**Victory Outreach Kidz G.A.N.G International**

**Vacation Bible School Outreach**

**What is Vacation Bible School?**

Vacation Bible School or V.B.S is a fun-filled program many churches offer. It is usually during the summer (vacation) months to connect with the children and families in the churches and communities.

V.B.S. is an effective form of child evangelism with a two-fold purpose:

1. To share Jesus with children who don’t know Him or who need a church home.
2. To draw children who already attend church closer to Jesus Christ.

Usually, it consists of two or more consecutive days of themed children’s classes and services. It can be held during the day, evenings or both.

**Why Vacation Bible School?**

* To lead kids to Christ
* Outreach to local community
* Network with community organizations
* Provide retreat experience for our local kids
* Allows us to see God’s provision in action
* Builds unity and leadership within our KIDZ G.A.N.G. teams

First and foremost, the reason for holding V.B.S. is to lead kids of our local communities to Jesus Christ, while strengthening the walk of those that have already received Jesus as their Savior.

As an outreach to the community, V.B.S. can be life changing for the entire family. Since most parents are involved in their kids’ activities they too will be exposed to the gospel and have the opportunity to receive Jesus as their Savior.

It is fun! In church many of our children serve God right along side of us, with countless hours serving in ministry. Our ministry offers conventions for the men, women and youth, and our children need a spiritual retreat too. V.B.S. can be just that for the kids of our local church.

As you begin planning your V.B.S., you will begin to see God’s provision in action. By setting big goals and thinking big, you’ll see the faith and creativity of your local Kidz G.A.N.G. team go to a whole new level.

As a result of hosting a V.B.S., the Kidz G.A.N.G. team becomes unified and stronger in more ways than one. Valuing and allowing team members to operate in their diverse gifting’s results in a unified bond, and a team functioning with a common cause.

V.B.S. also provides opportunity for leadership growth within the team and exposes the possibilities of children’s ministry.

**Planning your Vacation Bible School**

When planning your V.B.S. you will need a theme. You can purchase entire themed Vacation Bible School kits online or at a local bible store. If you purchase a Vacation Bible School kit, it usually includes guides and resources needed to help plan an entire V.B.S. <https://www.cokesbury.com> You can also be creative and create your own V.B.S. curriculum. You will want to consider space when planning and know beforehand what ages this will be offered to and how you will group ages.

1. Recruit several teams, one team that would help find the right curriculum or create lessons. Another team for snacks and crafts and a team to help during the length of the V.B.S. to support, assist, and teach. Your goal is to recruit as many as possible to be involved.
2. ***Plan Early***, at least two to three months ahead of time. Better planning means a less stressful V.B.S.
3. Create an atmosphere of prayer asking the Holy Spirit to bring direction for each phase of planning or training. Pray for the hearts of the children that will attend the V.B.S. and have a set time of prayer with the volunteers and workers before each V.B.S. day begins.
4. Create an excitement gearing up towards the event by having announcements, and create a quality V.B.S. commercial to show at church services and on social media for promotion and volunteer recruitment. Have flyers made to be used for community outreach and to give to each child in your children’s ministry to hand out to friends and family.
5. Make and manage a budget. (See attached budget sample)

**Example Format of Vacation Bible School**

**Chapel Setting (all together)**

* Praise and Worship
* Lesson ( creative skits, puppet shows etc…)
* Pray for children

**Rotations (by age groups)**

* Small group activity (lesson focus)
* Craft
* Snack
* Games

**Chapel Closing**

* Re-cap (what did we learn?)
* Prizes
* Music
* Fun

Using this format, you can easily fill three hours of V.B.S.

**After Vacation Bible School**

* Display children’s crafts and photos in class.
* Show power point photos or video re-cap to show at church services.
* Evaluate your program. Discuss with the team what went well and what needs improvement. List ideas for following year’s V.B.S.
* Follow through on follow-up. Gather enthusiastic team members to continue with important outreach. Connect with families who attended V.B.S.