

VBS 2020 ADULT VBS BASE CONFERENCE PLAN (2 HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This two-hour plan is designed to train and equip VBS directors and pastors to conduct LifeWay's *Concrete & Cranes* VBS.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2020 Adult Starter Kit* — Display items on focal wall or on table.
- *VBS 2020 Tablecloths* — Cover each display table (1–3) with a tablecloth.
- *VBS 2020 Adult Leader Guide* (1 per conferee)
- *VBS 2020 Catalog*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2020 Decorating Made Easy*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2020 Administrative Guide*
- *VBS 2020 Music for Kids CD*
- *VBS 2020 Adult CD-ROM* (included in Starter Kit) — Print all of the items and display on the focal wall:
 - Item 1: Promotional Poster.
 - Item 2: VBS Scripture Poster.
 - Item 3: Theme Poster
 - Kit Item 4: Plan of Salvation Poster
 - Items 5–6, 8–9, 11–12: Session Posters
- *VBS 2020 Name Tags*
- OPTIONAL: Print one copy each of the Biblical Illustrator articles from the CD-ROM.
- Item 1: “Handout 1” — Print and copy one per conferee.
- Item 2: “Handout 2” — Print and copy one per conferee.
- Permanent markers for name tags
- Prepare samples of selected Adult VBS craft item(s) to display (instructions on CD-ROM).
- Ball of medium/thick rope — Cut rope into strips of 12–26 inches and rewind strips into ball.
- 5-gallon bucket — Fill the bucket with the following construction tools: hammer, screw driver, measuring tape, level, and wrench. Label each tool with the following resource items (one item per tool):
 - Bible
 - *VBS 2020 Adult Starter Kit*
 - *VBS 2020 Adult Leader Guide*
 - Adult VBS CD-ROM
 - *VBS Learner Guide*
- Five 5-gallon buckets — Label each bucket with a session number (1–5) and session title. Place each day's Bible study lesson plan from the *Adult VBS Leader Guide*, plus the *Adult VBS Learner Guide*, and any *Adult VBS Starter Kit* items and CD items needed for the session in the appropriate bucket.
- Snack-size ziplock bags and ingredients for “Build Your Own Trailmix” (recipe 8 from *VBS 2020 Snack Rotation Cards*) — Prepare snack-size ziplock bags of the trail mix (1 per conferee) as an example of snack options.
- Large hex nut on a long piece of string or yarn (1 per conferee—see Teaching Step 8)
- CD Player

Room Setup

Decorate the focal wall to resemble the inside of a contractor's trailer. Use items from *VBS 2020 Adult Starter Kit*. Arrange chairs in a semi-circle facing up to 3 tables. Cover the focal tables with

one each of the *VBS 2020 Tablecloths* and display the bucket needed for Teaching Step 3 with the VBS 2020 Adult resources. Arrange the *VBS 2020 Adult Kit* items on the focal wall as suggested on page 6 of the *VBS 2020 Adult Leader Guide*. Place the five other buckets on a display table (Teaching Step 4). Display the selected sample crafts and snacks.

Teaching Steps

1. **Welcome** (5 minutes)
 - Play the *Music for Kids CD* and greet conferees as they enter.
 - Encourage early arrivers to make a name tag, explore the room and resources, and take pictures.

2. **Set the Stage to Build a Foundation** (10 minutes)
 - Welcome conferees. Call attention to the theme for Adult VBS—*Concrete and Cranes: Building on the Love of Jesus*.
 - Lead participants to brainstorm reasons adults today need a foundation built on the love of Jesus. Debrief responses.
 - Say: “This year’s Adult VBS will give opportunities for adults to encounter the love of Jesus and to share the invitations to build and strengthen their life’s foundation of Jesus. Each session of Adult VBS begins with registration and snacks followed closely by a team-building/get acquainted game designed to break the ice and build community between both church members and first time attenders.”
 - Explain that this conference will model the training experiences to equip people to engage Adults in VBS.
 - Lead in prayer.
 - Invite conferees to get acquainted using the game, “Skyscraper Strings” (CD-ROM). Pass a ball of rope already cut into 12–26-inch long strips. Instruct each participant to unwind one of the strings from the ball and loosely wrap it around his or her finger. Each a conferee unwinds the string from her finger, she must share one fact about herself or her family. Take the first turn to model how to play and allow conferees to get to know you.

3. **Discover Resources to Lay a Foundation** (20 minutes)
 - Reveal a bucket of tools labeled with each of the resources for Adult VBS. Invite conferees to take turns removing one labeled tool from the bucket. Overview and discuss each resource as it is highlighted, and share ways that resource helps prepare and lead Adult VBS.
 - Bible: This will be the basis of discovering, applying and building a foundation of love.
 - *VBS 2020 Adult Starter Kit*: Contains everything needed to teach Adult VBS. Contains full-color teaching kit items plus a promotional poster. Also available in a digital format.
 - *VBS 2020 Adult VBS Leader Guide*: Used by the leader (teacher) to study the Bible content and plan lessons for each session. A customizable lesson is located on the CD-ROM and should be shared with each small group leader. Only located in the Adult VBS Starter Kit
 - *Adult VBS CD-ROM*: Contains items to print for daily lessons; extra enhancement resources like decorating and promoting Adult VBS; Adult VBS extenders like snacks, recreation and crafts designed especially for adults; PowerPoint presentations for Adult VBS lessons; and additional study aides to enhance teaching sessions. Also includes a Parenting Seminar that can be used

to “Continue the Connection” (follow up) with adults. The CD-ROM is only located in the Adult VBS Starter Kit.

- *VBS 2020 Adult Learner Guide*: Only one copy is located in Adult VBS Starter Kit. Purchase one copy for each adult attending. This is used during Get Acquainted, Bible Study, and Application. Contains Bible session content if days are missed, stories, and the plan of salvation. Includes a great “Continue the Connection” piece to take to homes following VBS.

4. **Lay a Foundation with Bible Study** (40 minutes)

- Form five small groups. Give each group a bucket with Bible study lesson plans, *Adult VBS Leader Guide*, *Adult VBS Learner Guide*, *Adult VBS Starter Kit* items and CD-ROM items needed for the assigned session. OPTION: If attendance is small, give a bucket to each individual.
- Distribute Handout 1 to each conferee. Encourage each group to look over their assigned session resources (particularly the Bible Study Lesson Plan from the leader guide). Lead conferees to record information that adults will experience during the Bible lesson on their handouts.
- Allow approximately 15 minutes to work, and then lead each group to report back to the large group. Encourage each group to fill in their handouts as other groups report. Be prepared to share responses for categories where conferees are not able to complete work regarding their assigned session(s).

5. **Scheduling Adult VBS** (10 minutes)

- Say: “Let’s look at the options for scheduling Adult VBS.”
- Overview the suggested Adult VBS schedule using the information on page 4 of the leader guide. Explain the flexibility of the bulleted options and session extenders located on the CD-ROM.
- Discuss ways Adult VBS can be used to engage adults in a variety of times and settings.

6. **Focus on Extras** (5 minutes)

- Explain that there are suggestions for Snack, Crafts, and Recreation based on ideas from the CD-ROM and the Leader Pack. Overview the following:
 - SNACKS: Call attention to the snack recipes.
 - Call attention to opportunities for snacks to be used to enhance the Adult VBS experience.
 - Give conferees a package of “Build Your Own Trail Mix” as an example of snack options.
 - CRAFTS: Call attention to the selected crafts on display and the instructions for making them.
 - Explain that crafts give adult opportunities to express creativity and build community within the group.
 - Some of the crafts will provide opportunities to make something to be used for missions or ministry projects.
 - Some crafts will relate directly to a particular day’s Bible study, while others could be appropriate to use with any session.
 - RECREATION: Show conferees where to find instructions for recreation ideas for Adults.

- Mention that games give adults opportunities to get to know each other better in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.
- Some games could be used as get acquainted experiences for each session.

7. Discuss Where Adults Need a Foundation Found in Jesus (30 minutes)

- Distribute Handout 2. Mention that adults need a foundation of love.
- Invite conferees (individually or in teams) to select one or more sessions from the 2020 Adult VBS Leader Guide (session materials can be reviewed from the buckets and resources from Teaching Step 4).
- Lead conferees to consider ways adults relate to people and issues surfaced in their assigned session. Invite conferees to share and discuss a list of issues and needs of adults who we need to seek to include in Adult VBS. Lead discussion of ways these needs can impact planning for, conducting, and following up on Adult VBS.
- Encourage conferees to take notes during the discussion.
- Call attention to the Connection Ministry Ideas and Parent Seminar as opportunities for follow up.

8. Prayer and Closing (5 minutes)

- Give each conferee a large hex nut on a long piece of string or yarn. Encourage conferees to tie off the string to make a necklace or wristband. Encourage them to place it in a prominent place for them as a reminder to pray for VBS.
- Invite conferees to pray for the individuals we need to invite to participate in Adult VBS. Close by praying for the adult leaders, their churches and VBS, and their follow-up efforts following VBS.

Overview of “Building on the Love of Jesus”

| | Session 1 | Session 2 | Session 3 | Session 4 | Session 5 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Foundation of/for | | | | | |
| Bible Passage | | | | | |
| Get Acquainted Idea | | | | | |
| Create Interest Idea | | | | | |
| Bible Passage Key Character(s) | | | | | |
| Bible Study Key Message(s) | | | | | |
| Supplement the Session | | | | | |
| Application Suggestion | | | | | |
| Suggestion for Closing | | | | | |

Adults Need a Foundation of Love

Review one of the five sessions. Reflect on ways adults relate to issues faced by the persons in the passage(s). Identify individuals/people groups, prayer concerns, and potential ministry opportunities regarding adults based on the passage/character.

Session 1: Like Matthew (9:9–13), some adults have turned away from the Lord.

Some seem like unlikely people who would be called and used by Jesus.

Some are seeking something/Someone who will give them hope and new life.

Some are ready for a challenge.

Some are rich but are bankrupt.

Some are needing and willing to walk away from what has trapped them.

Some know others who are just as trapped and hopeless as they have been.

Some realize their sin makes them desperate for God's forgiveness.

Some hear Jesus say, "Come, follow Me," and they respond by giving their lives to Jesus.

Like the Pharisees, some adults are extremely religious but do not have a love relationship with God.

What are prayer concerns/ministry opportunities that relate to people like these?

Session 2: Like Saul/Paul (Acts 26:1–29), some adults are religious to the point they think they are doing God a favor.

Some discover they need Jesus through dramatic circumstances.

Some are willing to share their faith story with others.

Some are straightforward about the impact of God's forgiveness in the lives of those who believe and repent.

Some are willing to help start churches or encourage believers wherever they travel.

Some experience persecution for their boldness in representing Jesus.

Like Agrippa, some hear spiritual conversations and are influenced by the Gospel.

What are prayer concerns/ministry opportunities that relate to people like these?

Session 3: Like Peter, James, and John (Matthew 26:36–46), some adults seek to be close to Jesus and learn from Him in life changing ways.

Some agree to follow Jesus in mountain top experiences as well as in valleys.

Some are not willing to persist in basic opportunities to join Jesus.

Some discover that Jesus died for everyone and gives all worth in following Him.

Some experience the life changing value of following Jesus because He died for us and rose from the dead.

What are prayer concerns/ministry opportunities that relate to people like these?

Session 4: Like the women who came to Jesus' tomb (Matthew 28:1–10,16–20), some adults encounter the power of the resurrected Christ in surprising ways.

Some discover that God's victorious plan is celebrated as God's promises fulfilled.

Some experience the joy of sharing with others about the fact that Jesus rose from the dead—if those individuals believe or not.

Some love and believe Jesus yet still have a hard time believing.

Some take to heart Jesus' Commission for all His followers.

Some are in need to experiencing the power of Jesus' resurrection and presence.

What are prayer concerns/ministry opportunities that relate to people like these?

Session 5: Like those in Jesus' parable (Matthew 7:24–29), everyone experiences storms throughout life.

Everyone builds their life's foundation on something/Someone.

Like those who listen to and obey Jesus, everyone builds their foundation on the Rock (the strong foundation) and experiences security.

Like those who do not listen to and obey Jesus, everyone builds their foundation on sand (shaky ground) and experiences destruction.

What are prayer concerns/ministry opportunities that relate to people like these?