

VBS 2025 MISSIONS ROTATION CONFERENCE PLAN (1½ HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This 90-minute plan is designed to train and equip VBS teachers to teach the missions rotation using Lifeway's *Magnified!* curriculum.

Needed Resources

- VBS 2025 Missions Rotation Leader Guide with DVD (005850079)
- VBS 2025 Music for Kids CD (005850227)
- VBS 2025 The Gospel: God's Plan for Me (1 per conferee) (005567177)
- VBS 2025 Gospel Guide (005850225)
- VBS 2025 Gospel Wristbands (005850224)
- VBS 2025 Parent Guide (005850226)
- VBS 2025 Tablecloths (4) (005850169)
- VBS 2025 Bumblebee Headband Craft Pack (005850888)
- VBS 2025 Rotation Signs – Missions - (005850178)
- VBS 2025 Visual Pack (005850170)
- VBS 2025 Wall Art (005850173), VBS 2025 Supersized Backdrop (005850086), or
- VBS 2025 Super Duper Sized Backdrop (005850087)
- VBS 2025 Sticky Foam Shapes (005850055)
- VBS 2025 Theme Stickers (005850057)
- VBS 2025 Inflatable Acorns (005850883)
- VBS 2025 Giant Inflatable Waterdrop (005851176)
- Missions Insert Items 1-2: "Thailand Missions Poster" — Print both in color on heavyweight paper and display on focal wall.
- Missions Insert Item 3: "Mission Project Letter" — Print two copies.
- Missions Insert Item 9: "The Gospel" flyer — Print two copies and color neatly so that the gospel message can be clearly seen.
- Digital Redemption Files — Follow the instructions in the front of the Missions Leader Guide to access the digital redemption files from my.lifeway.com. Navigate to the folder entitled "slides," then "standard," then open the "Day 1 Slide 1" file (either jpg or pdf). Print 5 copies in color onto cardstock. On the back of each monarch slide, write the Bible content for each day (session title, Bible story title and reference, Big Truth, Zoom In statement, and Today's Point). These can be found on the first page of each session in the leader guide or on page 3 of this outline (Step 3). Place each day's sheet in a separate butterfly net.
- Item 1: "Butterfly" — Print five (5) butterflies on colored cardstock (different colors if possible). Cut out butterfly shapes and write one of the following words on each butterfly: *Buddhist, Statues, Food, Relationships, Magnify*.
- 5 butterfly nets
- 2-by-4-inch labels — Print "A gift from the kids at Magnified! VBS" along with your church information, onto each label. Attach to food containers in the sample missions project display.
- Artificial or potted plants (for focal wall decorations)
- Butcher paper (for photo op background) — Draw and decorate oversized butterfly wings.
- Colored paper — Create a mural of wildflowers or flowering bushes. Cut simple flower shapes from colored paper. Cut stems and leaves from green paper. Print a few butterflies from the "Butterflies" (Missions Insert Item 4) onto brightly colored scrapbook paper. Cut out butterflies.

- Supplies for “Transfer Rice” (leader guide, p. 7): 2 paper plates per team, 1 set of chopsticks per team, dried rice, ¼ cup measuring cup, plastic tablecloth — Place two paper plates (per team) a few feet apart on a tablecloth along with a set of chopsticks. Pour ¼ cup of dried rice onto one of each team’s plates.
- 10 disposable plastic cups per team (total will vary based on conference size)
- Painter’s tape — Tape a starting line on the floor in an open area of the room. Place the disposable cups (10 per team) upside down opposite the starting line.
- 5 paper lunch bags — Write one of the following statements on each lunch bag: *Bring food items to fill Food Giveaway Bags (Days 2–5); Decorate Food Giveaway Bags (Day 2); Design fun labels to attach to the cans or boxes of food (Day 3); Help people know how they can have a relationship with Jesus (Day 4); Pray for the people who receive the food (Day 5).*
- Sample Medical Supply Kit — Fill a ziplock bag with a variety of medical supplies.
- Sample Food Giveaway Bag (mission project) — Fill a paper grocery bag with nonperishable food items (such as canned foods with pull tabs, canned meats, boxes of cereal or breakfast bars, pasta, bags of rice or beans). Label and decorate the bag and the food items.
- CD player or Bluetooth speaker
- TV/DVD player – Place a TV/DVD player to one side of the focal wall. Cue the missions video to Day 1.

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle. Attach the “Missions” sign from the *VBS 2025 Rotation Signs* near the entrance. Decorate the focal wall with a mural of wildflowers or flowering bushes to create a blooming butterfly habitat. Incorporate artificial or potted plants to focal wall area. Display posters from the *VBS 2025 Visual Pack*. Cover two tables with a *VBS 2025 Tablecloth* and display the curriculum and conference materials. Attach large butterfly wings to the wall at a child’s height. Invite conferees to wear a headband and take a picture in front of the wings.

Teaching Steps

1. **Welcome** (5 minutes)
 - Play “Magnified” (track 1) from the Music for Kids CD as conferees enter the room.
 - Welcome conferees to Monarch Missions. Comment: “When we zoom in on the details of creation, we see that our amazing God is not only the Creator of all things, but He cares about His creation, right down to the tiniest detail. The Bible tells us that people are the most significant part of that creation. God created you and He knows every detail about you – right down to the design of your fingerprints and the number of hairs on your head. God cares about everything that happens to you.” Magnified! VBS will encourage kids to look closely at the details of God’s amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. We were made to magnify God!
2. **Examine Motto and Scripture Content** (5 minutes)
 - Say: As we lead Missions Rotation it is extremely important for us to be familiar with the biblical content our kids are learning each day.
 - Draw attention to Poster with VBS Scripture. Invite conferees to recite Scripture Verse with you – “Proclaim the LORD’s greatness with me; let us exalt his name together.” Psalm 34:3
 - Learn the VBS Motto together. Form two groups. Assign: Group 1 – Made to; Group 2 – Magnify God! Instruct each group to stand up and shout out its portion of the motto

and sit down as directed. They will do it twice. Then, on the third time, they will all stand and say the motto together.

VBS Motto: Made to Magnify God!

3. Zoom in on the Daily Biblical Content (10 minutes)

- Enlist five volunteers. Ask each volunteer to select a butterfly net. When called upon have volunteer remove the Monarch captured in the net and share the details of that day's biblical content.

Day 1 — Magnify God

- Bible Story: Jesus and the Children (*John 1:1-3,12; Mark 10:13-16*)
- The Big Truth: God created everything there is, and yet He still wants to spend time with me.
- Zoom In: I am important to God.
- Today's Point: God sees me.

Day 2 — Magnify God's Care

- Bible Story: Jesus Calmed the Storm (*Mark 4:1,35-41*)
- The Big Truth: God keeps the whole universe going, and yet He still cares about what's happening to me.
- Zoom In: I can trust God to take care of me.
- Today's Point: God cares about me.

Day 3 — Magnify God's Love

- Bible Story: The Woman at the Well (*John 4:1-42*)
- The Big Truth: God is not OK with sin, and yet He still loves sinners like me.
- Zoom In: I can be confident God loves me.
- Today's Point: God loves me.

Day 4 — Magnify God's Forgiveness

- Bible Story: Jesus and Nicodemus (*John 3:1-21; 18-20; 1 Corinthians 15:6*)
- The Big Truth: Jesus came to save the world, and that includes me.
- Zoom In: I can trust Jesus as my Savior.
- Today's Point: God forgives me.

Day 5 — Magnify God's Faithfulness

- Bible Story: Jesus Taught about Worry (*Matthew 6:25-34*)
- The Big Truth: God is faithful with the big things in my life, and He will be faithful with the small things too.
- Zoom In: I don't have to worry because God keeps His promises.
- Today's Point: God keeps His promises

- Remind conferees of the importance of being familiar with the Bible study content each day. Encourage them to connect the missions rotation content to the Bible story, Big Truth, Zoom In statement, and Today's Point often.

4. How to use Missions Resources (5 minutes)

- Briefly explain the materials needed to teach missions rotation.
- Explain how to use the redemption code to access the digital downloads, the DVD, and the inserts in the leader guide.
- Introduce the missionaries:
 - IMB – Team of Missionaries, Thailand
 - Tara
 - Dr. Derbyshire (Medical missionary)
 - Nathan

- Alex and Brandon, Nehemiah Team (8-week summer mission opportunity for students ages 17–29)
- Stephen and Holly Wright
- NAMB – Noelson and Edna Chery family, missionaries in Philadelphia, PA

5. Missionary Team: IMB Missionaries (20 minutes)

- Explain that during Monarch Missions, kids will hear about some exciting ways that missionaries in Thailand and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania are helping people know they are important to God. They will discover that missionaries meet physical needs of people by providing medical care and food to those in need. They use opportunities to develop relationships so they can share the gospel, the good news about Jesus, with them.
- Point to the labeled butterflies around the room. Ask five volunteers to gather them and read aloud the words on each butterfly. Challenge conferees to listen for the words *Buddhist, statues, food, relationships, and magnify* in the video.
- Play “Welcome to Thailand” (Day 1 IMB video).
- Ask the following review questions of the group:
 - “People in Thailand often say ‘to be Thai is to be what?’” (*To be Thai is to be Buddhist.*)
 - “What is a basic need that the missionaries help the Thai people meet?” (*The team of missionaries provide food to people who are hungry.*)
 - “Besides having food to eat, what else happens when the missionaries distribute food?” (*The missionaries build relationships so they can tell people how important they are to God.*)
 - “What does it mean when missionaries say they are magnifying God to the people of Thailand?” (*The missionaries want the Thai people to see how special and important God is because He is the one true God.*)
- Invite conferees to form a line on the other side of the room from the plates of rice. Say: “People in Thailand eat a lot of rice! Let’s play a fun game with rice and chopsticks.”
- Mention that this game is called “Transfer Rice” and is found on page 7 of the leader guide.
- Form teams. Explain that on your signal, the first person from each team will run to the plates and pick up the chopsticks. Using the chopsticks, he will pick up one grain of rice and transfer it to the other plate. He will then leave chopsticks on the table, return to the group, and give the next conferee a high five to signal her turn. Continue until each conferee has had a turn. (Depending on the number of conferees, you may consider forming multiple groups.)
- Say: “One way the missionaries in Thailand help people is by giving them rice and other food when they need it. The missionaries build relationships with people because the Thai people are important to them. More than that, they are important to God.”

6. Chery Family: NAMB Missionaries to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (13 minutes)

- Play “Jesus Came to Save” (Day 4 NAMB video).
- Say: “The Cherys began having church in their home, and when it became too small for all the people that were coming, the Cherys began having church in a karate studio. This mean that they had to bring all their equipment with them every Sunday and set it all up They brought things like Bibles, microphones, guitars, cords, paper, pens, and toys for kids. Everyone worked hard to set is all up, and when church was over, they had to pack it all up and take it with them. Let’s play a game where we set things up and then take it all down.”

- Lead the group to play “Set It Up; Take It Down” according to the instructions on page 14 of the leader guide.
 - Form teams based on your conference size. Line teams up on one side of the room and place a stack of 10 disposable cups upside down on the floor for each team along the opposite wall.
 - Instruct the first person from each team to run to the cups, stack them into a pyramid shape with four levels (four cups on the bottom, then three cups, then two cups, and one cup on top) as fast as she can, take down the pyramid tower, and return to tag the next player. (Continue until each player has had a turn.)
- Say: “Setting up for church every week is hard work, but it’s worth it because God loves people in Philadelphia, and they need to hear about Jesus.”

7. **Magnified! Mission Project** (12 minutes)

- Explain that just like the missionary team in Thailand, kids will have an opportunity during VBS to help people in their own communities who are hungry.
- Enlist five volunteers to read the statements written on the lunch bags. Draw attention to the following displayed items as each statement is read:
 - “Bring food items to fill the food giveaway bags.” (Show “Mission Project Letter.”)
 - Decorate bags. (Show finished sample of the Food Giveaway Bag.)
 - Design fun labels to attach to the cans or boxes of food. (Point to the labels attached to food cans or boxes.)
 - Help people know how they can have a relationship with Jesus. (Show the prepared “The Gospel” flyer.)
 - Pray for the people who receive the food. (Show prepared prayer card reminder.)

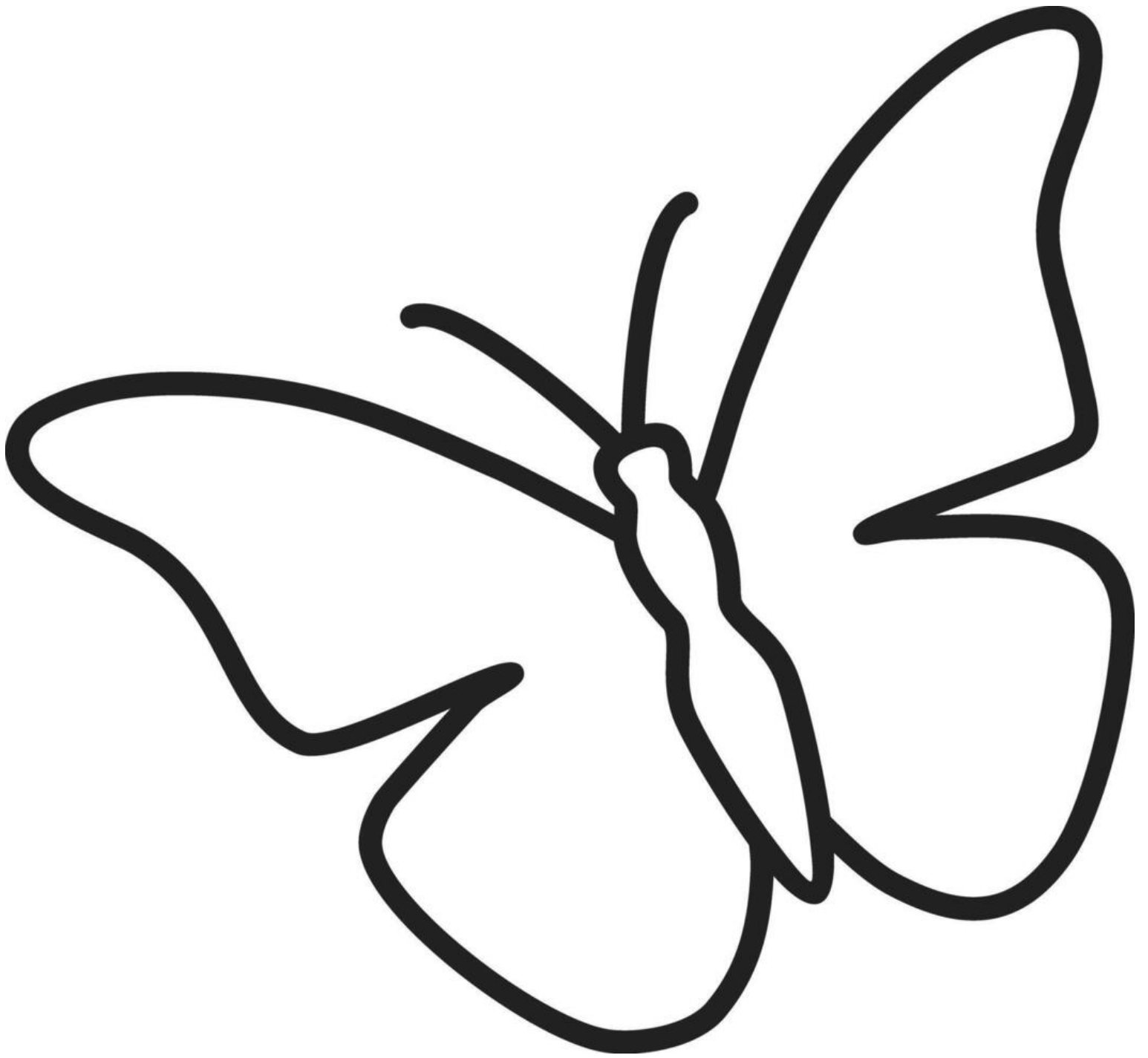
8. **Continue the Connection** (15 minutes)

- Explain that a strategic, intentional follow-up plan is an important part of VBS. As you plan and prepare for every aspect of Monarch Missions, be sure to add follow-up to your planning.
- Participate in your church’s VBS Celebration and other follow-up events. Missions rotation is a great place to encourage kids to be part of the VBS Celebration. Encourage them to invite their friends.
- Invite conferees to stand and form a circle. Play the theme song and instruct conferees to toss the Inflatable Acorn around the circle. When the music stops, the person holding the acorn must share one way to personally stay connected with kids after VBS. (Repeat 3–4 times to allow opportunities for others to share ideas.)
- Invite a volunteer from each group to share a way that teachers can stay personally connected with the kids they taught in VBS previously discussed by their group.
- Remind conferees that the purpose of VBS is to share the Good News with boys and girls and their families. Say: It is important that we are prepared to share the gospel with the kids we have in VBS and with their families. Distribute “The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me” tract. Highlight this resource. Say: “This is an excellent tool to help you share the gospel.”

9. **Closing** (5 minutes)

- Answer any questions about the missions rotation and the teaching resources.
- Encourage churches to find ways to offer the missions rotation during VBS even with an abbreviated schedule, such as:
 - Incorporate missions as part of the Worship Rally.
 - Combine missions and snack rotations.

- Shorten the length of the missions rotation.
- Challenge leaders to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify the greatness of God.
- Pray for VBS teachers.



Item 1. Butterfly