

File 12 Adult VBS Base Conference

Purpose Statement

This two-hour plan is designed to train and equip leaders to conduct LifeWay's Adult VBS 2017 *Galactic Starveyors*.

Resources to Collect, Prepare, & Copy

Collect

- Focal Wall & Decorations
 - LifeWay's VBS 2017 Music CD
 - LifeWay's VBS 2017 Adult Starter Kit including the Adult Leader Guide, Learner Guide and Enhanced CD
 - LifeWay's VBS 2017 Catalog plus extras if available
 - Bible
 - Crayons-1 color for each adult
 - White sheet, clothesline, bright light, props like Bible costumes, hammer, cross and boards, rope
 - 3 large bags

Prepare

- Focal Wall & Decorations
 - Prepare room decorations as described on page 6 of Adult VBS 2017 Leader Guide
 - VBS Scripture
- Orbit
 - Theme music
 - Item 1 Syzygy—Fact or Fiction Copies
- Free Fall
 - Item 2 Copies
 - Item 3 Cardstock. Cut apart and place around the room with the corresponding Adult VBS 2017 Resource
 - Stargazing Station 1-Bible
 - Stargazing Station 2-Adult VBS 2017 Starter Kit
 - Stargazing Station 3-Adult VBS Learner Guide
 - Stargazing Station 4-Adult VBS 2017 Enhanced CD
- Observatory
 - Adult VBS Kit Items Displayed on Focal Wall
 - Bag 1
 - Learner Guide Page 23 Copies
 - Crayons
 - Bag 2
 - White sheet, clothesline, bright light, props like Bible costumes, hammer & nails, cross and boards, rope
 - Bag 3
 - Learner Guide
 - Bible

- VBS 2017 Catalog OPTIONAL: VBS Witnessing Item examples
- 6-Step
 - VBS 2017 Theme Music
- Escape Velocity
 - Small star bead or star cardstock shape for each adult

Copy

- All items on the Adult VBS 2017 Enhanced CD
- Item 1- Syzygy—Fact or Fiction-One for each adult participant
- Item 2- Adult VBS Stargazer Chart-One for each adult participant
- Item 3-Stargazing Station Cards-Copy on cardstock 1 set
- Learner Guide Page 23 Space Warp [Write, 'For Conference Use Only' at top of page]- One copy for each adult participant

Focal Wall Description

- Prepare focal wall using Adult VBS 2017 Kit Items as directed on the Adult Enhanced CD and information included on page 6 of the Adult VBS 2017 Leader Guide

Room Setup Description

- Work within the parameters dictated by your conference room, but allow room for a focal wall and easy movement of adults around the room.
- Set chairs in semi-circle around the focal wall and display tables.

Decoration Suggestions

- Review decorating ideas for Adult VBS 2017 found on page 6 of the *Adult Learner Guide, Decorating Made Easy* or the *Adult Enhanced CD*. Choose the decoration star level that best fits your conference space and budget.

Audio Visual Needs

- CD Player with speakers or electronic device to play soft background music
- Computer, projector and screen [optional] to show Adult Enhanced CD options.

Teaching Steps

1. Orbit-Welcome Activity (5 minutes)

- Play VBS theme music as leaders arrive.
- Begin on time by welcoming adults to your backyard for a special star gazing session!
- Encourage adults to begin searching the universe to reveal a partner who can help identify some galactic Facts or Fiction.
- Distribute Item 1 Syzygy—Fact or Fiction to each adult. Explain how each team should read the statement, discuss if the statement is a Space Fact or Fiction and then use the proved line to record a T for Fact or F for Fiction.
- Play VBS 2017 theme music while partners work.
- Call on different partners to discuss their answer and how they determined if the statement was a fact or fiction.

- Reveal the following answers [1.T; 2.F-Venus; 3. T; 4. T; 5. F-Venus & Uranus; 6. T; 7. T; 8. F-17 hours; 9. T; 10. T; 11. T; 12. T]
- Explain that during Session 2 of Galactic Starveyors VBS 2017, adults will participate in a similar get acquainted activity.
- Share that VBS 2017 is about a relationship and building relationships with adults during VBS is crucial to providing an opportunity to share your faith and the Gospel message.
- Refer to the Adult VBS Kit Items displayed on the Focal Wall and Say, “As adults search the night skies and God’s Word, they will uncover God’s truth etched in His handiwork.” Ask adults to repeat the Colossians 1:15-16 VBS Scripture as a Choral Reading. As follows:
 - Leader: He is the image of the invisible God
 - Adults: the first born over all creation.
 - Leader: For everything was created by Him,
 - Adults: in heaven and on earth
 - Leader: the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—
 - Adults: all things have been created through Him and for Him.
- Pray for the adults in the room to begin the session.

2. Free Fall-Adult Resources (25 minutes)

- Provide a copy of Item 2-Adult VBS Stargazing Chart for each adult. Encourage adults to orbit around to the different stargazer stations, record the Adult VBS resource that is located at the station, and any relevant information they might discover from other starveyors. After adults have filled their Stargazing Chart, have everyone find a seat and review the galactic connection to the Stargazing Station Resources for Adult VBS 2017.

Stargazing Station 1: The Bible-This is the essential textbook for leading Adults during VBS 2017. The relationship begins by opening, reading and studying! Each session has a Bible Passage, VBS Focal Scripture and a daily Bonus Verse.

Stargazing Station 2: Adult VBS 2017 Starter Kit-The cost is just \$24.99! It is the only way to purchase the Adult Leader Guide. It contains all of the kit items, reproducible leader guide, one Adult Learner Guide, and the Adult VBS Enhanced CD.

- Ask partners to exchange tips for organizing the kit and daily sessions and for making preparation as easy as possible. Call on a few partners to share their ideas.
- Remind leaders that one of the best ways to make preparation easier is to divide the workload. Lead a discussion on ways to enlist adult helpers who will take on various helper roles during the Adult VBS sessions. Examples include Small Group Leaders, Snack Leader, Recreation Leader, Craft Leader, Mission Leader, Outreach Leader and Promotional Leader. Another idea might be to enlist a different Adult Leader to teach each session. Encourage leaders to involve more adults in the planning and

implementation of Adult VBS 2015, which will then increase the attendance of adults at Vacation Bible School!

- When you involve more adults in the Adult VBS Ministry, you will need to train these new leaders! Discuss ways to equip the new leaders to conduct a successful VBS. Include regional VBS training, church meetings, LifeWay VBS Blog, lifeway.com/vbs and ministrygrid.com as sources for additional ideas and help. Ask leaders to share some of the techniques they use to prepare VBS leaders in their own church.

Stargazing Station 3: Adult VBS Learner Guide-Used each day of Adult VBS. You need one per adult.

- Great interactive material is included in the book.
- Highlight the Ser-veyor ideas located on the last page of each session. [pages 10, 16, 22, 28, 34] and lead a discussion how these ideas might be used in churches to build relationships with adults, spark new ministries, reach the unchurched, or challenge existing members. Ask leaders to share other service ministry idea from their own community.
- The cost of the Adult Learner Guide is \$2.79 each.

Stargazing Station 4: Adult VBS 2017 Enhanced CD-This item is only available in the Adult Starter Kit and so the cost is \$0.

- Use a computer to show all of the many features available on the Enhanced CD or use a printed copy to illustrate all of the available resources. Show adults how to easily navigate the CD and play music as well as print material.
- Show examples of Adult VBS Extras including Crafts, Recreation, and Service Ideas
- Point out the 5-session Parenting Workshop that is included as a free resource on the Enhanced CD. Lead the group to brainstorm what church leader could best use this free resource and how it could be used in their church to attract new unchurched families. OPTION: Make copies of the Parenting sessions and have adults get in small groups to review each session.

3. Bible Study Observatory (65 minutes)

- Review the VBS Bible Study sessions adults will study during VBS 2017 using the Adult VBS Kit Item Display on the focal wall. Explain how the Kit Items are assembled and revealed.
- Explain how the five, two-hour teaching plans are designed and how the time is divide for each session
 - Orbit (Registration and Refreshments, 10 minutes)
 - Free Fall (Get Acquainted, 20 minutes)
 - Visual Magnitude (Create Interest, 10 minutes)
 - Observatory (Bible Study, 50 minutes)
 - Gravitational Pull (Application, 25 minutes)
 - Escape Velocity (Closing, 5 minutes)
- Encourage adults to customize the material to fit the needs of their church by touching on these sparkling options:

- If your Adult VBS is shorter than two hours consider the following options:
 - Each session has multiple steps.
 - Shorten or eliminate steps to fit the time you need.
- If your Adult VBS is longer than two hours consider the following options:
 - Add theme-related crafts and/or recreation.
 - Rotate to Missions.
 - Add a worship time just for adults or join all ages for a family worship experience.
 - Add a service project to VBS 2017 using some of the ideas in the Adult Learner Guide. Concentrate on building relationships at every session and activity.
- Divide the adults into three teams. Explain that each team will telescope in on 3 key parts of Session 3-The Relationship Restored.
- Give one resource bag containing Free Fall, Observatory, and Gravitational Pull resources from Session 3.
- Allow time for the teams to read the information in the Session 3 Teaching Plan.
- Let each team teach the other adults their section of the lesson. Adapt teaching plan to fit the time available. Adults can choose to describe what is happening in the session, act out what is happening in the session, or simulate teaching the other adults the session.
- Allow time for each team to participate. Debrief after each team has done their part of the teaching plan. Lead a discussion on how the plan might be adapted for a small church or large church venue.
- Discuss adaptations to the plan for a seeker Adult VBS group or if the session was taught to other adult VBS teachers as they prepared for VBS.
- Reveal some of the other witnessing tools for VBS 2017 found on page 56 and 57 of the VBS 2017 Catalog.

4. 6-step Adult VBS (15 minutes)

- Review the 6-Steps of planning, promoting and hosting an incredible Adult VBS using the VBS 2017 theme song and playing Cosmic Rotation. When the music stops, adults will find a person and share ideas from past VBS experiences as you shout out questions. Use the following list to help adults discuss the 6-step VBS for adults:
 - Step 1-Know Your Purpose
 - Why does your church have Adult VBS?
 - Step 2-Start Planning
 - Share a planning strategy you have used to conduct a successful VBS.
 - Step 3-Enlist and Train Workers
 - Reveal you best enlistment tip.
 - How do you get workers to attend training?
 - Step 4-Promote and Publicize
 - How will you promote Galactic Starveyors to Adults?
 - When will you begin your promotions?
 - Step 5-Register Participants
 - How does your church register adults?
 - Step 6-Continue the Connection-
 - When does your church begin continuing the connection?

- What was one great idea your church had last year for Continuing the Connection?

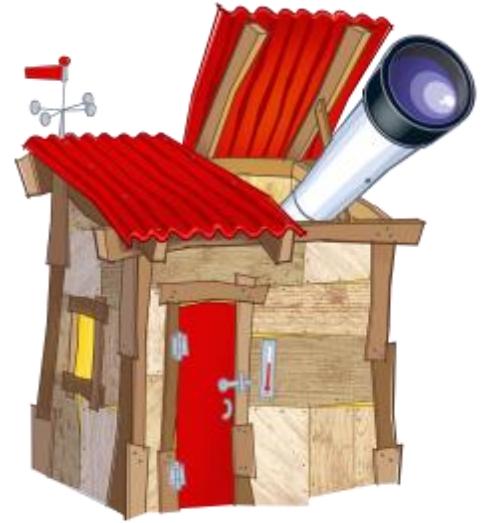
5. Escape Velocity-Closing (10 minutes)

- Allow leaders to share ideas they discovered during the Cosmic Rotation.
- Challenge leaders to try a new tool or new idea for Continuing the Connect during VBS 2017.
- Give each adult a star bead or paper punch. Close the training session by reading the Psalm 147:4. Say, "God already knows the names of the adults who will come to your VBS this summer! He knows their joys and their deepest despairs. He also wants a relationship with each and every adult in your classroom. As you use the information from this conference to plan and prepare, take out this small star, think for the adults in your church and in your community and then take the time to prepare for VBS by praying."
- Pray for the leaders before they leave the room.
- Make yourself available for question following the training. Don't begin packing to leave until all leaders have left the room.
- Spend time praying for each of the leaders who attended the Adult VBS Training session before you exit the room.

Item 1

Syzygy—Fact or Fiction

Instructions: Work with a partner to determine if the following statements are space fact or fiction.



1. The Sun is over 300,000 times larger than earth.

2. Mercury is the hottest planet in our solar system with a surface temperature of over 450° Celsius or 842° Fahrenheit.

3. Footprints and tire tracks left behind by astronauts on the moon will stay there forever as there is no wind to blow them away.

4. Uranus is the only planet that rotates on its side like a barrel.

5. Mars is the only planet that spins backwards relative to the others.

6. It is because of the Sun and Moon's gravity that we have high and low tides.

7. Pluto is smaller than the earth's moon.

8. A single night on Uranus lasts 51 years.

9. We know more about space than the deepest part of the ocean.

10. If you shouted in space even if someone was right next to you they wouldn't be able to hear you.

11. Astronauts cannot burp in space.

12. There is an estimated 2×10^{23} stars in space. In English, this is: 200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000!



Item 2

Adult VBS Stargazing Chart

Instructions: Record the Adult VBS Resource found at each Stargazer Station. Closely observe and record any changes you or the other Starveyors discover!

<p>Stargazing Station 1</p>	<p>Stargazing Station 2</p>
<p>Stargazing Station 3</p>	<p>Stargazing Station 4</p>

Item 3 Stargazing Station Signs



Stargazing Station 1



Stargazing Station 2



Stargazing Station 3



Stargazing Station 4