

Vacation Bible School Joint Worship Script



Vacation Bible School Worship Adventure Script

VBS Theme: *African Safari Adventure: Exploring the Wonders of God's Creation*

Suggested Elements of Worship for Children (Completed Grades 1-6)

Scripture: Each day the Scripture passage chosen for the week will be read. It is important for children to understand the Scripture and learn how to apply the Bible truths to their everyday life. Departments are encouraged to review the Scripture each day.

Music: Music is a powerful medium to use with children. Choose praise songs based on the simplicity of the words and the message. Children are literal learners. Find Scripture-based songs without symbolism, if possible. Songs may be found at www.godskidsworship.com.

Consider using a children's praise team to lead each day. The children would learn the songs prior to VBS. Each day, they would stand at the front with the children's minister, minister of music, or other leader to lead in worship. Sign language for key words or appropriate movement could be added to help the children remember the words to the songs. Links or YouTube® videos may be embedded in emails, websites or Facebook® pages.

Mission Story: Missions should be an important part of VBS. Each day children will hear a story about Texas Baptists Ministries in Texas. The story may be presented in the following ways: (1) someone may read or tell the story during the joint worship; (2) the mission story may be told in the individual classrooms during the rotating activities. Either one of these options can be effective. The mission story and activities may also be found as a resource item for each age group.

Offering: Another element of worship is bringing an offering. Children and parents need to understand that VBS is free and these offerings are not payment for them to attend. The offering may be used for a local mission project, or it may be sent to your state convention office to be used in other mission efforts. The offering may be taken during the joint worship time by older children, or older children could stand by the exit doors with containers. As the children are dismissed by grade level, they could place their offerings in the container. Create a diagram for each class, showing them which door to use for an exit. This will speed up the exit each day.

Pledges: The pledges to the American Flag, Christian Flag, and the Bible are also important elements of VBS worship. Allow children in each grade to hold the flags and the Bible. Prepare a schedule prior to VBS indicating which departments will be responsible for leading the pledges

for each day. The children chosen from those departments will meet with the director of VBS early each day to go over instructions about the pledges.

Presenting the Plan of Salvation: On Day 4, the plan of salvation may be presented to the children. Please refer to the *Worship Adventure Teaching Resource: Talking to Children About Salvation* for suggestions on presenting the plan of salvation to children (also included on pages 14-16 of this document). See other suggestions in the joint worship material for Day 4.

Suggested Order of Worship

Welcome and Introduction of VBS Theme

Praise Song

VBS Scripture

Praise Song

Pledges

Praise Song

Mission Story

Prayer and Announcements

Recessional and Offering

The suggestions given are provided as a guide only. The elements of worship may be changed to fit your individual needs. A PowerPoint® presentation is provided on the GC2 Press® website, www.gc2press.org. This script may also be used without the PowerPoint®.

Day 1: God Helps Us See All He Has Made

Slide 1: Theme of VBS

Processional: (Music playing as children are entering worship center. Play an upbeat song or a song chosen as the VBS theme.)

Welcome (Worship leader): Say, *Welcome to VBS! This week, we're going to Africa! We will go on an African Safari Adventure. We will explore the creation story to find out what God created each day along with hearing some New Testament stories. Our theme is "African Safari Adventure—Exploring the Wonders of God's Creation".*

Slide 2: Session Title

Say, *Today, we will learn that "God Helps Us See All He Has Made." Get your walking stick and hat and let's begin our Safari! Let's join our praise team as we learn this song!*

Slides 3: Praise Song

Slide 4: VBS Scripture

VBS Scripture (Worship leader): Say, *Each day we will read a verse from the Book of Psalms. Psalm is in the Poetry division of the Old Testament. Listen as I read the verse.*

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).

This verse tells us that our earth is full of God's creatures. Did you know that you are one of God's creatures? Look at a friend sitting next to you! God created them! God loves all of you so much! Now, let's read the Bible verse together. (Read verse.) Are you ready to sing? Stand up, and let's join our praise team as we sing!

Slides 5: Worship Song

Pledges: Each day, the children holding the flags and the Bible will sit on the front row. During the song, ask the children to take their places on the platform with the flags and the Bible.

Slide 6: Pledge to the American Flag

Pledge to the American Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). Say, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all the pledges have been given.*

Slide 7: Pledge to the Christian Flag

Pledge to the Christian Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Christian Flag.* **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). *“I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands, one brotherhood uniting all Christians in service and love.”* When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all pledges have been given.

Slide 8: Pledge to the Bible

Pledge to the Bible: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Bible, God’s holy word.* **ATTENTION** (child stands with the Bible in one hand down the side of his or her body), **SALUTE** (child lifts the Bible to waist position and holds the Bible with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child straightens arms so Bible is visible). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the Bible and return to sit on the front row for the remainder of the service.

Slides 9: Praise Song

Slide 10: Mission Story

Introduce mission story: Each day at this time, we will hear a mission story about a Texas Baptist ministry.

Church Planting Replants

(Show a potted plant.) Ask, *What do plants need to grow?* Let kids to answer. Mention sun, water, and room for roots to grow. Explain that if we want a plant to grow, we must make sure that the roots have enough room to grow. Share: *If we replant this plant, it will grow because it will have more room for its roots to grow.*

Share, *Did you know that when we want to start a new church, we speak of "planting a church"? We speak that way because we want the church to grow. ¿How does a church grow?* Allow kids to answer. Affirm: *It grows when mor people choose to follow Jesus and learn and worship in the church.*

There was a small church In Sherman, Texas. So, they decided to work with Texas Baptists to "replant" the church so it could grow. This means that they wanted their church to have a new beginning, with new people and new plans. Texas Baptists provided the resources and helped them to start. The church sold their property and bought a new one for a new building. They also chose a new name—New Heritage Baptist Church.

The pastor, Rob Shepherd, said, "Every inch of the ministry was transformed after we relocated. God has placed us in Sherman to make an impact during the decades to come."

Pray: Open you Bible in Ephesians 4:16 and say, *We thank the Lord because "Christ holds [the body] together and makes all of its parts work perfectly, as it grows and becomes strong because of love (CEV¹).*

Worship Leader: (At this time, the children chosen to receive the offering should take their baskets and stand by the exit doors.) *In your class today, you will hear the story of God giving Moses the Ten Commandments. Have a great time meeting new friends and learning more about the Bible! As you leave, there will be children at the door with baskets for your offerings. This week the money that you bring each day will be given to _____.* (Explain this ministry to the children so they will understand what their money will help buy)

Prayer Time: *Thank you, God, for this first day of VBS. Thank you for all the children who came today. We pray that new friends will come tomorrow. Thank you for giving us the Bible. Amen.*

Slide 11:

Suggested Recessional and Offering: (Play a song as the children exit) Dismiss the children by grade level and remind them to use the doors assigned to them (See page 2 for explanation about offering) to exit.

¹ Contemporary English Version Copyright © 1995 by American Bible Society For more information about CEV, visit www.bibles.com and www.cev.

Day 2: God Keeps Us Safe

Slide 1: Theme of VBS

Processional (Music playing as children are entering worship center)

Welcome (Worship leader): Say, *Welcome to VBS! Did you have a fun time yesterday? If this is your first day of VBS, raise your hand. Wow! Thank you, children, for inviting your friends. Keep up the good work! Our theme this week is "African Safari Adventure—Exploring the Wonders of God's Creation."*

Slide 2: God Keeps Us Safe

Today, we will learn that God created the water, land, plants, sun, moon, and stars. We will also find out that God keeps us safe. Let's begin our safari! Stand up as we sing!

Slides 3: Praise Song

Slide 4: VBS Scripture

VBS Scripture (Worship leader): Say, *Let's read our verse from the book of Psalms. Psalms is in the Poetry division of the Old Testament. Listen as I read the verse.*

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).

One translation of the Bible called The Message, says, "What a wildly wonderful world, God! You made it all, with Wisdom at your side, made earth overflow with your wonderful creations." Our earth is overflowing with God's creations! Thank you, God, for our wonderful world! Now, let's read the Bible verse together. Are you ready to sing? Stand up, and let's join our praise team as we sing!

Slides 5: Praise Song

Pledges: Each day, the children holding the flags and the Bible will sit on the front row. During the song, ask the children to take their places on the platform with the flags and the Bible.

Slide 6: Pledge to the American Flag

Pledge to the American Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all the pledges have been given.*

Slide 7: Pledge to the Christian Flag

Pledge to the Christian Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Christian Flag. **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and*

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places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all pledges have been given.

Slide 8: Pledge to the Bible

Pledge to the Bible: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Bible, God's holy word. ATTENTION* (child stands with the Bible in one hand down the side of his or her body), **SALUTE** (child lifts the Bible to waist position and holds the Bible with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child straightens arms so Bible is visible). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the Bible and return to sit on the front row for the remainder of the service.

Slides 9: Praise Song

Slide 10: Mission Story

Women's Building Project

Ask, *What is needed to build a house?* Allow children to respond. Add (if not mentioned) floor, walls, roof, windows, etc. Continue: *Sometimes, families need help to find a place to live. Buckner Children and Family Services help children and their families with what they need. Some years ago, some women built a house for a family in Peñitas, Texas. Now, every year, many volunteers go to the south of Texas to build houses. They get to know the families and tell them about Jesus.*

One of those is the Zúñiga family. They started attending Buckner Peñitas Family Hope Center and soon they started taking classes to learn how to take care of their family. Thanks to their dedication, hard work, and commitment, they received a new three-bedrooms house. This was a new beginning for the Zúñiga family, and they are grateful for the support and bright future the volunteers from the Family Hope Center and the Women's Missionary Union of Texas.

Pray: Open your Bible in Psalms 127:1. Share, *Let's pray for the volunteers from the Women's Missionary Union of Texas as they continue to give testimony to the communities and open doors to share the gospel. The Bible says in Psalms 127:1: "Without the help of the Lord it is useless to build a home."*

Worship Leader: (At this time, the children who have been chosen to receive the offering should take their baskets and stand by the exit doors.) *Today as you leave, children will be at the door with baskets for your offerings.* Remind the children of the ministry they are sharing their money with.

Prayer Time: *Thank you, God, for VBS. Thank you, God, for all the children who came today. We pray that new friends will come tomorrow. Thank you for protecting us. We love you. Amen.*

Slide 11: Recessional and Offering: (Play a song as the children exit) Dismiss the children by grade level and remind them to use the doors assigned to them (see page 2 for explanation about offering) to exit.

Day 3: God Cares for Us

Slide 1: VBS Theme

Processional (Music playing as children are entering worship center)

Welcome (Worship leader): Say, *Welcome to the third day of VBS! Have you had fun this week? If this is your first day of VBS, raise your hand. Wow! Thank you, children, for inviting your friends. Keep up the good work!*

Slide 2: God Cares for Us

Today, we will learn that God created the birds and fish and God takes care of us! You will have fun learning today! Are you ready to sing? Stand up and let's go!

Slides 3: Praise Song

Slide 4: VBS Scripture

VBS Scripture (Worship leader): *Do you have our Bible verse by memory? I will say a phrase and you repeat it.*

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).

You should all know this verse by memory now! Now, let's all say the Bible verse together (without looking at the words!). Are you ready to sing? Stand up, and let's join our praise team as we sing!

Slides 5: Praise Song

Pledges: Each day, the children holding the flags and the Bible will sit on the front row. During the song, ask the children to take their places on the platform with the flags and the Bible.

Slide 6: Pledge to the American Flag

Pledge to the American Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. ATTENTION* (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all the pledges have been given.

Slide 7: Pledge to the Christian Flag

Pledge to the Christian Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Christian Flag. ATTENTION* (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all pledges have been given.

Slide 8: Pledge to the Bible

Pledge to the Bible: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Bible, God's holy word. ATTENTION* (child stands with the Bible in one hand down the side of his or her body), *SALUTE* (child lifts the Bible to waist position and holds the Bible with two hands), *PLEDGE* (child straightens arms so Bible is visible). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the Bible and return to sit on the front row for the remainder of the service.

Slides 9: Praise Song

Slide 10: Mission Story

House Church Ministries

Enter the stage carrying a suitcase. Ask: *What do we put in a suitcase when we are ready to travel?* Allow children to respond. Continue: *There are families that want to travel from Mexico to the United States. Some of these families enter to the United States from Laredo, Texas. They not always travel by car, some walk. Good Samaritan Church is a church that meets in a home. They help these travelers and welcome them to the church. They also have places where the people can stay while they wait for their permits to live in the United States.*

Mary and her daughter, Alejandra, decided to follow Jesus in one of the shelters in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The church in Laredo, Texas received them when they got their permit to live in the United States. Mary likes to help by singing, cleaning, and greeting new families in the church. Alejandra serves by contacting relatives, distributing toiletries, and helping families with other needs. Thanks to the Good Samaritan Church, this family now shares the love of God by helping other traveling families.

Prayer Time: Open your Bible in Acts 5:42. Conclude saying, *Let's pray for more churches to meet in homes so the gospel may cover all Texas. The Bible says, "Every day [the followers of Jesus] spent time in the temple and in one home after another. They never stopped teaching and telling the good news that Jesus is the Messiah" (CEV).*

Slide 11:

Recessional and Offering: Play a song as the children exit. Dismiss the children by grade level and remind them to use the doors assigned to them to exit.

Day 4: God Sent Us Jesus

Slide 1: VBS Theme

Processional (Music playing as children are entering worship center)

Welcome (Worship leader): Say, *Welcome to the fourth day of VBS! Have you had a good time? Do we have new children today?*

Slide 2: God Sent Us Jesus

Today, we will learn that God created the animals and people on the sixth day. You will also hear the story of Jesus' birth. Aren't you glad God created people? He made each one of you so special. He wants you to be his friend. Are you ready to sing? Let's go!

Slides 3: Praise Song

Slide 4: VBS Scripture

VBS Scripture (Worship leader): Say, *Today, let's say our verse from memory. Close your eyes and see if you remember it!*

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).

Now, let's all say the Bible verse together. Are you ready to sing? Stand up, and let's join our praise team as we sing!

Slides 5: Praise Song

Pledges: Each day, the children holding the flags and the Bible will sit on the front row. During the song, ask the children to take their places on the platform with the flags and the Bible.

Slide 6: Pledge to the American Flag

Pledge to the American Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. ATTENTION* (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all the pledges have been given.

Slide 7: Pledge to the Christian Flag

Pledge to the Christian Flag: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Christian Flag. ATTENTION* (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all pledges have been given.

Slide 8: Pledge to the Bible

Pledge to the Bible: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Bible, God's holy word. ATTENTION* (child stands with the Bible in one hand down the side of his or her body), **SALUTE** (child lifts the Bible to waist position and holds the Bible with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child straightens arms so Bible is visible). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the Bible and return to sit on the front row for the remainder of the service.

Slides 9: Praise Song

Slide 10: Mission Story or *Talk to the Children about Salvation (see optional idea below)

Valley Baptist Missions Education Center

Share, *When your mom or dad call you, ¿how do you respond? If they call you by name it is because they probably want you to do something, right? ¿What things do your parents ask you to do? Allow the children to respond. Continue, Did you know that God also calls people? When He does, He asks them to do something to serve Him. To know if God is calling them, people pray, study the Bible, and ask God to show them what He wants them to do. Maybe they won't hear a voice, but God knows how to let us know what He wants us to do. Most times it is something we already know God wants.*

When someone knows God is calling them to be a pastor, they study to understand the Bible and teach it to others. The Valley Baptist Missions Education Center (VBMEC) is committed to teaching and training people called to work in ministry. In 2021, 95 students graduated and received a Certificate in Bible Studies. The Center also helps mentor pastors and leaders from local churches. They help people who believe God is calling them understand what God wants for them.

The Center also helps churches and families in cases of natural disasters like tornadoes or hurricanes to recover from these difficult times. They hold Vacation Bible Schools—they had VBS in 57 churches. Many children learned about Jesus in their VBSs!

Pray: Open your Bible in Isaiah 61:1. Conclude by saying, *We thank God for the ministry of the Valley Baptist Center for Missions Education because they help people obey Jesus. The Bible says in Isaiah 61:1 that Jesus came "to tell the oppressed the good news, to heal the brokenhearted, and to announce freedom for prisoners and captives".*

***Option:** At this time, you may decide to share the plan of salvation with the children. Decide which children should remain in the worship center. You may decide that sending children entering second and third grades back to their classes may be best for your situation. A minister or director of that department could share with those children in their classroom. As the younger children leave, lead the other children in singing. They will give their offerings as they leave. Please refer to **Joint Worship Teaching Resource: Talking to Children About Salvation** for guidance in sharing the plan of salvation with children. The resource is available from www.gc2press.org and it may be found on pages 16-18 of this document.

After sharing the plan of salvation with the children, ask the children who would like to know more about becoming a Christian to come to the front. It's better not to offer an invitation because some children will walk down because their friends are coming. Dismiss the classes as you have done each day. The children taking the offering should be at the door. Communicate with the teachers that someone will bring the children who have made decisions back to their room. Make sure to have enough adults to talk to the children at this time and record the decisions so a follow-up visit can take place.

Today, as you leave, there will be children at the door with baskets for your offerings. This week the money that you bring each day will be given to _____. (Explain the ministry to the children so they will understand what their money will help to buy.)

Prayer Time: *Thank you, God, for VBS. Thank you, God, for all the children who came today. Thank you for giving us never-ending life. Help us to know you better. We love you. Amen.*

Slide 12:

Recessional and Offering: Play a song as the children exit. Dismiss the children by grade level and remind them to use the doors assigned to them to exit.

Talking to Children about Salvation

Written by: Dr. Tommy Sanders, Vice President of Academic and Graduate Programs at East Texas Baptist University, Marshall, Texas.

Guiding children to take those first steps toward faith can be the most rewarding opportunity of life for both parents and teachers. The journey toward faith is filled with teachable moments. Influential adults and peers can answer questions, teach biblical truths, model Christian values, and share personal testimonies that further the child's understanding. The following information will prepare teachers for opportunities to talk with children about salvation.

Ask Follow-Up Questions

When a child asks a question, often the child does not know exactly what to ask. Get clarification before deciding how to answer the question. For example, you might say, *Tell me more about what you are thinking.* You may ask questions such as, *What made you ask that question? Where did you hear about this?* Many times the question a child asks may not be the actual question for which the child needs an answer. Avoid asking questions that can be answered with *yes* or *no*.

Avoid Giving More Information Than Needed

Adults are often tempted to tell all they know on a subject. When a child asks a question, answer only what the child is asking. Listen carefully to the child. If the child asks for more information, be more specific with your answers.

Don't Jump to Conclusions

A child may ask, *Why did Andy get baptized?* This question may be only a request for information, not a request for the gospel presentation.

Speak in Clear and Simple Terms

Avoid symbolic analogies and "church language" that may distract from discussion and understanding. Common "church language" includes words and phrases children hear only at church, such as "come forward," "saved," "everlasting life," "baptism," "prayer," "Holy Spirit," and "have Jesus come into your heart." Rather than using the phrase "accepting Jesus into your heart," say the words "becoming a Christian."

Baptism

Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a picture of what Jesus did to save us—death, burial, and resurrection. Always make a distinction between baptism and becoming a Christian. Point out that becoming a Christian comes first. Someone is baptized as an outward sign that he or she has already asked Jesus to come into his or her life as Savior and Lord. The person is already a Christian.

What a Child Needs to Know About Salvation

1. God loves you and has a great plan for your life. (Psalm 139:13-16)

Talk about these truths: God made the world; God made people; God made you; God wants to have a relationship with you. Say, *Tell me one way you know God loves you.*

2. We have all sinned. (Romans 3:23)

Everyone must understand that he or she is separated from God because of his or her sin. Sin is best understood as choosing to do things our way instead of God's way. (Give examples of sin, such as disobedience, ungratefulness, and lying.) Ask the child, *Have you ever sinned? What does God think about sin?* Point out that everyone has sinned.

3. Even though we choose to sin, God still loves us and offers to forgive us. (Romans 5:8)

Ask, *How do you think it makes God feel when you sin?* Focus on the fact that God loves us even when we sin. Say, *God promised that a Savior would come who would die for all people. Do you know who that Savior is? Did you know that he died for you?*

4. Jesus died for us. (John 3:16)

Talk about John 3:16. Explain that because sin separates people from God, everyone needs a Savior. Ask, *Do you know why Jesus died?* Say, *Jesus loves you so much. He willingly died for you so you could be with God forever.* If the child is old enough to understand the resurrection, say, *Jesus rose from the dead so we can have eternal life.*

5. You can become a Christian by confessing you are a sinner and Jesus is your Savior and Lord. (Romans 10:9)

Ask, *Would you like to be a Christian?* Explain that the word "confess" means you must say that you are a sinner and Jesus is your Savior. To become a Christian, you must do these three things: admit you have sinned; believe that Jesus is God's Son; confess that Jesus is your Savior and Lord.

Review and Follow Up

Encourage a child to tell you in his or her own words what he or she understands and believes. Either ask the child to repeat a prayer after you or help the child know what to say in his or her own prayer. After the prayer, read Romans 10:13 and remind the child that this verse is a promise. Jesus will be our Savior forever.

The *ABCs* of Becoming a Christian

A—Admit to God you are a sinner. When you choose to do things your way instead of God's way, it is sin. Sin separates you from God. All people need to admit to God they have sinned and ask for God's forgiveness. (1 John 1:9)

B—Believe that Jesus is God's Son and accept God's gift of forgiveness. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin. God loves you so much that God sent his only Son to die for the world and for you. (John 3:16)

C—Confess Jesus as your Savior and Lord. When you become a Christian, you are saying that you want God to forgive you and that you want Jesus to be your boss. (Romans 10:9-10)

Prayer

Say, If you want to talk to God about accepting Jesus as your Savior, no words are better than your own words. If you need a little help, you can pray like this:

God, I know that you love me and have a great plan for my life. I admit I have sinned and chosen to do things my way instead of your way. I believe that Jesus is your Son and that Jesus died for me. Please forgive me of my sin. As of today, Jesus is my Lord and Savior.
Amen

Encourage the child to tell his or her parents and Sunday School teacher about asking Jesus to come into his or her life.

Day 5: We Worship God

Slide 1: VBS Theme

Processional (music playing as children are entering the worship center).

Welcome (Worship leader): Say, *Welcome to the last day of VBS! Have you had a good time this week? Let's show your teachers how much we appreciate all they have done to help you have a fun week.* (Clap)

Slide 2: We Worship God

Today, we will learn that God rested on the final day of creation. You will have a fun time of sharing what you have learned in your class this week. Some of you have brought friends to VBS this week. Thank you for inviting them to come with you to hear about Jesus. Well, it's time to sing. Everybody stand up! Let's go!

Slides 3: Praise Song

Slide 4: VBS Scripture

VBS Scripture (Worship leader): Say, *I know you know our verse now! Let's say it all together!*

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).

Are you ready to sing? Stand up, and let's join our praise team as we sing!

Slides 5: Praise Song

Pledges—Each day, the children holding the flags and the Bible will sit on the front row. During the song, ask the children to take their places on the platform with the flags and the Bible.

Slide 6: Pledge to the American Flag

Pledge to the American Flag—(Worship leader) Say, *Let us now stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all the pledges have been given.*

Slide 7: Pledge to the Christian Flag

Pledge to the Christian Flag—(Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Christian Flag. **ATTENTION** (child stands straight beside the flag), **SALUTE** (child picks up the flag and places the end of the pole in the center of his or her stomach, holding the flag with two hands), **PLEDGE** (child lowers the flag so it is visible while all say the pledge). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the flag and place it in the stand. The child remains standing by the flag until all pledges have been given.*

Slide 8: Pledge to the Bible

Pledge to the Bible: (Worship leader) Say, *Let us now say the pledge to the Bible, God's holy word. ATTENTION* (child stands with the Bible in one hand down the side of his or her body), *SALUTE* (child lifts the Bible to waist position and holds the Bible with two hands), *PLEDGE* (child straightens arms so Bible is visible). When the pledge is complete, the child will lower the Bible and return to sit on the front row for the remainder of the service.

Slides 9: Praise Song

Slide 10: Mission Story

Border Community Outreach

Ask, *Who can tell me the difference between a "need" and a "want?"* Receive the children's responses. Affirm: *Everyone needs the same things to survive. ¿What are some of these things?* Allow them to respond. Continue, *Sometimes, people from other countries try to come into the United States because the situation in their countries is difficult or dangerous. So, they leave looking for a place where they and their families can be safe. God takes care of what we need. Our physical needs are things like food, water, shelter, air, etc. We have emotional needs like when we feel happy or sad, angry, or afraid. We also have social needs—to be with other people and have experiences together. Lastly, we have spiritual needs—understand that God loves us and learn how we can have a relationship with Him.*

Border Community Outreach (BCO) works to meet the needs of people living in the cities along the border of the United States. Texas Baptists River Ministry (TBRM) works with local churches in cities along the border in Texas and México. George Solís is a missionary from this ministry and tells us that they helped a mother with her three children. They had to leave their country because it was not a safe place for them. They found a place where this family could live while they learned how to live and work in Texas. Brother Solís also told us about a young married couple that got separated when they came into the United States. The Ministry help them find each other. They talked to a pastor from a local church who knew Spanish to help them to settle in.

Pray: Open your Bible in Acts 1:8. Say, *We thank the Lord because the missionaries that help people in the cities on the border of Texas and Mexico are obeying God. Jesus said in Acts 1:8: "the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world."*

Worship Leader: (At this time, the children who have been chosen to receive the offering should take their baskets and stand by the exit doors.) *I'm so glad that you came to VBS this week! If you don't have a church to attend each Sunday, we want to invite you to bring your family on Sunday. I hope you heard this week that Jesus loves you very much!*

Today as you leave, children will be at the door with baskets for your offerings. This week the money that you bring each day will be given to _____. (Explain the ministry to the children so they will understand what their money will help to buy.)

Prayer Time: *Thank you, God, for VBS. Thank you, God, for all the children who came today. Thank you for giving us never-ending life. Help us to know you better. We love you. Amen.*

Slide 11:

Recessional and Offering: Play a song as the children exit. Dismiss the children by grade level and remind them to use the doors assigned to them to exit.