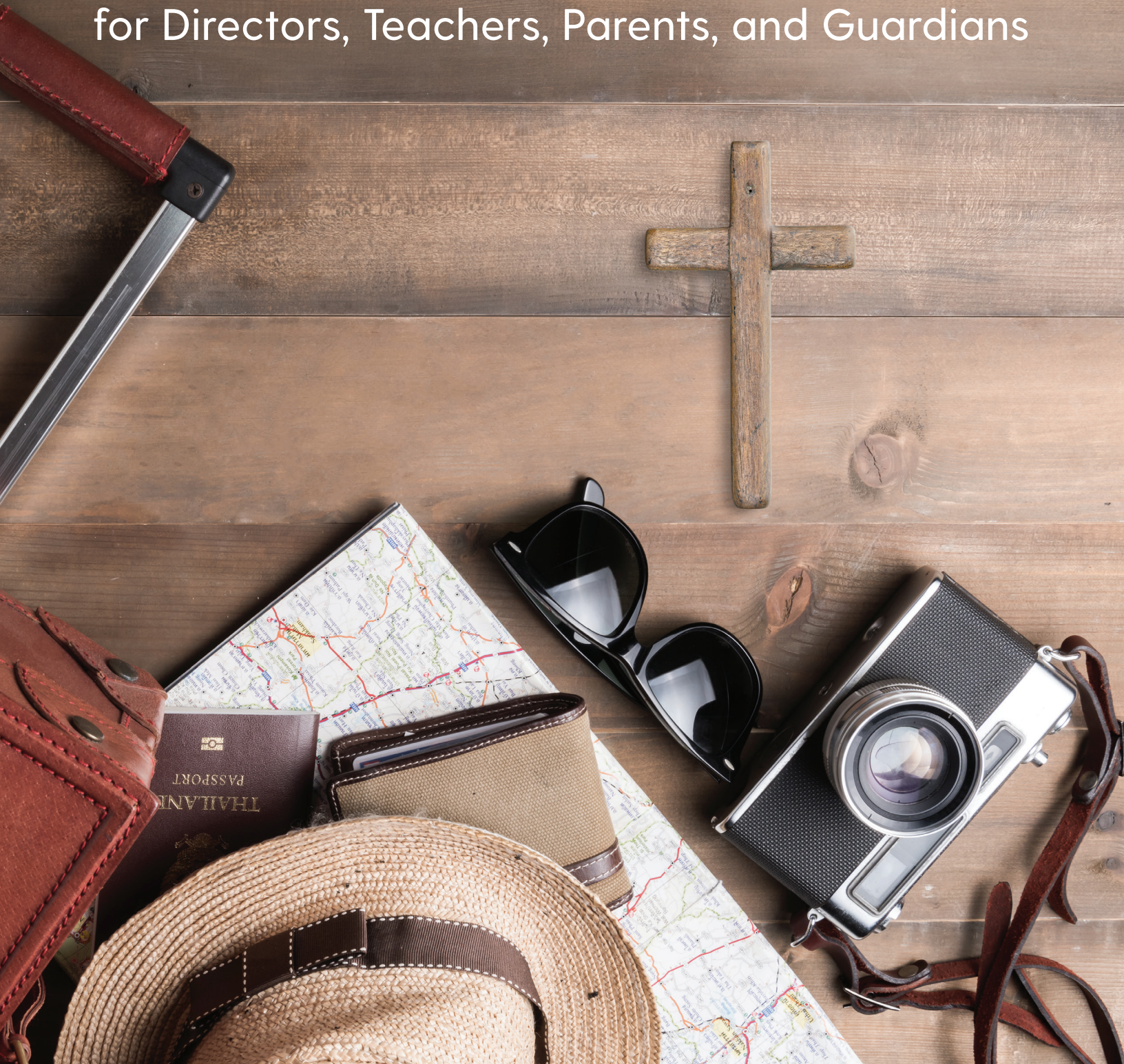




VBS @ HOME GUIDE

for Directors, Teachers, Parents, and Guardians





VBS and administrative leaders will be responsible for:

- planning VBS as a virtual experience.
- finding virtual resources for students.
- making a toolkit available for use in partnership with families.
- communicating with parents and instructors regarding their students' needs.
- educating all partners in the virtual learning experience.
- ensuring the safety of participants with online conduct guidelines.

Dialogue with the pastor(s) in your church to discuss online/virtual ministry

- Discuss how video conferencing and other collaboration services can be used.
- Discuss your vision to implement the VBS guidelines.
- Be prepared to let the pastor(s) know in what ways you will need their assistance.

Create a virtual VBS team

- Recruit a VBS team (parents, church members, peer-partners, etc.).
- Create roles and clarify expectations for all volunteers.
- Determine the best vehicle for providing virtual experiences (Zoom, Google Meet, etc.).
- Schedule time prior to VBS for building relationships between volunteers, virtual participant(s) and the family.
- Foster a culture of patience and support.

Set aside a space/room for VBS activities and get creative with group activities

- Create a craft/activity space to help VBS students at home focus on lessons and engage in the VBS content.
- Make an inventory of digital resources to keep on hand for virtual students and create a plan to customize each activity as needed for the home.
- Provide a virtual toolkit for volunteers to work with younger and older VBS students.



Tips for New VBS Instructors

On the R. H. Boyd VBS webpage, www.rhboyd.com/vbs, there are multiple free digital downloads available for instructors to use as aids for their VBS lesson plan. These include guides, award certificates, activities, the VBS logo, character image files, and more!

Teaching VBS for the first time can be daunting. However, teaching VBS for the first time while also social distancing is a challenge on its own. However, **VBS @ Home** is a chance for VBS directors, teachers, parents, guardians, and students to get creative! All of the VBS Kit Box activities and lessons can be customized to be effective at home.

Reminders:

- Remember to pray!
- Remember to have fun!
- Remember to not put too much pressure on yourself and take everything one day at time.
- Remember to take breaks! Even at home, kids need at least a 5 or 10 minute break in between some activities. Adult VBS students can benefit from regular breaks as well.
- Remember to reach out to your network, whether it's your pastor, fellow church members, friends and family, or other VBS participants. Remember that you're not alone! Using collaboration tools and even just creating a private VBS group on social media to support one another are some of the ways you can build an online community.

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)



Collaboration Tools

When participating in or teaching VBS @ Home, it can be helpful to collaborate with others, just as you would in person or at church. Thanks to technology it is possible to still meet with your pastor, other VBS instructors, and even multiple VBS students via video conferencing.

Below is a list of some of the many free video conferencing and collaboration tools, along with links to tutorials on how to use them, if you're new to this practice.

Zoom Tutorials

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials>

Google Meet Quick Start Guide

<https://support.google.com/a/users/answer/9282720?hl=en>

GoToMeeting FAQs

<https://www.gotomeeting.com/meeting/online-meeting-support>

ClassroomScreen About

<https://classroomscreen.com/learn/>

*“And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.” - Philippians 4:19–20 (NRSV)*