

## VBS 2020 CHILDREN'S MUSIC ROTATION BASE CONFERENCE PLAN (2 HOURS)

### Purpose Statement

This two-hour plan is designed to train and equip leaders to conduct Lifeway's *Concrete & Cranes*<sup>™</sup> music rotation for 1–6 grades.

### Needed Resources

- VBS 2020 Music Rotation Leader Guide with DVD
- VBS 2020 Music Rotation and Musical CD
- VBS 2020 Music for Kids CD
- VBS 2020 Worship Rally Pack
- VBS 2020 Tablecloth
- VBS 2020 Supersized Backdrop
- VBS 2020 Wall Art — Punch out the large daily tags. On the back of each tag, write one of the following questions: *What is your name and where are you from? How many years have you participated in VBS (in any role)? What is your favorite VBS song from a previous year? What is a tool that starts with the first letter of your name? How many years have you helped with music at VBS?* Attach the tags to the VBS Mega Carabineer. Create three sets of questions for icebreaker activity.
- VBS 2020 Mega Carabineer
- VBS 2020 Construction Barricade (3)
- VBS 2020 Safety Vest
- VBS 2020 Cap
- VBS 2020 Tool Bag — Place the *Music Rotation Leader Guide*, *Music Rotation and Musical CD*, *Music for Kids CD*, and *Worship Rally Pack* inside the tool bag.
- VBS 2020 Caution Tape — Tape sections of the *VBS Caution Tape* on the focal wall.
- VBS 2020 Door Hangers — Write part of the theme verse on the back of each door hanger.
- *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me*
- VBS 2020 Kids Gospel Guide
- Item 1: "Building a Firm Foundation" — Copy 1 handout per conferee.
- Item 2: "Construction Tools" — Make a copy of each tool. Write the daily Bible content (Bible story title and reference, bonus verse, point, and Bible connections) for each day on the back of each tool. (Daily information can be found in the *VBS 2020 Music Rotation Leader Guide* on pages 4, 9, 13, 18, and 23).
- Six sheets of poster board or large pieces of paper — Write, *Guess the Lyric*, at the top of each poster board. Then write a portion of a lyric from each VBS song underneath (one per poster board), leaving a blank for the conferees to guess the missing lyric. (Example: "No better life than this Knowing \_\_\_\_\_.")
- Lego® blocks or Lego Duplo® blocks — Write one word of the chorus of "Build My Life On You" on each block: *I build my life on You, on the strength of Your love, and Your mercy and truth. On this Rock, I stand not on shifting sand. I build my life on You Jesus.*
- CD player
- TV/DVD player

## Room Setup

Center a large screen on the focal wall. Arrange chairs in a semi-circle in two or more rows in front of the screen. Allow plenty of room to move. Cover the focal wall with a *VBS 2020 Supersized Backdrop*. Cover a table with a *VBS 2020 Tablecloth* and display the curriculum alongside small hand tools and other tabletop decorations. Decorate the room using tips from page 29 of the *VBS 2020 Music Rotation Leader Guide*. Space out three Construction Barricades around the room.

## Teaching Steps

### 1. Welcome (10 minutes)

- Play the VBS music from the *VBS 2020 Music for Kids CD* as conferees arrive.
- Invite early arrivers to play "Guess the Lyrics." Encourage them to guess the missing lyric on all six poster boards.
- Welcome the conferees. Explain that this conference will introduce the songs, motions, and the Bible content for each day of VBS. Explain that while conferees likely will not be able to master all of the movements today, you will help them develop strategies to break down the songs and teach a gospel-centered music rotation.
- Go over the "Guess the Lyrics" game and see if anyone guessed the correct missing lyric.
- Lead the group to play a quick icebreaker game. Play the theme song and guide conferees to move around the room. Pause the CD at random. When the music stops, all the conferees should gather around the closest construction barricade and share their answers to one of the questions on the mega carabineer.
  - Tip: If you do not have the barricade or mega carabineer, write the questions on posters and tape around the room.
- Continue playing and asking new questions for several rounds. Give the conferees enough time to meet some new friends.
- Guide conferees to return to the chairs.

### 2. Tools Needed to Lead VBS Music Rotation (5 Minutes)

- Quickly show each item from your tool bag and give a brief overview on the things needed for music rotation:
  - *VBS 2020 Music Rotation Leader Guide* — Includes daily lesson plans for teaching the music and motions as well as an overview of each day's Bible story.
  - Choreography DVD — Includes instructional and practice videos for learning motions, performance videos, and lyric videos.
  - *VBS 2020 Music for Kids CD* — Includes all the songs from VBS. Distribute these CDs before VBS to help leaders and kids learn all the VBS Songs. Kids will sing them all summer long!
  - *VBS 2020 Worship Rally Pack* — Includes the *Worship Rally Guide*, DVD Set, and CD Set. It's everything you need to have an awesome Worship Rally.
  - VBS App —Don't forget about the VBS app! This is a great way to get the music home with a family.

### 3. Building a Firm Foundation in Music Rotation (10 Minutes)

- Explain that VBS songs are specifically written to reinforce each day's Bible content. Say: "When we concentrate on the lyrics and the Bible stories in music rotation, we are helping kids to learn 'Jesus is our strong foundation!'"
- Inform conferees that this conference will give them all the tools needed to lead music rotation at their church.

- Hold up a Bible and remind conferees that it is very important that music rotation leaders connect the song of the day with the day's Bible story or daily point. Mention that the Bible is a blueprint for life! God is the author of the Bible and all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy.
- Introduce the theme verse, "I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).
- Invite four volunteers to play a game.
- Explain that the theme verse is written on the backs of the *VBS Door Hangers*. Volunteers should put the theme verse in order by hanging the door hangers on the *VBS Caution Tape*.
  - Tip: If you do not have *VBS Door Hangers* or *VBS Caution Tape*, you can write the verse on plastic orange cups.

#### 4. Day 1 Song: "Remain in My Love" (10 Minutes)

- Review the Bible content for Day 1. Call on the conferee with the Day 1 Tool (Cement Mixer) to read the card.
  - Bible story and reference: Jesus Chose Matthew (*Matthew 9:9-13*).
  - Bible Connection: Jesus called Matthew, a tax collector, to follow Him. Matthew left everything behind and followed Jesus. Matthew hosted a banquet. Jesus and His disciples came to the banquet. The Pharisees complained and questioned why Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus told the Pharisees that He came not for the righteous but for sinners.
  - Point: Jesus chooses to love me. I cannot earn it.
  - Bonus Verse: "As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love" *John 15:9*.
- Ask a conferee to open their Bible to John 15:9 and read Day 1 bonus verse.
- Tell the conferees that these words are in the song for Day 1.
- Display the words of the song and read them. Go through the motions for the words that match the verse. Say the verse and make the motions together.
- Ask conferees to think about what it means to remain in Jesus' love. Listen to their ideas.
- Say: "Remaining in His love means to think about Jesus' love for us and to act in ways that show Jesus' love to others."
- Read verse 1 and 2 lyrics, but do not teach the motions yet. Focus on the message.
- Reread verse 1 and 2 lyrics and show the hand motions while you say the verse.
- Play the "Remain in My Love" performance video from the DVD. Allow conferees to stand still and sing if they do not feel comfortable attempting the motions they have not yet learned.
- Review the words in the bridge. Point out how comforting it is living in the love that He gives us.
- Play "Remain in My Love" performance video on the DVD as a final review.

#### 5. Day 2 Song: "Forgiveness" (10 Minutes)

- Review the Bible content for Day 2. Call on the conferee with the Day 2 Tool (Barrier) to read the card.
  - Bible story and reference: Paul's Redemption (*Acts 26:1-29*).
  - Bible Connection: Paul was chosen by God to bring the good news about Jesus to the Gentiles. He was arrested and later taken to King Agrippa to tell his story. Paul told how he used to persecute believers. But one day, on the road to Damascus, he saw a bright light and heard a voice speaking to him.

The voice was Jesus. Paul obeyed Jesus' command and told people everywhere that Jesus is the Messiah.

- Point: Jesus loves me regardless of my sin.
- Bonus Verse: "But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" *Romans 5:8*.
- Say: "The Day 2 song, is called, 'Forgiveness.' This is a high-energy song and has some great biblical truths for lyrics."
- Display the words of the song and read them.
- Point out words that reflect what we cannot do: earn it, deserve it, and attain it.
- Point out words that reflect Day 2s bonus verse: "While we were yet sinners, Christ died upon a cross."
- Say: "This song gives us a great way to explain what sin is and to share with the kids at VBS that God loves and forgives them of that sin."
- Reread verse 1 and show the hand motions while you read.
- Play the "Forgiveness" performance video from the DVD. Allow conferees to stand still and sing if they do not feel comfortable attempting the motions they have not yet learned.
- Encourage conferees to make sure they communicate: "God began a work in Paul on the Damascus road and He continued to work in Paul throughout all of Paul's life. God begins a work in those who trust Jesus as Savior and works in their lives, too."
  - Tip: Encourage conferees to be ready to share with kids at VBS how God began a work in their lives or when they decided to trust Jesus as their Savior. Remind them that what they share needs to be age appropriate.
- Play "Forgiveness" performance video on the DVD as a final review.

## 6. Day 3 Song: "Blueprint" (15 Minutes)

- Review the Bible content for Day 3. Call on the conferee with the Day 3 Tool (Blueprint) to read the card.
  - Bible story and reference: Jesus Prayed in the Garden (*Matthew 26:36-46*).
  - Bible Connection: On the last night Jesus spent with His disciples, He went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray. He asked His disciples to remain awake and pray while He went further into the garden. Jesus was distressed because He knew He was going to die on the cross to save people from their sins. Jesus returned to the disciples three times and found them asleep each time. The last time He told the disciples to get up and follow Him. Jesus knew the time had come to follow through with God's plan.
  - Point: Jesus chose to die for me.
  - Bonus Verse: "No one had greater love than this, to lay down his life for his friends" *John 15:13*.
- Point out that Day 3 song includes the ABCs of becoming a Christian.
  - Quickly review *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me* booklet. Explain that the ABCs are a response to the gospel.
  - The Day 3 song creates a wonderful opportunity to present the gospel to kids. If you do not feel comfortable, the *VBS 2020 Music Rotation Leader Guide* has information inside the front cover that can be very helpful.
  - Quickly review what each letter (A-B-C) means.
  - Point out the *VBS 2020 Kids Gospel Guide*: A great tool for kids to share their faith with family and friends.
- Point out that Day 3 song includes the bonus verse in the bridge.
- Quickly teach the verse motions.

- Play the "Blueprint" Choreography video from the DVD. Explain that the DVD has instruction videos that explain the movements.
- Play the "Blueprint" performance video and lead conferees to practice all the motions to the entire song.

#### 7. Day 4 Song "Build My Life on You" (15 Minutes)

- Discuss the Bible Content for Day 4. Call on the conferee holding the Day 4 Tool (Crane) to read the card.
  - Bible Story: Jesus' Resurrection and Promise (*Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20*).
  - Bible Connection: on the Sunday after Jesus' death, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James went to the tomb. When they arrived, they saw that the stone had been rolled away and an angel was sitting on it. The angel told the women that Jesus had risen. He instructed them to go tell the disciples to meet Jesus in Galilee. Later the disciples traveled to Galilee, where they saw Jesus. The disciples received instructions from Jesus and the promise that He would be with them always!
  - Point: Jesus will always love me.
  - Bonus Verse: "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" *Matthew 28:20b*.
- Explain that leaders do not have to wait until Day 4 to introduce this song. Explain that this song is the slowest of this year's VBS songs, but kids will enjoy hearing it.
  - Tip: Encourage leaders to introduce it early in the week during a time of prayer and reflection. Play it and then ask the kids to put the song into their own words.
- Play the lyric video for "Build My Life on You."
- Teach the motions for the chorus and talk about it. Encourage them to tell kids that building a life on Jesus means to trust Jesus and make choices that reflect Jesus' love. Point out the word *Rock*, and note that this means God and Jesus. God can be trusted to do what He says He will do.
- Encourage conferees to be prepared to share a time with kids they trusted God.
- Play the Performance video for "Build My Life on You." Lead conferees to practice all the motions with the video.
- Ask five volunteers to sort through the Legos and find the ones with the words of the chorus and put them in order.
  - Tips: Put the Legos in a *VBS Tool Bag* or *Concrete & Cranes Backpack*. If you do not have Legos, write the words on individual index cards.
- Play the "Build My Life on You" performance video and lead conferees through the motions.

#### 8. Day 5 Song "The Rest of My Life" (10 Minutes)

- Discuss the Bible content for Day 5. Call on the conferee holding the Day 5 Tool (Hammer) to read the card.
  - Bible Story: Wise and Foolish Builders (*Matthew 7:24-29*).
  - Bible Connection: Jesus told a parable about two builders. He said that everyone who heard His words and acted on them would be like the wise man who built his house on the rock. The house had a strong foundation and would stand against the wind and the rain. However, those who did not listen would be like the foolish builder who built his house on the sand. Once the wind and rains came, the house collapsed. If people listen and obey Jesus, they will have a strong foundation for whatever happens in their lives.

- Point: Jesus' love is the foundation for the rest of my life.
  - Bonus Verse: "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed. You know those who taught you" *2 Timothy 3:14*.
- Explain that leaders do not have to wait until Day 5 to introduce this song. This song has many great lyrics. Encourage leaders to introduce it earlier in the week and then review it on Day 5.
  - Tip: This is a great song to play every day as kids are coming and going.
- Display and read the lyrics of the chorus.
- Review the motions slowly as you read the lyrics for the chorus.
- Lead conferees to review The Point for Day 5.
- Point out that the game for Day 5, "Start the Shift," is a great way to reinforce the story and VBS Scripture.
- Play "The Rest of My Life" performance video from the Music DVD. Lead the conferees to practice all the motions with the video.
- If time permits, teach the motions for verse 1 as well as the introductory motions and the closing pose.
- Play the "Rest of My Life" performance video and lead conferees to do the motions to the entire song.

#### **9. Teach the Theme Song: "Concrete and Cranes" (10 Minutes)**

- Put on a VBS Cap and Safety Vest to teach the next steps.
- Play the choreography video for "Concrete and Cranes."
- If time permits, play the "Concrete and Cranes" performance video DVD and lead conferees to do the motions to the entire song.

#### **10. Review (5 Minutes)**

- Allow conferees to ask questions regarding the music rotation for VBS 2020.
- Share that decoration ideas can be found in the leader guide on page 29.
- Point out supply list on page 29.
- Remind conferees that Lifeway's VBS website ([lifeway.com/vbs](http://lifeway.com/vbs)) and Lifeway's sponsored "Concrete and Cranes" Facebook page has great resources.

#### **11. Continuing to Lay Foundations (15 minutes)**

- Explain that VBS does not end after Day 5. The purpose of VBS is to share the gospel with the community. An important part of VBS is the connections made with unchurched families during the week. Music rotation leaders have the opportunity to interact and affect most, if not all, of the kids who attend VBS.
- Challenge leaders to be ready to share Jesus with them every day.
- Discuss ways to use VBS Music as a way to connect with families:
  - Invite kids to sing and perform at Family Night.
  - Invite kids to sing and perform at a church service.
  - Send CD's home with kids with the church's information.
  - Encourage families to get the VBS app since it includes choreography videos.
  - Help the VBS Director and leaders make contact with families that visited your church.
- Show additional follow-up resources:
  - *VBS 2020 Devotional for Kids*
  - *VBS 2020 Kids Gospel Guide*
  - *VBS 2020 Parent Guide*
  - *The Gospel: God's plan for Me*

**12. Closing** (5 Minutes)

- Review the motto: Jesus! Our Strong Foundation!
- Remind conferees that music can have one of the greatest lasting impacts on a child. Children remember words set to music. The lyrics and biblical truths taught during VBS will live in the hearts and minds of the children long after VBS.
- Close in prayer.

### Tools Needed to Lead VBS Music Rotation

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

### Building a Firm Foundation in Music Rotation

- VBS songs are \_\_\_\_\_ written to \_\_\_\_\_ each day's \_\_\_\_\_.
- When we concentrate on the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ in music rotation, we are helping kids to learn \_\_\_\_\_!

### New Ideas:

- 
- 
- 
- 
-











