

## VBS@HOME INSTRUCTIONS – PRESCHOOL AGE

THANK YOU for registering for VBS@HOME! We know that Jesus' power will pull us through, and it will be a great week of learning and fun! This document is provided to introduce you to the resources we have provided. I hope it helps!

### **Possible schedule – please feel free to adapt to your situation**

6:30 View worship rally video  
6:45 View Bible story video – you may also choose to read the story included here  
7:00 Craft  
7:15 Bible memory game and recreation game  
7:30 All done!

### **What is in the kit?**

Each child gets a craft kit for each day and a wooden train whistle. Each home receives these instructions plus a copy of the Bible stories, review questions, a Bible verse activity, a set of markers, and game ideas.

### **Where are the videos?**

- Our website – [www.meadowbrookbc.org](http://www.meadowbrookbc.org). Navigate to the VBS page and all the videos are here.
- Our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/mbckidsministry/>.
- Note: there will be bonus content on our website, including music videos of all the songs that go with this year's VBS.

### **What about the crafts?**

Preschool crafts and 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> crafts are the same. They are individually packaged with what the kids need to make them, including instructions. Be sure to supervise the littles, as some of the crafts contain beads. While kids are working on their crafts you can retell and discuss the Bible story. This is a great way to make the most of craft time!

### **What about the games?**

We have included game suggestions for preschoolers and for children. If you have a mixed group, use the games you think will work best. Some of the games need no props at all, some do require a few things you probably have at home. Get more bang for your buck by using the review questions at game time to review the Bible story (more about that on the game sheet).

### **What about the Bible verse?**

We selected one verse to work on for this week and created a game to go with it. If Bibles are handy, why not help the kids find the verse in their Bibles! Philippians 2:13 (New Living Translation): For God is working on you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. This verse is a little long for preschoolers, so you can use just the first phrase: God is working on you! You might choose motions to go with the verse to help your preschooler learn it.

**What about Club 56 (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders)?**

Our Club 56 teachers are creating unique VBS activities just for our older kids! They will have different Cargo Kits with their own special activities, and they have their own Bible story videos!

**What about photos?**

We would love to see your VBS@HOME photos! Post on Facebook using #MeadowbrookVBS2020.

**What if we have guests attending in our home?**

Be sure to ask about allergies, get an emergency contact phone number, and ask if you are permitted to post pictures.

**What if we need something (like an extra craft kit) during VBS?**

Just give me a call or text at 254-644-6892.

**What if we would like a youth helper?**

Please give me a call or text in advance and we will set that up!

**Questions?**

I have never done VBS like this, so I'm sure I have not thought of everything! Please feel free to call/text me at 254-644-6892 with any questions.

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PRESCHOOL STORY – DAY ONE  
JESUS IS ALIVE!

**(Note:** when we teach preschoolers at church about the death and resurrection of Jesus, we do not talk much about his death on the cross. We focus on what happened when the women went to the tomb. Jesus was not there; he was alive! The death of Jesus is more appropriate for 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up. In this telling of the story, it is mentioned briefly, but no details are given about the cross, the nails, etc. If you have older and younger children meeting in your VBS, think and pray about the amount of detail you want to share. The main point is that Jesus is alive today and he loves us!)

One day Jesus and his disciples returned to Jerusalem. Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem where many people were gathered. The crowd of people laid down their robes, and they cut and laid down palm branches for Jesus and the donkeys to walk on.

Many people were happy to see Jesus. But not everyone liked Jesus. In fact, there were some people, the religious leaders, who wanted nothing to do with Jesus. They made up lies about Jesus, and he was arrested. Jesus was going to die, even though he had never done anything wrong.

They buried him in a tomb and rolled a huge stone in front of the opening. His friends had not been able to prepare his body before burial, because it was the Sabbath day. They planned to do that as soon as the Sabbath was over.

Three days after Jesus had died on the cross, two women went to visit the tomb early in the morning. When the women arrived at the tomb, an angel was sitting on the stone that had been rolled away from the front of the tomb.

The angel told the women not to be afraid. He said, "I know you are looking for Jesus, but He is not here. He is alive!"

The angel invited the women to look inside the tomb to see that Jesus was not there. Then the angel told the women to go quickly to tell the disciples that Jesus was alive.

The women ran quickly to do as the angel said. On their way, the women saw Jesus and they worshiped Him. Jesus said, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my disciples to meet me in Galilee." The women went to do as Jesus told them.

The good news is Jesus is alive! And Jesus loves you!

PRESCHOOL STORY – DAY TWO  
PAUL’S SHIPWRECK

After Paul became a friend of Jesus, he started telling everyone about Jesus’ love. But there were still a lot of people who did not like what Paul said.

The Bible tells us that people put Paul in jail and sent him to see the king for a trial. That meant Paul had to go on a ship and sail to where the king lived.

At first, there were nice, gentle waves hitting the ship. But then a huge storm came. The storm pushed their ship way out into the ocean—away from where they needed to go! It lasted for 14 long, scary, hopeless days. For 14 days they did not see the sun or the moon or the stars, just the clouds and the wind and the rain.

Day 1... No sun.

Days 2...3...4... Still no sun or moon. The sailors were so afraid. They thought the ship was going to sink and they were all going to die.

Days 5...6...7... Still no sun or moon, just clouds and rain.

Days 8...9...10... Still nothing but clouds and rain. They threw anything they could into the water to make the ship lighter.

Days 11...12...13...14... They still could not see anything but a terrible storm.

The men were so busy trying to keep the ship from sinking that no one ate anything that whole time! They lost *all* hope. They did not think they would ever be safe again. But then an angel came to Paul and told him that Jesus would protect them. Jesus’ power gave Paul hope, and Paul trusted Jesus. Paul shared the hope with the other men on the ship. He told them Jesus had sent an angel who promised him everyone would be okay. The ship *was* going to sink, but everyone would make it to shore.

Paul told the sailors they should eat something, so they would have the strength they needed. Paul thanked Jesus for some bread and ate it. He gave some to the other men. They all ate some food and felt better. Jesus’ power gave them hope

The next morning, they saw land! The ship could not get there, so the sailors had to swim to shore.

When they got to shore, they counted to make sure everyone was there. All the men on the ship made it safely, just like Jesus had promised.

Being in that storm must have been scary for the men on the ship. But Paul knew someone who is more powerful than any storm—Jesus! And Jesus’ power gave him hope.

PRESCHOOL STORY – DAY THREE  
PETER AND JOHN AT THE TEMPLE

Today we are going to hear a true story from the Bible about Jesus' friends a long time ago. They boldly showed Jesus' love. That means they were willing to share Jesus' love with everyone!

Jesus' friends Peter and John were going to their special church, called the Temple. Outside the Temple, they saw a man whose legs did not work. He had never been able to walk in his whole life!

The man sat at the gate all day and asked people for money. That day he asked Peter and John for money. Peter told the man to look at him, and then he said, "I don't have any money for you, but I'll give you what I do have."

Peter took the man's hand and boldly said, "In the name of Jesus Christ, get up and walk!" Peter helped the man stand up for the first time in his *whole, entire* life. The man was so excited that he started running around the Temple, jumping, and dancing!

The people in the Temple were amazed to see the man jumping and dancing. They had seen him sitting at the gate for *years*! They knew he could not walk before. They rushed to see if it was really true. People told their friends, then *they* hurried to see what happened.

A big, noisy, excited crowd gathered at the Temple! Peter saw that people wondered how the man had been healed, so he boldly stood up to explain. Peter said, "We didn't heal this man." "Jesus healed him." He explained that Jesus really is God's Son and that he came to show just how much God loves us all. Now we can *all* be Jesus' friends. Peter had to be brave to say that, because not everyone believed that Jesus was God's Son. But because of Peter's bold words, many, many people became Jesus' friends that day!

But some leaders there did not like Jesus or his friends. They did not believe Jesus was God's Son, and they did not want Peter or John telling people about Jesus. So, they put Peter and John in jail!

Peter and John had to stay in jail all night long! In the morning, the leaders that put Peter and John in jail came to get them. Peter and John were not afraid of them. Jesus' power helped them be bold. Peter was so bold and brave that he even told *the leaders* about Jesus' love! The leaders were amazed. They could not believe that Peter was so brave and bold, even though he was just a *regular guy*. They could tell he was a friend of Jesus, and Jesus helped him be bold.

The leaders saw that everyone else was excited and praising God. They did not want people to get mad at them, so they let Peter and John go. Peter and John kept boldly telling everyone about Jesus' love.

Peter was not afraid of the leaders. Sometimes when we are afraid, we feel weak and powerless. But when we are friends with Jesus, we do not ever have to be afraid to tell people about him. In the Bible, Jesus promises to give us his power. Jesus' power helps us be bold.

PRESCHOOL REVIEW QUESTIONS – **FOR USE WITH THE BIBLE STORY VIDEOS**

DAY 1 – JESUS' CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION, MATTHEW 26:17-28:10

Q: Who's birthday do we celebrate in December?

A: *Jesus' birthday!*

Q: Jesus taught the people. Who did he teach the people about?

A: *God.*

Q: Jesus was arrested. Did He do anything wrong?

A: *No!*

Q: What happened after Jesus died?

A: *He was buried.*

Q: What happened three days later?

A: *Jesus was alive again.*

***We can celebrate because Jesus is alive!***

DAY 2 – PAUL ENCOURAGES OTHERS IN A STORM AND SHIPWRECK, ACTS 27

Q: When Paul was on the ship, was it good weather or stormy weather?

A: *Stormy weather!*

Q: How many people were on the ship?

A: *276.*

Q: The people were afraid! What did Paul say?

A: *He told them not to worry, they were in God's hands.*

Q: What did they do with their supplies?

A: *They threw them overboard, off the ship.*

Q: When they got to land, they swam to shore. Did they all make it safely to land??

A: *Yes!*

**Jesus' power gave them hope in the storm. Jesus' power gives us hope today!**

DAY 3 – PETER AND JOHN TEACH ABOUT JESUS, ACTS 3-4:31

Q: Why did Peter and Paul go to the temple?

A: *To pray.*

Q: They saw a man who could not walk. What did they say to him?

A: *Rise up and walk!*

Q: What happened when the man got up?

A: *He was able to walk! He went to go tell people.*

Q: What did Peter say to the crowd of people?

A: *He taught the people about Jesus.*

Q: How many people believed in Jesus?

A: *5,000 people!*

**Jesus' power made Peter and John bold. We can be bold and tell people about Jesus!**

## VBS@HOME CRAFTS – PRESCHOOL & 1<sup>ST</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup> GRADES

### DAY ONE – Ride with Jesus Bracelet

There is clear stretchy fishing line that is used to string this bracelet. We will also provide chenille stems (pipe cleaners) because it is much easier to slide the beads on those. Or if you have yarn or something at home you would rather use, that is great!

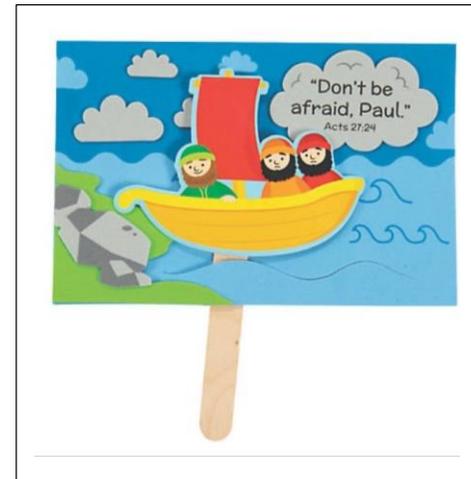
As you work on the craft remind the kids that Jesus is alive! He is here to help us change and become more like him every day. We are not alone; we are riding through life with Jesus!



### DAY TWO – Don't be afraid, Paul

This craft consists of foam stickers. You peel the back off and stick the pieces on the large piece of blue foam. There is a paper in each kit that shows where the pieces are "supposed" to go, but kids can use their imaginations!

As you work on the craft remind the kids that Paul did not give up while they were in the storm. Jesus' power gave them hope, and Jesus' power gives us hope today!



### DAY THREE – Jesus' gives us power flying disc

Children use thin markers to color the design, then you stick it on the disc. New markers are provided for each family.

As you work on the craft remind kids that Jesus' power made Peter and John bold! They were bold when they healed the man and they were bold when they preached! We can also be bold today and do what God wants us to do!



## VBS@HOME PRESCHOOL GAMES

### Day 1 Game: Jesus Is Alive Tag

Props: no props, but you need an area where kids can run

Say: **We heard today that that Jesus loves us so much that he died for us. But now he is alive, and that is something to celebrate! Let's play a game where we get to tell our friends that Jesus is alive!**

1. Invite one willing child to be the tagger.
2. Encourage kids to run around while the tagger tries to catch them. If kids are tagged, they will freeze until someone comes to help them.
3. To unfreeze a child, the other child will say "Jesus is alive!"

Say: **It was fun to play this game and tell your friends, "Jesus is alive!" It was sad when Jesus died, but we know that he is alive today and that he loves each one of us!**

### Day 2 Game - Storm Tag

Props – jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, or something else to mark off an area; an old sheet; spray bottles with water

Use jump-ropes as lines to mark a "ship" on one side of the play area and lay out the sheet to create an "island" on the other side.

Gather kids together in the "ship."

Say: **The men who sailed with Paul had to swim to an island when their ship got stuck. Let's play a game where we try to get safely to that island over there.** Point to the sheet.

1. Ask an adult helper to join you in making the storm. Give them a spray bottle and keep one for yourself. Your job is to try and spray kids as they run. Note: some kids may not want to be sprayed, especially in the face. You may want to adjust the game with a rule that you only spray an arm or leg.
2. Lead kids to try to run from the ship to the island. If kids get sprayed, ask them to go back to the ship and start again.
3. Once all the kids make it safely to the island, have them walk back to the ship and start the game again. Maybe let the kids take turns with the spray bottles.

Say: **It was fun to try to get to the island in our game. I'm not sure it was quite as much fun for the sailors with Paul. Some probably wondered if they would make it. Sometimes we wonder if we'll ever be done with a hard time. But we know Jesus has good plans for us. We can trust Jesus because Jesus' power gives us hope!**

### Day 3 Game - Obstacle Course

Props – Use whatever you have on hand to make an obstacle course for the kids

Say: **Today we heard a story about Peter and John who healed a man who could not walk. Then they told everyone about Jesus! They may have been afraid to do these things, but they were very bold! We are going to be brave and bold and do this obstacle course!**

1. Set up the course and explain it to the kids.
2. Lead kids do the obstacle course one at a time. Or, since Peter and John worked together, you could have them do it in pairs.
3. As each child finishes the course lead the entire group to say “Jesus’ power makes us bold!”

Say: **Did you think this obstacle course was hard? Who is it that helps us do hard things? That’s right, it is Jesus! Jesus’ power makes us bold! One bold thing Peter and John did was tell people about Jesus. Jesus also gives us power to tell our friends about him today!**