

VBS 2021 SNACK ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (50 MINUTES)

Purpose Statement

This 50-minute conference overviews the more than 25 snack options available to serve during LifeWay's VBS 2021 Destination Dig™. Conferees will learn how to incorporate biblical content into snack rotation, review all snack options, and dig into theme-related meals.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2021 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards (2 sets)*
- *VBS 2021 Location Signs* — Remove the Mess Tent Snacks sign and attach to the focal wall.
- *VBS 2021 Writing Paper* — Write each of the following five snack names on a separate piece of writing paper (one name per paper): *Qumran Scrolls, Pool of Siloam, Caiaphas Steps, Gravestones, and Scrolls*.
- *VBS 2021 Cups (2 pack)* — Attach one Bible-related recipe card to each cup and the Dinner Option card to a cup.
 - Day 1: Truth
 - Day 2: Truth
 - Day 3: Truth
 - Day 4: Truth
 - Day 5: Truth
- *VBS 2021 Collapsible Crate* — Place one set of snack cards (recipes 3–20) in the crate.
- *VBS 2021 Tablecloth*
- *VBS 2021 Dig Site Tool Set*
- *VBS 2021 Supersized Postcards* — Write the following on cards *Appreciation, Allergies, and Store Bought* and tape one to each Dig Site Tool.
- Sticky notes
- Pens or pencils
- Permanent marker
- Supplies and ingredients for “Desert Trail Mix (recipe 3).”
- Snack-size ziplock bags (1 per conferee) — Prepare the snack mix (above), scoop a small amount/individual serving into each bag, and seal the bag. Prepare enough for each conferee to receive a bag.
- Plain, plastic tablecloth — Write: *Where is today's story found in the Bible?, What kind of treasure would you like to find buried in the ground?, and Can you say Jeremiah 29:13?* in the middle of the tablecloth.
- Hand sanitizer
- Tape

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Cover the focal wall with a *VBS 2021 Supersized Backdrop*. Cover a table with a *VBS 2021 Tablecloth* and display the curriculum alongside small dig site tools and other tabletop decorations. Display the prepared VBS Cup with attached “dinner option” card, collapsible crate with snack cards inside, and any other tabletop decorations. Check out the “Decorating Mess Tent Snacks” card in the *VBS 2021 Snack Rotation Recipe Cards* for more ideas to decorate the room.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Welcome conferees to Mess Tent Snacks and share that today they will review all the tools needed for kids to have a great time digging for the truth and eating some tasty treats during snack rotation.
- Invite conferees to write what their favorite type of VBS snack is—Salty or Sweet—on a sticky note and stick it on the Mess Tent Snack sign.
 - Tally the results and declare either salty or sweet the winner.

2. Dig It: Bible-Related Snacks (10 minutes)

- Invite five volunteers to guess the ingredients of the following snacks: Qumran Scrolls, Pool of Siloam, Caiaphas Steps, Gravestones, and Scrolls. Lead them to write their answers directly on the Writing Paper. Allow three minutes to guess the ingredients.
- Allow the volunteers to share their guesses. Thank them and ask them to return to their seats.
- Overview each Bible-related snack (using the five recipe cards) and briefly summarize each day's Bible story and main point. Emphasize the importance of talking with kids about each day's Bible story during snack rotation. Ask conferees to think of ways to incorporate the Bible story and the Point into conversations during snack. Make sure conferees understand how each snack ties to a Bible story.
 - Day 1: Truth: Jesus came as God promised ("Qumran Scrolls")
 - Day 2: Truth: Jesus demonstrated God's power ("Pool of Siloam")
 - Day 3: Truth: Jesus was betrayed and rejected ("Caiapha's Steps")
 - Day 4: Truth: Jesus died and rose again ("Gravestones")
 - Day 5: Truth: The Bible is true ("Scrolls")
- Say: "Now we will review the 20 additional snack options. The gold stamp denotes the Gluten-free snacks and the preschool-friendly are noted by the grey stamp. There are lots of yummy snacks this year"

3. Surveying the Best (15 minutes)

- Pull out one recipe card at a time from the VBS Collapsible Crate.
- Review the remaining 20 snack cards and the important icons found on them. Preschool-friendly snacks are labeled "PF." Gluten-free snacks are labeled "GF."
- Briefly mention your favorites and point out any tips or suggest different ingredients.
- Guide conferees to pass around the prepared snack bags and each take one to enjoy.
- Spend a few moments reviewing the snacks and answering any questions.

4. Dig In: Dinner Options (5 minutes)

- Mention that many churches conduct VBS at night and provide meals for families since parents are coming straight from work.
- Call attention to the prepared "Dinner Options" cards on display.
- Present each meal suggestion. Encourage conferees to suggest different pairings of meal options.
- Comment: "You may not be able to use all of the recipes provided, but you can look for ways to incorporate some recipes into your meals."

5. Excavate the Truth (15 minutes)

- Say: "Snacks is more than feeding kids. Snacks is about engaging with and getting to know the kids at your VBS. It's about looking for opportunities to build relationships with kids and continue the gospel conversation."

- Point to the prepared plastic tablecloth. Explain: “Each day, write some new review questions on the plastic tablecloth to help guide discussions and spark lively conversation between volunteers and kids.” Explain that the tablecloths can be made a head of time and are a great way to reinforce the biblical truth of the day.
- Remove one tool at a time from the Dig Site Tool set and discuss each one:
 - **Appreciation** — Snack time is a great opportunity to provide a special snack or treat to VBS volunteers.
 - **Allergies** — Be aware of allergies and prepare alternate snacks for those with allergies. Designate specific tables to be used for kids with allergies to help keep areas clean, sanitized, and safe for each child. Consider using colored wristbands or special name tags to quickly identify children with allergies.
 - Briefly go over the gluten-free options again and ask the group to share their ideas for other allergy-friendly snacks.
 - **Store Bought** — Point out the snack card with the list of store-bought snack ideas. Ask conferees to share any other store-bought snack ideas that are not listed on the cards.

6. Closing (1 minute)

- Thank conferees for coming.
- Close in prayer.