

VBS FOLLOW UP CONFERENCE PLAN (50 MINUTES)

Purpose Statement

This 50-minute plan is designed to train and equip VBS leaders with follow-up strategies to use with LifeWay's VBS 2021 Destination Dig™.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2021 Administrative Guide*
- *VBS 2021 Destination Dig Catalog*
- *VBS 2021 Tablecloth*
- *VBS 2021 Music for Kids CD*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2021 Parent Guide*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2021 Gospel Guide*
- OPTIONAL: *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2021 Gospel Wristband*
- OPTIONAL: *VBS 2021 Devotional Bible for Kids*
- Item 1. "Follow-up Ideas" — Photocopy onto sand colored cardstock and cut apart along the dotted lines. Bury in corrugated trays filled with play sand.
- Item 2. "Follow-up Notes" — Photocopy onto tan copy paper and place one in each chair before the conference begins.
- Corrugated trays (4)
- Play sand — Place sand in corrugated trays.
- Plastic toy shovels — Place shovels in sand trays.
- CD player

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle with sand boxes in the center of the semi-circle. Place a table near the focal wall and cover with a *VBS 2021 Tablecloth*. Display the follow-up resources on the display table—alongside small tabletop decorations—to reference during the conference.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Play "Destination Dig" from the Music for Kids CD as leaders enter the room.
- Invite conferees to write down one or two words that best describe their current VBS follow-up routine on their "Follow Up Notes" (Item 2).
- Allow conferees to share their words with another leader in the room and explain why they chose the word/words.
- Allow a few minutes for everyone to share, and then ask leaders to find their seats.

2. Systematic vs. Systemic Follow Up (10 minutes)

- Encourage leaders to add these two words to the "Challenge" section of the handout—*systematic* and *systemic*.
- Define systematic and systemic as related to VBS follow up.
 - Systematic: Something done according to a plan; methodical.
 - Comment: "If you always host a VBS Celebration Sunday after VBS, then that is an example of systematic."
 - Ask: "What activities do you systematically do each year for VBS follow up?" Allow responses.

- Systemic: Present throughout the church body or involving everyone in VBS follow up.
 - Ask: “How many of you think this is the most challenging part of VBS follow up—getting everyone involved?”
- Comment: “Let’s see if we can dig up some ideas that might help make VBS follow up both systematic and systemic.”

3. Discuss Follow-up Strategies (30 minutes)

- Call on 12 volunteers to dig the “Follow-up Ideas” (Item 1) out of the sand using the provided shovels.
- Ask leaders to read the ideas in numeric order.
 - Elaborate on each idea as it is read.
 - Encourage leaders to record the follow-up ideas on their “Follow-up Notes” (Item 2).
 - Invite leaders to discuss how their church and community could use each idea to make VBS follow up both systematic and systemic.
- Show leaders where additional VBS follow-up ideas, training, and resources are located.
 - *VBS 2021 Administrative Guide* pp. 38-58
 - *VBS 2021 Destination Dig Catalog* pp. 68-69

4. Wrap Up (5 minutes)

- Ask leaders to share with their neighbor one follow-up idea they would like to implement during VBS 2021. Allow a few minutes for neighbors to share.
- Ask leaders to assess whether or not their follow-up idea will improve their church’s VBS follow up systematically or systemically in order to eventually reach EVERY child and family in their community.
- Close in prayer, asking God to bless the follow-up efforts of the leaders present.

<p>1. PUT SOMEONE IN CHARGE OF FOLLOW UP</p>	<p>2. START WITH A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN</p>	<p>3. INVOLVE AND TRAIN EVERYONE</p>
<p>4. BUILD PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN VBS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS</p>	<p>5. ENFORCE REGISTRATION ACCURACY</p>	<p>6. REQUIRE PARENTS TO COME INTO YOUR CHURCH BUILDING TO PICK UP CHILDREN</p>
<p>7. FORM CONNECTIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS DURING VBS</p>	<p>8. HOST A PARENTS' NIGHT DURING VBS</p>	<p>9. USE QR CODES TO CONNECT VISITORS TO YOUR CHURCH'S SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS</p>
<p>10. PLAN A TRANSITION SUNDAY OR VISITORS DAY ON THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING VBS</p>	<p>11. CONSIDER A MINI DESTINATION DIG IN NEIGHBORHOODS AROUND YOUR CHURCH IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING VBS</p>	<p>12. CONTINUE THE CONNECTION WITH A VBS REUNION, AT FALL EVENTS, OR TRY VBS ADOPTION KITS</p>



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Describe your church's current VBS follow-up strategy in one or two words.

CHALLENGE: My Destination Dig 2021 VBS follow up will be

_____ and _____

Ways I can make my church's VBS follow up both systematic and systemic:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____