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B.O.O.T.

Biblical Outlook & Outreach Training

CAMP



BOOT CAMP SAMPLER

Basic Information and Samples from the BOOT Camp VBS Kit



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BOOT Camp Sampler

VBS

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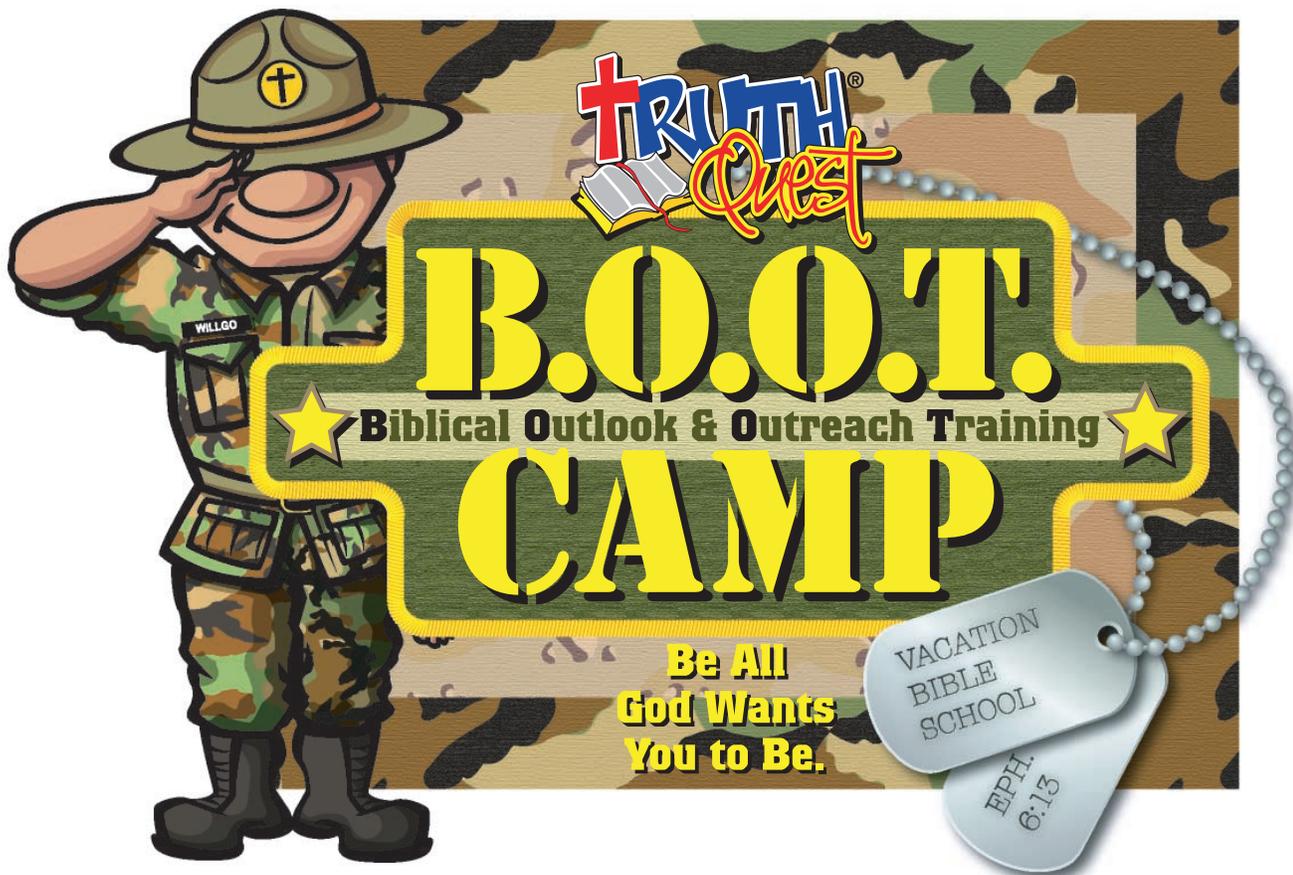
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VBS OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to BOOT Camp! TruthQuest's exciting Vacation Bible School Kit includes all of the curriculum and VBS activity materials you'll need for an exciting and successful VBS, all in an easy-to-use format!

First Things First

Before you do anything else, you should go through this brief overview of what BOOT Camp is all about. On the next few pages, you'll get a bird's eye view of the entire VBS program. Then, in the next section of the BOOT Camp Sampler, you'll find a detailed week-by-week timeline that will walk you through every step of putting VBS together. But for now, take a look at the VBS Overview and find out what BOOT Camp is all about!

Contents of the VBS Overview

VBS FastFacts Chart

Includes basic information about this VBS program, including a brief description of the VBS theme and objective and a complete listing and description of the VBS materials included in this kit

VBS Overview Chart

Provides an overview of every VBS activity that will take place over the five days of VBS

Basic Information about this VBS

More detailed information about the theme, objective and structure of VBS

How This VBS Program Operates Each Day

A description of the VBS activity sessions that will happen each day

Summary of the VBS Departments

A brief summary of what each VBS department will do

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VBS FASTFACTS

Length of Program: 5 days / 3 hours per day
For Ages: 4-11
Age Group Divisions: Six
Rooms Needed: 4-7
Volunteers Needed: 25 minimum,
 40-50 recommended

Theme:

An Army Boot Camp where children are recruits being trained to join the continuous battle between good and evil as part of the Lord's Army.

Objective:

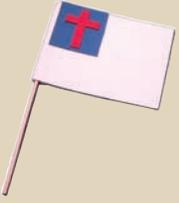
To move children into the mindset that we are all at war with evil and that we must be diligent in fighting for righteousness. Additionally, this VBS emphasizes evangelism, training and equipping children to march against the enemy by spreading the gospel.

Components Included in this VBS Kit	Description and Contents	 New International Version Included	 King James Version Included
BOOT Camp Sampler	Overview of VBS, tips and directions for planning and organizing VBS, and recruiting and supplies flyers	translation neutral	translation neutral
Drama Kit with Daily Gospel	Skits and gospel presentations for five days and directions and tips for planning and performing drama	Yes	Yes
Teaching Director's Guide	VBS lessons and directions for organizing all VBS teaching activities	translation neutral	translation neutral
Bible Outreach Lesson Kit	Specifically designed Bible lessons for three teaching levels covering five days	Yes	Yes
Tactical Outreach Lesson Kit	Outreach lessons and evangelism training for five days	Yes	Yes
Worksheet Kit	Specifically designed take-home worksheets for three levels covering five days	Yes	Yes
Adult Workshop Kit	Workshop-style lessons for adults covering five days	Yes	Yes
Family Study Kit	Take-home Bible studies designed for parents covering the VBS topics	translation neutral	translation neutral
Music Kit	Song lyrics, hand motions, sheet music and music CD containing seven original VBS songs	translation neutral	translation neutral
Crafts Kit	Complete directions, supply lists and templates for five VBS craft projects	translation neutral	translation neutral
Snacks Kit	Complete directions, supply lists and recipes for five VBS snacks	translation neutral	translation neutral
Games Kit	Complete directions, supply lists and diagrams for five VBS games	translation neutral	translation neutral
Age Group Leader Guides	Directions for all VBS Age Group Leaders	translation neutral	translation neutral
Missions Kit	Suggestions for VBS missions projects, fund-raising ideas, and progress tracking poster	translation neutral	translation neutral
Registration & Scoring Kit	Complete directions, name tags, score sheets, information cards and flyers for VBS registration and scorekeeping	translation neutral	translation neutral
Decorations Kit	Ideas, suggestions and clip art to be used for decorating your facility for VBS	translation neutral	translation neutral
Advertising Kit	Directions, suggestions, flyers, posters, banner artwork, a promotional skit, and a radio script for promoting your VBS	translation neutral	translation neutral
Discipleship Booklet: "Growing Up In Christ"	Thirteen lessons and activities, along with extensive Scriptural references designed for a parents and children to go through TOGETHER	Yes	Yes
Gospel Tract: "All About Jesus"	A one-page explanation of the problem of sin and how Jesus' death and resurrection can save us	translation neutral	translation neutral
Gospel Tract: "Something's Wrong"	A one-page discussion of how sin curses our world and how Christ is the only solution	translation neutral	translation neutral
Gospel Tract: "The Bible in 30 Seconds"	A two-page rhyming summary of the Bible, showing how sin threatens us and how Jesus can save us	translation neutral	translation neutral
Clip Art Library	A large selection of decorating and advertising artwork, signs and large posters on CD-ROM	translation neutral	translation neutral
T-Shirt Artwork	Artwork for VBS T-Shirts which you can have printed at a t-shirt shop or iron on to your own shirts	translation neutral	translation neutral
Flyers	Recruiting, registration and advertising flyers on CD-ROM	translation neutral	translation neutral

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VBS OVERVIEW

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Overall Focus	WE'RE AT WAR! We're all under attack by evil, and we should fight it at God's side.	OUR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Learn who God is and why He deserves our allegiance.	THE ENEMY AND HIS WEAPONS: How Satan and our own sin nature can destroy us.	THE ARMOR OF GOD: Understanding the functions and uses of God's awesome armor.	VICTORY! Jesus will return and win the final victory, but we must fight diligently until then.
Memory Verse (NIV & KJV)	1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.	1 Peter 3:18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.	James 4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.	Ephesians 6:11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.	Revelation 22:12 'Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.'
Drama Skit 	"We're At War!" Sgt. Willgo prepares the new recruits for battle. Includes Gospel Presentation	"Our Commander-in-Chief" The Sarge explains who Christ is to the recruits. Includes Gospel Presentation	"Beware of the Enemy" Sgt. Willgo warns the troops about the enemy's tactics and weapons. Includes Gospel Presentation	"Know Your Armor" Sgt. Willgo explains the functions of God's Armor. Includes Gospel Presentation	"Ooh-Rah!" Jesus will win, but we still need to fight hard! Includes Gospel Presentation
Bible Lesson 	We're at War! Satan fired the first shot and it brought death. We must join God's side and fight!	Our Commander In Chief All about the attributes and character of God, as well as the amazing sacrifice He made for us.	The Enemy's Tactics The character of Satan, his weapons, and our own sinful hearts—the greatest danger to us.	Using your Weapons The armor of God, what each part is for, and how to use it.	The Approaching Victory The war will be won upon Christ's return, but we must fight hard until that day.
Outreach Training 	Understanding the Gospel: A review of the basic gospel ensures that we can effectively share it with others.	God's Love, God's Word: Making people curious by showing them God's love, then sharing God's Word with them.	Out of the Darkness: Sharing how Jesus delivered us from darkness to light by sharing our testimonies as an evangelism technique.	Using the Sword: An exercise in answering people's questions with Scripture to show that Jesus is the only way.	Battle Plan: Targeting people who need Christ, making a plan, and advancing on the enemy's territory.
Adult Workshop	The War: A Call to Arms An exhortation to all to join the battle and fight.	Our Commander-In-Chief: An in-depth study of the significance of Christ.	Beware of the Enemy: A look at how to defend against evil.	The Armor of God: The purpose and use of God's spiritual armor.	Time is Running Out: Victory is imminent, but we must fight hard to the end!
Song 	Stand Firm A call to arms in the war against evil.	God is Great No matter what the circumstances, God is great!	Sword of the Lord Using God's Word to do battle.	The Armor of the Lord A rundown of each piece of God's armor.	The Great Commission An inspiring reminder of our marching orders.
Snack Time 	K-Rations: Green rice krispy treats. 	Dog Tags: Crackers, Cheez-Wiz, and licorice whips. 	G. I. Slop: Pudding with bananas and Rice-Krispies mixed in. 	Obstacle Courses: Bars made of oatmeal, pretzel 'walls,' and raisins. 	Snack Grenades: Miniature simon balls. 
Game 	Firing Range: A target shooting game involving 20 balls flying through the air and Scripture memorization.	Supply Line: A fast-paced relay where teams race to move 'supplies' from one end of a line to the other.	P.O.W.: A freeze-tag adaptation which shows how quickly the gospel can spread when we try.	Bombs Away: A fast-paced volleyball game played with four beach balls. Involves Scripture memory.	Obstacle Course: A relay race which has teams racing through an obstacle course.
Craft Project 	Tactical Outreach Manuals: Custom covers for Evangelism Manuals the kids will get. 	Living Water Canteen: Bottled water inside a felt pouch with a strap. 	Christian Flag: A Christian flag to remind kids of who their allegiance is to. 	Dog Tags: Wearable art to remind kids of the gospel. 	Ammunition Pack: A felt pouch with strap, filled with gospel tracts. 



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BOOT Camp Sampler

VBS

WELCOME TO BOOT CAMP!

Welcome to BOOT Camp! As the director of your church's VBS program, you have many responsibilities. This VBS kit is designed to make your job as easy as possible for you and your volunteers. But, before you dive into the logistics of planning your VBS, here's a quick look at the nuts and bolts of BOOT Camp.

BASIC INFORMATION

The Theme

Attention! You're in the Army now! It's war out there, and the purpose of BOOT Camp is to train, prepare and equip all of our "little soldiers" to stand their ground and fight the good fight in the ageless battle between good and evil. Children will be enlisted in VBS as "Privates," marching around your campus to cadences and songs, saluting one another, and preparing to be good soldiers for Christ. Your VBS workers will be Staff Sergeants, Sergeants First Class, and Master Sergeants. By the time BOOT Camp is over, the children will be prepared not only to defend themselves by using God's armor, but also to advance on the enemy by practicing evangelism techniques they've learned. Yes, sir! This will be one fun VBS!

The Objective

The objective of BOOT Camp is to get children into the mindset that we are all involved in the war between God and Satan and that there can be no neutrality. We must all chose to be on God's side and actively fight the battles against evil by standing for and spreading the Word of God both at home and in "enemy territory."

A Dual Focus

B. O. O. T. Camp stands for "Biblical Outlook and Outreach Training." In other words, BOOT Camp is designed to help children to think Biblically AND to reach out with God's Word to unbelievers. This dual approach makes BOOT Camp an excellent teaching tool, both for believers and unbelievers.

Bible Outlook Lessons

For developing a Biblical world view, a complete set of "Bible Outlook Lessons" are provided to help children understand the war, the Gospel, and how we can join in the battle.

Tactical Outreach Training

Additionally, BOOT Camp includes a full set of Bible OUTREACH Lessons which are designed to train children in basic evangelism techniques. These lessons are meant to encourage children to go on the offensive and specifically target people to share the gospel with.

The Gospel

One of the prime objectives of BOOT Camp is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with children and their families. Through the use of Bible lessons, gospel tracts, and discipleship materials which can all be printed from the BOOT Camp CD-ROM, you can share the gospel with all of the children in your VBS program.

One effective method for sharing the gospel with the children is the BOOT Camp drama skits (found in the Drama Kit on the BOOT Camp CD-ROM) during opening and closing assemblies each day. During the five days of VBS, Sgt. Willgo, our main drama character, will constantly share the gospel with a sense of urgency, and of course, with a great deal of fun. The BOOT Camp drama skits allow you to share the gospel on EVERY DAY OF VBS, making BOOT Camp a very evangelical program.

NIV and King James Bible References

Any VBS Resource Kit which contains Scripture verses written out is available on the VBS CD-ROM in TWO Bible versions; either the New International Version (NIV) or the King James Version (KJV). When printing resource kits which contain Scripture verses, simply select which version you prefer to use and print it.



Five Days, Three Hours per Day

Although you may alter the time frame in which this VBS program operates in your church, it is designed to run for five days, running for three hours or more each day. The daily three-hour running time allows this VBS to be done either in the daytime or in the evening. Extending the daily running time beyond three hours is possible, although we do not recommend running this program in less than three hours per day, as the children will not be able to participate in all the VBS activities in less than three hours per day.

See the VBS Scheduling Tools provided for you later in this Guidebook to easily establish your daily VBS schedule.

The Six VBS Age Groups

This VBS program provides age-targeted teaching at three levels. This enables you to teach each age of kids a lesson which they can understand and which challenges them. Each age group will participate in VBS activities separately on a rotation schedule, and each group will have adult Age Group Leaders (or Staff Sergeants) who will stay with each group, befriending children, attending to their needs, and maintaining order. For easy identification, and for fun, each age group is assigned a specific color and designation (called a "company") to help identify them:



HOW THIS VBS PROGRAM OPERATES EACH DAY

As shown on the VBS Overview chart earlier in this Guidebook, each day of VBS includes numerous activities for the children to participate in. All of these activities can be covered in five days, running three or more hours per day. Later in this Guidebook, you will see how to easily create a daily VBS operating schedule for your church; but first, here's a quick look at how this VBS program is designed to operate each day. As you will see, each day's VBS activities are divided into eight time sessions, which run for roughly 20 minutes each.

Session 1: Opening Assembly (First Formation)

After children have arrived each day and checked in with their Age Group Leaders, all the children will assemble as one large group in a large room such as a church sanctuary. The opening assembly consists of the following:



Opening Song

The worship leader or drama leader will lead the children in singing the VBS Theme Song to start off on the right foot.

Opening Skit

A fun drama and puppet skit is performed for all the children which introduces the lesson focus for that day of VBS.

Sessions 2-7: VBS Lesson and Activities

After the opening assembly, the children are divided up into their six respective age groups (described on the next page) and sent to participate in five VBS activity sessions. During any given time session, each VBS age group will be involved in a different activity from the other groups. At the end of each time session, each group will ROTATE to a different activity until all six age groups have participated in all of the activity sessions (meaning that each group will go to the VBS activities in a different order). You will need a room or area for each of these activity sessions, which are as follows:



Field Manual Training (Bible Outlook Lesson & Worksheet Time with Memory Verse)

Here, the children learn from the Bible each day and also have time to work on worksheets which they will take home. This activity lasts for TWO time sessions, meaning that it is TWICE as long as the other sessions. There are also TWO age groups participating in this activity at a time, meaning that you will either need TWO sets of rooms and teachers, or you will need to teach the same lesson to two age groups at once.



Tactical Outreach Training

Here, the children learn a hands-on object lesson which is related to the Bible Lesson, giving children an opportunity to learn the day's lesson from a different perspective.



Physical Training (Game Time)

Here, the children get to run off some energy by participating in a fun game which either helps them to apply the day's lesson or just to have fun.



Mess Hall (Snack Time)

Here, the children get to enjoy a yummy and fun snack which is related to the VBS theme of the day.



Crafts Detail (Crafts Time)

Here, the children get to create a simple but fun craft project to remind them of their day at VBS.

Session 8: Closing Assembly (Final Formation)

At the end of each day, the children are all re-convened into one large group for the closing assembly, which takes place in the same room where your opening assembly took place. The closing assembly includes:



Praise & Worship Music

At the start of the closing assembly, the worship leader or drama leader leads all of the children in singing worship songs such as those which have been provided on the VBS Music CD.



Closing Skit

Next, the second half of the drama skit for the day is performed for the children, reviewing what has been learned and concluding the story for that day of VBS.

Gospel Presentation & Prayer

Each day's VBS skit includes an option to present the gospel to the children during the closing VBS skit, along with a closing prayer.



BRINGING THE ARMY THEME TO LIFE

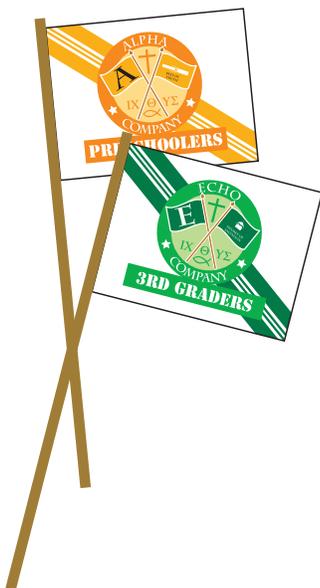
The Army theme of this VBS includes a few special details for you to consider. The information on this page is meant to help you to get the most out of VBS.

Staff Name Tags

All of your VBS staff who will be working directly with children can have name tags to identify them. These name tags are all included with the materials you will give to each volunteer. For example, the Age Group Leader Kit includes a name tag for an Age Group Leader, and the Bible lesson kits include name tags for teachers. However, you can also print extra staff name tags (as well as name tags for children) from the "Helpful Aids" section of the BOOT Camp CD-ROM.

Company Flags

Each of the six VBS Age Groups is identified as a "company," and each company has its own flag. These company flags can be printed from the "Helpful Aids" section of the BOOT Camp CD-ROM. We suggest printing a flag for each company and fastening it to a dowel rod. These company flags can be carried by children as they march from one VBS activity to the next.



Check-In Locations

For faster VBS check-in, we suggest designating a specific area for each Age Group to meet and check in with their Age Group Leaders each day. Since the first VBS activity each day is an opening assembly, a good location for check-in areas is to rope off a seating area in your assembly room where each age group is to gather each day. For instance, the first couple of seating rows could be a check-in area for the Preschool group, and the two rows behind that would be for the Kindergartners, and so on. We suggest posting additional copies of the company flags in each check-in area so that children will recognize which area they should go to.

Boys vs. Girls Competition

To motivate children to listen closely and participate in VBS, the lesson times utilize a "boys vs. girls" competition. Certain questions during lesson time are worth points, and boys and girls race to correctly answer the most questions. When a question is asked, any child who thinks they know the answer is to STAND UP. The first child to stand is called on for their answer. If they are correct, they score a point for their team, which is recorded on a Scoreboard sheet (included in the Lesson kits). At the end of each day of VBS, all of the Scoreboard sheets from each group are turned in and tallied.

If the boys answered the most questions, then Private Waire, the girl drama character, will have to do ten pushups in the closing assembly. If the girls win, then Private Meeh, the boy character, will have to do the pushups. This simple competition will motivate children to listen closely, therefore helping them to learn more.

Christian Flag Ceremonies

We encourage you to make a flagpole part of your opening and closing assemblies each day so that you can have flag-raising and lowering ceremonies.

Flag-Raising

Each day of VBS begins with an opening assembly where the VBS theme song "March into Battle" is sung, followed by a brief drama skit. We suggest raising a Christian flag up a flagpole on your stage as the opening song is sung each day. If you like, you could even select volunteer children to have this honor.

Flag-Lowering

Likewise, you could have a flag-lowering ceremony in the closing assembly of VBS. However, we suggest lowering the flag between your Praise & Worship time and your closing skit. To lower the flag after the drama skit may be anti-climactic, and so we recommend lowering the flag after Praise & Worship and BEFORE the closing drama skit.

Remembrance

Remembrance is a song on the BOOT Camp Music CD which is meant to commemorate those who have given their lives for the name of Jesus. This powerful and moving song has a somber tone, beginning with the Army song "Taps," and transitioning into a tribute to the sacrifices of the martyrs and of Jesus Himself. How you use this song is up to you, but we recommend playing it on the final day of VBS during the flag-lowering ceremony as a way to remind children that the war is real.

However, we suggest ending VBS on a high note, since the final drama skit, which can be performed for children and adults alike, is meant to kindle a fire in children's hearts to go out and march against the enemy with God's light.

Optional "March" Day of VBS

This VBS theme is about preparing soldiers to march into battle against the darkness. Children will be trained in evangelism techniques and will be given gospel tracts and other tools to use for doing so. Therefore, to add real action to what is taught during VBS, we suggest scheduling a "March Day" of VBS in which you and a few volunteers will take children into local neighborhoods for some door-to-door evangelism. We suggest forming several teams consisting of three children and one adult who will spread God's Word door-to-door on a specially scheduled day after VBS. The logistics of this optional event are up to you, but if you choose to do it, you should make the date and time known to the children and their families during VBS.

THE VBS DEPARTMENTS

The BOOT Camp VBS kit is divided into what we call "Resource Kits." Each kit is designed for a particular area, or "department" of VBS. This allows the VBS Director to recruit sub-directors for each VBS department, providing them with the appropriate kits and materials for their assigned departments from the BOOT Camp CD-ROM. In this way, all of the VBS "Department Directors" will be equipped with all of the VBS materials they need for operating their department of VBS.

Summary of VBS Departments

Now it's time to take a brief look at what the VBS Department Directors will be doing and how each department will work. Being aware of what your volunteers are doing will be very important in order to keep everyone organized and being able to answer questions from your workers.

We recommend that you take a quick look at the VBS kits which pertain to each department for a full understanding of the needs and responsibilities of each department. However, for your reference, we've included an overview of what each department and director will be doing. This overview is as follows:

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

The Drama Director for VBS will be overseeing the dramatic portions of the VBS program, including the opening and closing skits for each day of VBS. The drama skits feature three fun characters (shown in the next column). Drill Sergeant Willgo will work to whip all the new recruits into shape—particularly a boy who tends to clown around named "Private Hugh Meeh" and an enthusiastic girl named "Private Annie Waire."

Each day's skit sets the stage for the Bible lessons to be taught that day. On each day of VBS, the first part of the drama skits will be performed, and then paused at a crucial point. Then, the children will be sent off to their other VBS activities while thinking about the unresolved issues of the skit. At the end of each day in the closing assemblies, after a time of praise & worship, each day's skit will then be concluded, showing the children how each issue is resolved. The drama skits will be great fun for children to watch, all while teaching important concepts.

Needs of the Drama Department

The Drama Department will need a stage area on which to perform and where all of your VBS children can watch the drama skits. Depending upon the size of your facility, they may also need a sound system and some minor technical equipment. You'll need an adult actor to play Drill Sgt. Willgo and actors to play the parts of Private Meeh and Private Waire (teens are good choices). The Drama Kit contains all of the VBS skits and includes many of the props and instructions needed. The BOOT Camp CD-ROM also contains teleprompter versions of each skit, along with instructions for setting up a simple teleprompter.

Volunteers Needed

- An adult to play Drill Sgt. Willgo. Someone with military experience would be very suitable.
- A male actor to play the part of Private Hugh Meeh. This can be an adult, but a teenager would be very suitable.
- A female actor to play the part of Private Annie Waire. This can be an adult, but a teenager is very suitable.
- A technical crew for sound and lights if applicable
- People to help acquire props and prepare sets for your skits

The Characters

Here's a quick summary of what each character is like:

Drill Sgt. Willgo

A gruff, tough, but silly Drill Sergeant who is hard on Privates Meeh and Waire, but more patient with the actual VBS children. Sgt. Willgo, while tough on the outside, is a softie at heart, but he's big on military procedure, so watch yourself or you might be doing push-ups!



Private Hugh Meeh

A boy (probably a teenager) who tends to clown around. Hugh doesn't take his training very seriously, prompting Sgt. Willgo to straighten him out often. In fact, it often seems that Private Meeh isn't learning anything. In the end, however, we will see this young man's life change.



Private Annie Waire

Annie is a very eager recruit, but sometimes her enthusiasm gets her into trouble. Sometimes acting or speaking before she thinks, Annie Waire's gung-ho attitude and tendency to speak very loudly often annoy Sgt. Willgo.





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TEACHING DEPARTMENT

The Teaching Department is the backbone of your VBS, providing the most 'face-to-face' in-depth teaching of the VBS program. The Teaching Department includes:

Bible Outlook Lessons Kit (NIV or KJV)

Bible lessons for each day of VBS, provided at three learning levels for each day. Each lesson is connected to the drama skit for that day, and all lessons include some sort of interactive element for more effective teaching.

Tactical Outreach Training Kit (NIV or KJV)

Five lessons in the need for evangelism and in techniques for sharing the gospel with friends, family and neighbors.

Worksheet Kit (NIV or KJV)

With age-targeted worksheets relating to each day's VBS lessons to be sent home with the children.

Adult Workshop Kit (optional, NIV or KJV)

Including five workshop-style lesson outlines designed for parents.

Family Study Kit (translation neutral)

Includes a take-home Bible study sheet designed for parents so that they can study the same topics their children learned and continue the teaching process.

Gospel Tracts & Discipleship Booklet (NIV or KJV)

For use in evangelizing children and helping them to mature.

Teaching Director's Guide

Summarizes all of the above items and includes directions for setting up his or her department, as well as how the BOOT Camp lesson materials should be used.

Needs of the Teaching Department

You will need one or two rooms in which your Teachers can teach the Bible Lessons to the children. Teaching rooms should be quiet and without big distractions. You will also need a room for Tactical Outreach (evangelism) Lessons to be taught in. If desired, you will also need a classroom for the Adult Workshops. Certain supplies which are needed for teaching the Bible Lessons are listed in the Lesson Kits, though many of these supplies are included with the Lesson Materials.

Bible Teaching Personnel Needed

The number of teachers you will need for teaching the Bible Lessons depends upon how you structure your teaching department. The daily VBS schedule we recommend (which is described later in this guidebook) includes three time slots per day for Bible Lessons. During each of these three daily time slots, TWO age groups are simultaneously being taught their Bible Outlook Lessons.

For this reason, we recommend structuring your Bible Outlook Teaching as shown in the next column.

One Teaching Team Per Day (5 teams needed)

This teaching structure requires a team of two teachers for each day of VBS (a total of 10 volunteers). This approach works as follows:

- A team of two Teachers teaches all of the Bible Outlook Lessons on one day of VBS, and then they're finished, to be replaced by a NEW team on the next day of VBS.
- Teaching Teams would teach the Level 1 Bible Outlook Lessons to the Preschool and Kindergarten Groups simultaneously
- Teaching Teams would teach the Level 2 Bible Outlook Lessons to the First and Second Grade Groups simultaneously
- Teaching Teams would teach the Level 3 Bible Outlook Lessons to the Third Grade and 4th & 5th Grade Groups simultaneously



Level 1 Lesson

To be taught to:



PRESCHOOLERS



KINDERGARTNERS



Level 2 Lesson

To be taught to:



1ST GRADERS



2ND GRADERS



Level 3 Lesson

To be taught to:



3RD GRADERS



4TH & 5TH GRADERS

A Convenient Approach

This approach requires the smallest number of volunteers and the least amount of preparation and commitment by the Teachers. Because two Age Groups are taught together each day, your church sanctuary or auditorium might be a good location for hosting the Bible Outlook Lesson time.

Tactical Outreach (Evangelism) Teachers

You will also need a team of teachers to teach all the age groups the evangelism lessons from the Tactical Outreach Training Lesson Kit. These lessons are the same for all age groups, and only one set of teachers should be needed for the whole week.

Adult Workshop Teachers

Finally, if you choose to include adult workshops in your VBS, you'll need qualified people to teach them using the lessons in the Adult Workshop Kit.



AGE GROUP LEADERS

Age Group Leaders are the adult helpers who will be with the kids throughout the VBS program, taking them from area to area, administering discipline, and most importantly, befriending the kids. At the start of each day's VBS session, Age Group Leaders will need to "check-in" the children for the age groups they're assigned to. Check-in involves greeting children, issuing them name tags, listening to them reciting memory verses, and keeping score for them on the score sheets. Tour Guides will also administer discipline when needed.

Needs of Age Group Leaders

We suggest equipping each Age Group Leader with a name tag and a clipboard on which they can keep notes or score sheets.

Age Group Leader T-Shirt Artwork is Provided

The "Helpful Aids" section of the CD-ROM includes t-shirt artwork for the leaders of each age group which you can print and iron on to white t-shirts. This will help children to quickly identify the leaders of their groups.

Volunteers Needed

We suggest one adult for every ten children.

CRAFTS DEPARTMENT

The Crafts Department will handle the Craft Time sessions of each day of your VBS program. Special craft projects are included in the Crafts Kit, including supplies lists, templates, diagrams, directions and photos of finished crafts. All of the craft projects relate in some way to the theme of the lessons of VBS, and all of the projects are simple and easy. The five BOOT Camp craft projects are shown on page five of this Guidebook.

Needs of the Crafts Department

You will need an area in which to host Craft Time for each day of VBS. We suggest a non-carpeted area if one is available. Otherwise, we suggest protecting floors with painting tarps and protecting craft tables with newspapers. Supplies needed for craft projects are listed in the Crafts Kit and on the "Supplies Needed" flyer from this kit.

Volunteers Needed

- Craft Teachers who can demonstrate crafts and assist children
- Preparation workers who can prepare the supplies needed for each craft project, as well as preparing (mess-proofing) the area in your facility where the crafts will be taught.
- Clean-up personnel to assist in cleaning up after craft time.

SNACKS DEPARTMENT

The Snacks Department will be responsible for preparing and handling the daily Snack Time of your VBS program. The Snacks Kit includes recipes for five simple but fun VBS snacks, as well as suggestions for preparation, cleanliness, and more. The five BOOT Camp snacks are found on page five of this Guidebook.

Needs of the Snacks Department

You will need an area in which to serve the snacks to the children. In some cases, children are asked to assemble their snacks before eating them, meaning that you will need to have tables for the children to be served at. We also suggest a non-carpeted area for Snack Time. A list of the items needed for Snack Time is included in the Snacks Kit.

Volunteers Needed

- Preparation volunteers who will make necessary preparations
- Snack supervisors who will serve the children
- Clean-up volunteers

GAMES DEPARTMENT

The Games Department will prepare and administer each day's VBS games. The games are a good way for children to release extra energy and to let loose for a while at VBS. All of the VBS games are loosely related to the theme and the VBS lessons. The Games Kit includes detailed directions, diagrams and props for use with the VBS games. The BOOT Camp games are briefly described on page five of this Guidebook.

Needs of the Games Department

We suggest an outdoor grassy area or an indoor area with soft flooring or carpeting. A first aid kit is always a good idea, and we suggest making water available for thirsty kids. Other supplies needed for games are listed or provided in the Games Kit.

Volunteers Needed

We suggest having a few adult helpers to play with the children, to keep order, and to keep the games safe.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department will handle the Praise & Worship segment of your VBS program, learning, teaching and performing the songs for VBS. Your Music Director may perform the VBS songs from the BOOT Camp Music CD as well as other children's songs favored by the children in your church.

Needs of the Music Department

Your music leaders will need the BOOT Camp Music CD and Music Kit to work from. They may also need some sound equipment so that they can lead the children in worship.

Volunteers Needed

We suggest having a few teens or children assist the worship leader in leading the VBS children in Praise & Worship.



MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

This department will oversee the VBS Missions project, promoting the project each day at VBS and getting the VBS children involved in the process. This department will determine what the missions project will be and how high to set the fund raising goal.

Needs of the Missions Department

You will need an area where you can display the fund-raising progress for your missions project so that your VBS children can see it. Artwork for a "tracking board" is provided in the Missions Kit. One person should be adequate for this department.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

The Advertising Department is responsible for advertising and promoting your VBS program before VBS begins. Using flyers, posters and artwork provided in the Advertising Kit and on the BOOT Camp CD-ROM, the department will create interest and excitement both within your church and around your community for your VBS program.

Needs of the Advertising Department

Your Advertising Director will need access to the BOOT Camp CD-ROM so that all of the flyers, posters and artwork needed can be printed and used. Otherwise, it is up to your church to determine an advertising budget.

REGISTRATION & SCORING DEPT.

The Registration and Scoring Department will oversee the registration process for your VBS, making sure that you have all of the important information needed for each child in your VBS program. This department will also be keeping score as the children accumulate points for their participation in VBS, and determining what kinds of awards or prizes to give to the kids. This department will promote early registration within your church and "day-of-event" registration during the five days of your VBS program. The Registration Department will make name tags for each child in your VBS program and ensure that Tour Guides have important information for each child. Additionally, this department will tally up scores for all children throughout VBS as directed in the Registration & Scoring Kit.

Needs of the Registration & Scoring Dept.

You will need a table where registration will take place. Your volunteers will need to use this table throughout VBS, both for registration and for scoring. Name Tags, Child Information Cards, and Score Sheets are all provided in the Registration Kit. You will also need a calculator and a supply of 3' X 4' Avery Top-Loading Clip-Style Name Tags. We also recommend providing a supply of Avery 5164 or 5264 adhesive shipping labels, as these will be helpful to your Registration volunteers.

Volunteers Needed

We suggest recruiting 3-4 people to assist with the registration and scoring process.

DECORATIONS DEPARTMENT

This department will be transforming your facility to look like an Army base. This can be accomplished through the use of Army tents, camouflage netting, Army foot lockers, sandbag bunkers, flags, bunks, and so on. Many of these things can be found at your local Army surplus store or online. Ideas for creating your own versions of the items listed here are found in the Decorations Kit. Additionally, the Decorations Kit includes a directory of clip-art and signs which can be used for making your facility look like an Army base.

Needs of the Decorations Department

The Decorations Department will need a number of supplies for decorating your facility, many of which are included in the Decorations Kit and on the BOOT Camp CD-ROM. The Decorations Director will need access to the CD-ROM so that he or she can freely locate and print whatever is needed from the clip art library. You will also need to set a VBS decorating budget.

Volunteers Needed

- Carpenters to build any special props you might want for your VBS
- Artists to paint scenes or signs
- Thrift store or garage sale shoppers to acquire decorating items
- Craft hobbyists to assist in producing props and scenes





B.O.O.T. CAMP

★ Biblical Outlook & Outreach Training ★

**BOOT Camp
Sampler**

PAGE 13

VBS

THERE YOU HAVE IT!

In a nutshell, that's a brief summary of the BOOT Camp VBS program. If you have any questions about this VBS kit, please feel free to contact us as shown below.

We'd also like to tell you about our weekly Children's Church curriculum, designed for ages 4-11. Our Children's Church program is very much like this VBS program, including drama skits, Bible/object lessons, take-home worksheets, family study sheets, gospel and discipleship materials, a database for managing the ministry, clip art, and much more. Our Children's Church also involves many fun characters for drama skits, including puppets. Bring the fun and effective Bible teaching of VBS to your church EVERY WEEK through the TruthQuest® Children's Church Program! Visit our web site and check it out!

TruthQuest® Ministries

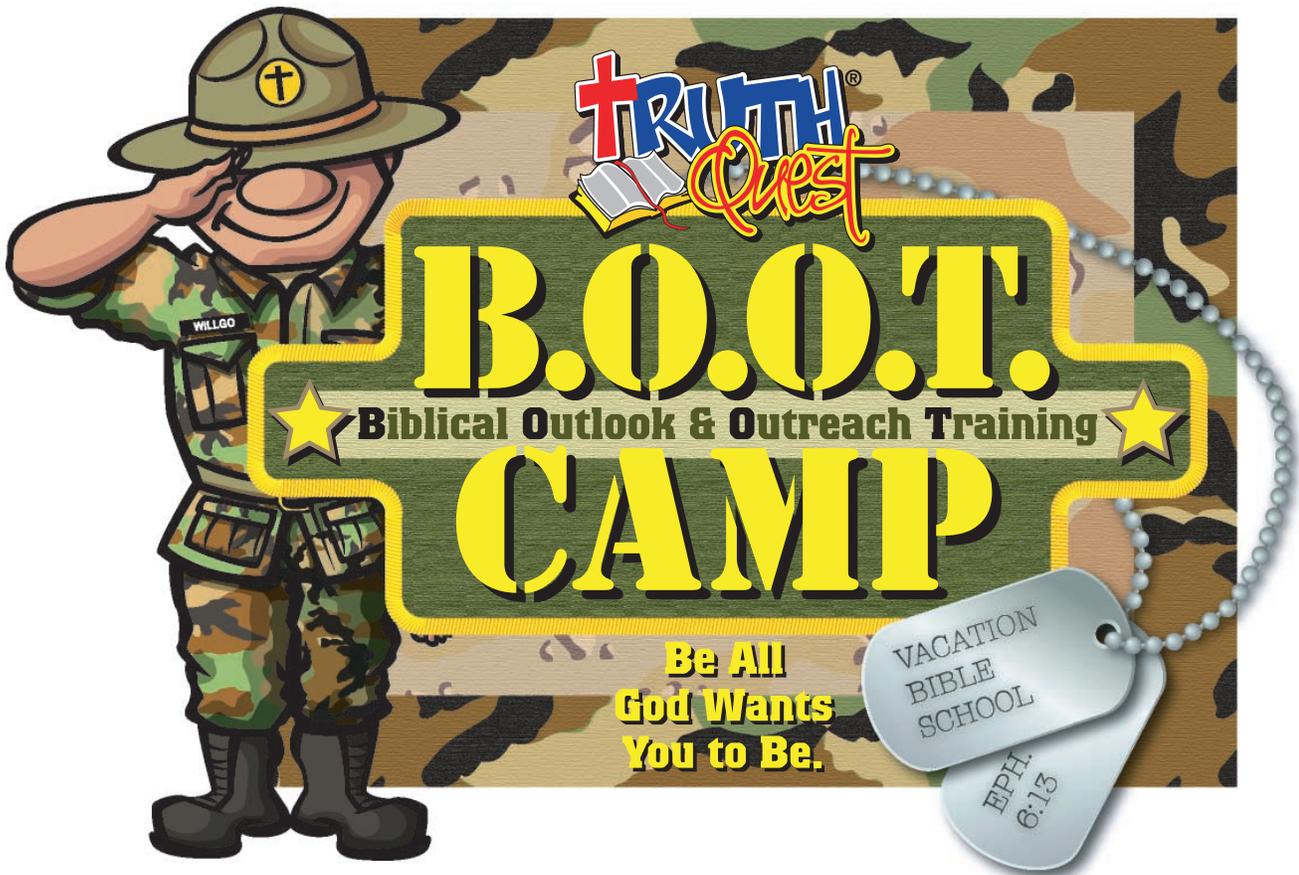
web site: www.truthquest.net
email: info@truthquest.net
phone: 303-920-1463
address: 11500 Sheridan Boulevard
Denver, CO 80020

TRUTHQUEST® DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

We Believe:

1. The Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.
2. In one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. That Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross, a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He is now our High Priest and Advocate.
4. That the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and, during this age, to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, and indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
 5. That man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is, therefore, lost, and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.
 6. That the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only grounds for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and, thus become children of God.
 7. That water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the Church during the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.
 8. That the true Church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the Body of Christ of which He is the Head.
 9. That only those who are, thus, members of the true Church (above) shall be eligible for membership in the local church.
 10. That Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of the Church and that every local church has the right, under Christ, to decide and govern its own affairs.
 11. In the personal premillennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.
 12. In the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord; of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.





VBS SAMPLES

CONTENTS OF THIS SECTION

In this section you will find samples of VBS materials from DAY 1 of the BOOT Camp VBS program.

Bible Outlook Lesson

The Day 1 Bible Lesson (NIV version) for the Preschool & Kindergarten Group. (Modified lessons are provided in our kit for the other ages as well).

Take-Home Worksheet

The Day 1 Take-Home Worksheet (NIV version) for the Preschool and Kindergarten Groups. (Modified lessons are provided in our kit for preschool, kindergarten, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th-5th grade groups as well).

Tactical Outreach (Evangelism) Lesson

In addition to daily Bible Lessons, BOOT Camp features a SECONDARY teaching time called "Tactical Outreach Training." These lessons are the same for all ages. This section features a sample Lesson (NIV version) from Day 1 of VBS.

Family Study

A one-page Bible study related to the VBS topics is sent home with children each day of VBS. These studies are meant for parents to study with their families. A sample Family Study from Day 1 of the program is included in this sampler.

DAY 1 BIBLE OUTLOOK LESSON

Object Lesson Diagram

Materials Needed:

- Four HELIUM-FILLED balloons with the word "US" written on them
- One HELIUM-FILLED balloon with the word GOD written on it (This balloon can be larger than the others)
- The "SIN" card sheet (next page)
- About 20 pennies and transparent tape
- About 50 feet of yarn or string
- A chair or table
- Scissors
- Five paper grocery bags to conceal the balloons in

Preparation:

1. Trim the "SIN" card sheet into four separate cards and punch holes in each one where shown.
2. Tape several pennies to the back side of each "SIN" card to weight them down.
3. Tie about two feet of yarn to each "SIN" card (FIGURE A).
4. Tie enough string to the "GOD" balloon to allow it to touch the ceiling of your lesson area and anchor it to a chair or table as shown (FIGURE B).
5. Tie enough string to the "US" balloons to let them touch the ceiling.
6. Anchor ONE of the "US" balloons to the same chair in such a way that it floats nearby but JUST BENEATH the "GOD" balloon (figure B).
7. Pull both balloons down to the table and put paper bags over them to cover them before the lesson starts. Do the same with all the other balloons so that none of the balloons are in view at the start of the lesson.

Object Lesson Details:

1. As directed by the Day 1 Bible Lessons, you will take the balloons out of their bags and let them float toward the ceiling.
2. As directed by Lessons, you will select three volunteers. To each volunteer, you will tie one of the "US" balloons to their shoe so that the balloon hovers just beneath the level of the "GOD" balloon.
3. When directed by the lesson, pull the "US" balloon that's anchored to the chair down and tie one of the "SIN" cards to it as shown in Figure C. This will weigh the "US" balloon down. This is to demonstrate that sin weighs us down and keeps us far from God.
4. As directed in the lesson, you will ALSO tie "SIN" cards to the "US" balloons being worn by your volunteers.
5. As directed in the lesson, kids will try to force the weighed-down "US" balloons into the air to illustrate that our own efforts cannot bring us closer to God.
6. As directed in the lesson, a pair of scissors representing Jesus will cut the cords of "SIN" so that the "US" balloons may hover near "God" again.

FIGURE A:

"SIN" cards are trimmed, have pennies taped to them on the back sides, and have string tied to them.

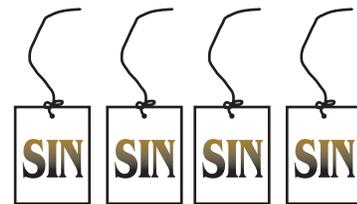


FIGURE B:

Balloons are tied to a chair and the "US" balloon is lower than the "GOD" balloon.

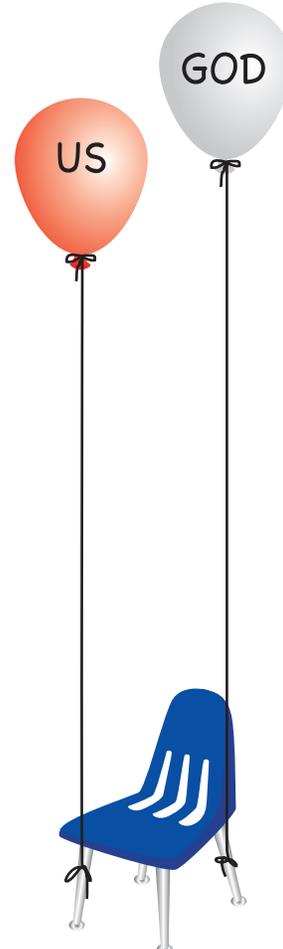
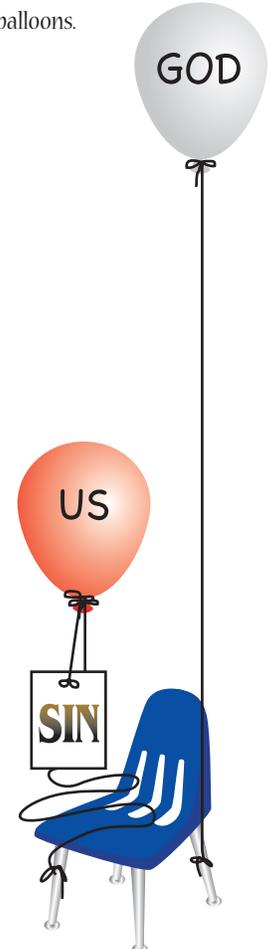


FIGURE C:

A "SIN" card is tied to the "US" balloon to weigh it down. This will be done with all of the "US" balloons.



MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.



Lesson Preparation:

Prepare your helium balloons and "SIN" cards as directed by the "Day One Object Lesson Diagram."

Introduction:

Welcome to the Army, recruits! It's war out there, and my job is to make you understand that each and every one of you has been taken prisoner by the enemy. To show you what I mean, I'll be using my Field Manual, which is the Holy Bible. So PAY ATTENTION!

READ: Psalm 100:5 (below)

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

QUESTION: (1 point)

Is God a good guy or a bad guy?

ANSWER: God is a GOOD GUY!

Action:

Take the "GOD" balloon out of its bag and let it float to the ceiling.

Explain:

God is a good, just, and holy God, and He is high above everything else in the universe. But God is also creative; so one day, God decided to create the universe.

READ: 1 Timothy 4:4-5 (below)

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

QUESTION: (1 point)

Did God create anything that wasn't good?

ANSWER: No!

READ: Genesis 1:26 (below)

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

QUESTION: (1 point)

Whose image was man made in?

ANSWER: Man was made in God's image.

Action:

Take out one "US" balloon and let it float toward the ceiling.

Explain:

So, God, who is good, made man to be like HIM. That means that when God made Adam and Eve, THEY were good. In fact, God wanted people to be close to Him because He loved them. See how close "GOD" and "US" were supposed to be?

Action:

Select three volunteers and bring them to the front. Tie one of the remaining "US" balloons to each child's shoe.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. See how close God WANTED us to be to Him? Wouldn't it be cool to be able to be close to God like that?

Explain:

Since everything God created is good, you may be wondering why there's so much evil in the world. It all started when the enemy ATTACKED Adam and Eve. You see, God gave Adam a very important command to follow:

READ: Genesis 2:16-17 (below)

And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Explain:

But then, a clever serpent (our enemy) came along and fired the first shot in our war by playing a trick on Eve.

READ: Genesis 3:4-5 (below)

"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

QUESTION: (1 point)

Was the serpent telling the truth?

ANSWER: No!

QUESTION: (1 point)

Did Adam and Eve KNOW they weren't supposed to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

ANSWER: Yes!

Explain:

Well guess what? Adam and Eve did what the SERPENT wanted INSTEAD of what GOD wanted. And the minute they did that, it RUINED EVERYTHING!

Action:

Slowly pull the first "US" balloon down as you explain:

Explain:

The minute Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they SINNED, and that's EVIL. That changed the very NATURE of who Adam and Eve were. Instead of having the image of God, they became evil at heart. That means that in their hearts, they wanted to do evil



CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE



more than they wanted to do good.

Action:

Tie one "SIN" card to the first "US" balloon to weigh it down.

Explain:

So now, Adam and Eve couldn't be close to God anymore, because SIN took them prisoner and weighed them down!

READ: Proverbs 5:22 (below)

The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.

QUESTION: (1 point)

Look at this balloon. Can it get close to God as long as this cord holds it down with sin?

ANSWER: No!

Explain:

The problem is that every one of us comes from Adam and Eve. So, if Adam and Eve were sinners, that means that all of US are too!

Action:

Go to each volunteer who has a balloon tied to their shoes and ask them if they've ever sinned. When they say "yes," point out that the cords of sin are holding THEM prisoner too. Pull down their balloon and tie a SIN card to it to weigh it down. Do this with each volunteer.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Did you know that each and every one of you was made a prisoner and a slave to sin because of what happened to Adam and Eve?

READ: John 8:34 (below)

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."

Discussion Questions (no points):

- Q. That serpent who tricked Adam and Eve made all of us PRISONERS! Are you guys HAPPY about that?
- Q. Is that something that a friend would do, or an ENEMY?
- Q. In a war, do we do what our enemy wants, or do we FIGHT him?

READ: 1 Peter 5:8-9 (below)

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Explain:

The serpent who tricked Adam and Eve was the devil, and he wants to destroy each and every one of you! The devil is powerful, and by ourselves, we can't beat him. But there IS someone who CAN, and if we fight with Him, we can WIN THIS WAR!

READ: John 8:34-36 (below)

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

QUESTION: (1 point)

Who can set us free from our slavery to sin?

ANSWER: Jesus!

Explain:

Jesus can set us free from sin so that we can be close to God as we were meant to be. That's because Jesus fought a mighty battle with the enemy and won! You see, sin makes us all die. But Jesus NEVER sinned. Jesus came to earth and died in our place so that He could get rid of all our sin for us. Then, He came back to life, which means that WE can come back to life too if we let Jesus take away our sin. If we ask Jesus to save us and free us from sin, we will be free indeed!

Action:

Cut the string from the "SIN" card from the first balloon to allow it to float back into the air.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. See how close we can be to God when we aren't weighed down by sin?

Action:

Go to each of the three children who have balloons tied to their shoes and ask them who can free them from sin. When they say "Jesus," cut the "SIN" cards off their balloons to release them. Do this with all three volunteers.

Salvation Prayer:

Explain to the children that they can ask Jesus to free them from their slavery to sin right now. Explain that the children can pray to receive Christ. Then lead the children who want to in a prayer of salvation. For those who pray to receive Christ, we suggest giving them a copy of the discipleship materials from the BOOT Camp CD-ROM. These materials can help them understand what their decision means.

Explain:

Once we ask Jesus into our hearts, our sins are forgiven and we will be able to go to heaven someday. Until we go to heaven, though, we will STILL sin sometimes, because we still have our sinful nature until we die. So be careful not to get trapped by sin, and when you do, admit it to Jesus right away so that He can take it away!

Conclusion:

We're at war! The enemy wants to destroy us, but if you asked Jesus into your heart, either today or sometime in the past, you are a SOLDIER for Christ. We will learn during our BOOT Camp how to fight in this war, but the main objective is to live for Jesus and obey Him! If you do that, you'll already be fighting for Jesus. So get ready to fight, soldiers!

END OF LESSON!

SOLDIERS!

Do AT LEAST THREE of the things on this sheet and **CHECK THEM OFF** in the checkboxes (☐) by the numbers.
Ask your Mom or Dad to remind you and help you to do this stuff, and then have them
Sign their name at the bottom to show that you did it (and write **YOUR NAME** there too!)
Bring this SIGNED Worksheet with you the next time you come to BOOT Camp, and you'll get lots of points!

1.

GIVE your Mom or Dad the FAMILY STUDY Sheet we sent home with you today. _____ →

That way, they can learn the same stuff YOU learned!



2.

**MEMORIZE
this verse**

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.



3.

**ANSWER
these
questions**

Who is the enemy of everyone on earth? (Hint! Have Mom & Dad read 1 Peter 5:8!)

What does our enemy want us to be slaves to? (Hint! Have Mom & Dad read John 8:34!)

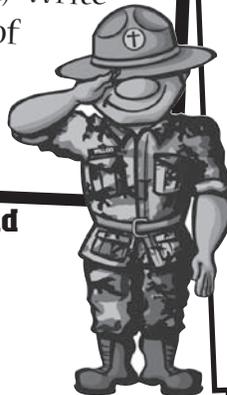
Can Jesus set us free? (Hint! Have Mom & Dad read John 8:34-36!)

4.

How can you be saved from your sins? (Hint! Have Mom & Dad read Romans 10:9!)

APPLICATION Challenge:

Make a list of some of the bad things in the world. All of those things happen because of SIN! (Gen. 3:16-19; Rom. 6:23, 8:20-21) Write "ALL BECAUSE OF SIN" on the top of your list and hang it in your room. Every day, ask God to help you fight against sin in your life.



5.

READ your BIBLE and PRAY for a few minutes TODAY!

Check it off after you've done it!



PARENTS!

Please sign your name below to verify that your child made an effort to learn and grow Spiritually. This sheet is to be returned to BOOT Camp for credit the next time your child attends.

Today, My Child did AT LEAST THREE of the things listed on this sheet.

Parent Signature: _____

My Child's Name: _____

MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.



Lesson Preparation:

Have the Day 1 Tactical Outreach Training Poster assembled and in view of the kids. Also, prepare according to the Day 1 Lesson Materials and Preparation page.

Introduction:

Attention, troops! Today at BOOT Camp, we've been learning about the fact that each and every one of us is involved in a war. You have learned (or will learn later) that every single person on earth is born a SLAVE to sin. That's just where the enemy WANTS us! But, Jesus can SET US FREE!

READ: John 8:36 (below)

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Explain:

We're going to learn a little more about HOW Jesus can set us free in a few minutes. But another thing we should know is that, once Jesus sets US free, we need to help OTHERS to find Jesus so He can set THEM free too! In fact, Jesus COMMANDS us to do this!

READ: Mark 16:15 (below)

[Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.

Explain:

So, we're supposed to tell people everywhere about Jesus so that THEY can be set free too! That's how we FIGHT in the WAR! We FIGHT by helping to bring people to Jesus! Jesus had a cool way to put this:

READ: Matthew 4:19 (below)

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Fishers of Men...

Lots of people like to try to catch fish for themselves, but Jesus wants us to "catch" people for HIM. Let's play a quick game so you can see what I mean...

Directions:

1. Please note that you should wrap up this game with about ten minutes to spare so that you'll have time to go over the Day 1 Tactical Outreach Poster.

2. With the game area set up as shown on the "Fishers of Men" game setup diagram, gather the children around the hula hoop.
3. Draw the class' attention to the "people" inside the hula hoop. Explain that in our game, we're pretending that these people are all prisoners to sin and that Jesus wants us to fight in the war to help free them.
4. Give each child a fishing pole (prepared as shown on the diagram sheet).
5. Explain that these fishing poles represent the Word of God.
6. Explain that their job is to use the Word of God (the fishing poles) to "hook" as many of the people in the circle as possible to free them from sin.
7. Demonstrate with a fishing pole that you cannot "hook" the people by the arms, legs, or head. Show the kids that the ONLY way to help people to be freed from sin is to take God's Word to their HEARTS and hook them THERE. As you do this, hook one of the paper people by the heart and pull it out.
8. Now, allow the children to play the game for a few minutes, trying to "hook" people and pull them out of the circle.
9. When you have about ten minutes left in your session, stop the game and proceed as follows:

Comment:

Now, while it IS our job to TELL people about Jesus, it's NOT our job to SAVE them. Only JESUS can save them, and only the PEOPLE we tell about Jesus can DECIDE to ask Jesus to save them. So, you can't SAVE people, but you CAN and SHOULD follow God's orders to TELL people about Jesus. Here's the stuff you need to understand about how Jesus can save people:

TACTICAL OUTREACH TRAINING POSTER #1:

Now, take the kids through the Day 1 Tactical Outreach Training poster (which corresponds to Page 1 in their Evangelism Manuals). Explain the gospel to them and read the Scripture passages which are included on the poster.

Application (from point #2 on the poster)

Now, demonstrate for them how they can share the gospel as shown on point #2 of today's poster. If time allows, have the kids practice this technique.

Closing Note:

If the kids have their "Evangelism Manuals" (which they were scheduled to work on as a crafts project today), collect them at the end of this session and keep them to re-distribute for tomorrow's lesson.

Conclusion:

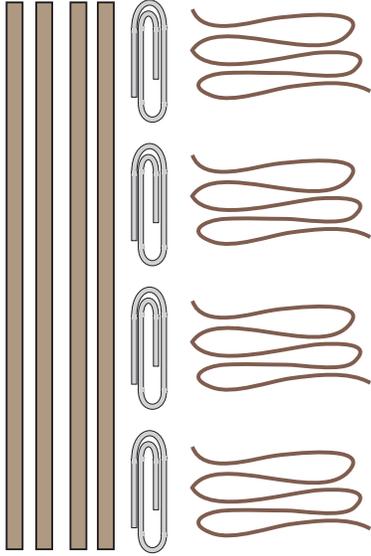
To fight in this war, we must all be freed from sin by Jesus, and then we must be fishers of men to help as many other people as we can to know about Jesus so that HE can set THEM free too! You have your orders, soldiers! Now get to it!

END OF LESSON!

"Fishers of Men" Game Setup Diagram

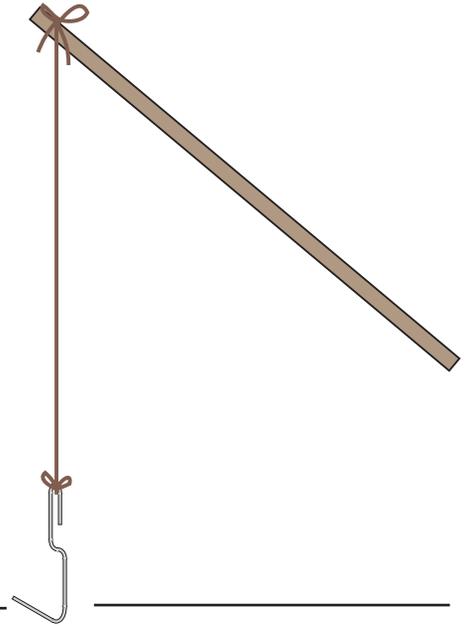
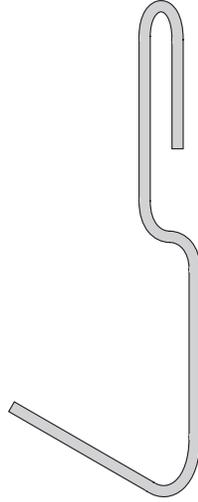
You Need:

Dowel rods (or sticks or pencils), paper clips, and lengths of string (each about 3 feet long).



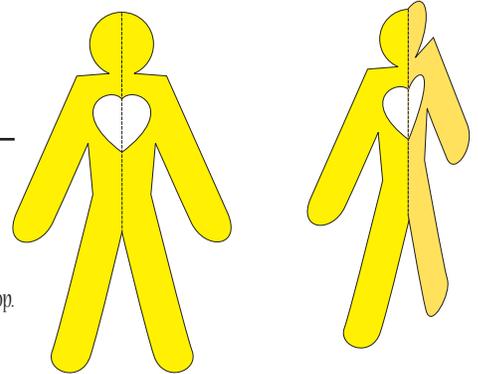
1. Make the "Fishing Poles:"

Un-bend the paper clips as shown below, and tie each paper clip to each of the pieces of string. Then, tie the other end of each string to each dowel rod (or stick) to form 'fishing poles.' Make enough fishing poles for each member of your class.



2. Prepare the Game Pieces:

Cut out the game pieces from the 'Fishers of Men' game piece sheet that came with this packet as directed. Make sure to cut the hearts out of each man, and fold each man slightly at the dotted line as shown in the diagram to the right. Prepare enough game pieces to accommodate all the children in your class.



3. Set up the game:

Place a hula-hoop on the floor of your teaching area, place all of the game pieces on the floor inside the hula-hoop. Make sure that each 'man' has the heart cut out and is folded slightly. Then, give each child a fishing pole and gather the class around the hula-hoop.

4. Play the game:

Explain to the children that all of these 'people' inside the hula-hoop are prisoners to sin. The fishing poles they're holding represent the good news of Jesus. Their job is to bring the 'good news' to the people in the hula hoop and hook their hearts with it. If they can hook their hearts, Jesus (the fishing poles) can pull these people OUT of their slavery to sin! Demonstrate that the only way to 'hook' these people with the gospel is by the heart. You can't drag them by the hand—only the heart can choose to follow Christ.

Then, play the game for a few minutes, giving all the kids a chance to try to be "fishers of men."

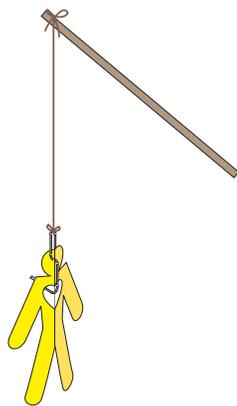


Diagram of Game Area





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The War We Fight:

You may not realize it, but you are right in the middle of a great war. It's the war of the ages; the war which has caused every other war in the history of humanity. It is the war between good and evil; between God and Satan, and you are right in the middle of it.

Ever since Satan fired the first shot against humanity in the Garden of Eden (Genesis chapter 3), Adam and Eve and all their descendants have been held as prisoners of war in slavery to sin; the chains which keep us from our Heavenly Father. The chains of sin are a death sentence and cannot be broken by any human means.

There is, however, a way to be freed from the bonds of sin and join in the fight against evil. Only Jesus can free us from our captivity to sin. Under His command, we can become active soldiers for His Kingdom, working to free countless other POW's. Make no mistake; you ARE part of this war, and if you don't fight, many will die.

We encourage you to look up and study the Scripture passages listed in this Family Study. Study them with your family in the days to come, and consider how YOU might join the ranks of the Lord's Army.

The Problem of Sin

Satan's efforts in the Garden of Eden caused Adam and Eve to fall from the perfection that God created and changed the nature of humankind from pure to sinful. It was a devastating defeat for humanity, and worst of all, it was our own fault. By Adam and Eve's own choice, having been deceived by Satan, they and all who come from them became sinners at heart, living in bondage to sin and death, unable to reach God.

Psalm 14:1-3	Romans 3:10-12	Romans 6:6-7
Psalm 53:1-3	Romans 3:23	Romans 6:16-18
Jeremiah 17:9	Romans 5:12-13	Romans 6:20-23
John 8:34	Romans 5:18-19	Romans 8:20-21

God Frees Slaves

The good news is that God is able to free us from our captivity to sin. More than that, He can transform us from slaves to sin into sons and daughters of God!

John 1:12-13	Galatians 4:7	1 John 5:18-19
John 8:34-36	1 John 3:1	

God's Offer of Freedom to You

If you have not yet been saved from the bonds of sin by Jesus, then that is first step you must take to becoming active in the war against evil. These Scriptures quickly outline how you can be saved from sin by Jesus Christ.

Luke 23:39-43	John 14:6	Hebrews 9:27-28
John 1:12	Acts 4:12	1 Peter 3:18
John 3:16-17	Romans 10:9	1 John 1:9

A Call to Arms

The war is on, and we are being called to fight. The following Scripture passages exhort us (and certain men of the Bible) to arm ourselves for battle, to love good and hate evil, and to stand firm and strong in the Lord's strength. God wants YOU for His Army!

Prepare to Fight!

Deuteronomy 20:2-3	Numbers 32:20-23	1 Timothy 6:12
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Love the Good, Hate the Evil!

Romans 12:9-10	1 Thess. 5:21-22
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Be Strong in the Lord and Stand Firm!

2 Chronicles 15:7	Ephesians 6:10	1 Peter 5:8-10
2 Chronicles 32:7-8	Ephesians 6:13-15	
1 Corinthians 16:13	2 Timothy 2:1	

The Life of a Soldier

While there is no question that we are being called to the battle front, it is important to know going in that it won't be easy. Our weapons, our combat tactics, and our battles are different from those in a conventional war. We must remember this as we join the fight.

Romans 7:21-25	2 Corinthians 10:3-5	Philippians 3:7-9
Romans 8:17-18	Philippians 1:21	2 Timothy 2:3-4

Exemplary Soldiers

In the Bible, we can see several examples of model soldiers for Christ. It is important to note that these heroes were set apart not by their talents, skills or human wisdom, but by the fact that they fully trusted the Lord and readily acted on their faith.

Noah	Caleb	Esther
Genesis 6:5-8:1	Joshua 14:7-12	Esther 3:10-7:10

Moses	David	Mary
Exodus 14:9-14	1 Samuel 17:45-47	Luke 1:26-49

Our Standing Orders

As soldiers for Christ, we have been given standing orders. We are not to simply watch the battle. We are to advance on the enemy in a wholehearted effort to pierce the darkness with the light of Jesus through righteous living and through the sharing of God's Word. So don't just sit there... ATTACK!

Matthew 4:18-19	Mark 1:17	2 Corinthians 5:20
Matthew 9:37-38	Mark 16:14-15	2 Timothy 4:2
Matthew 22:8-9	Luke 10:2	
Matthew 28:18-20	John 4:35	

