



for Students with Special Needs

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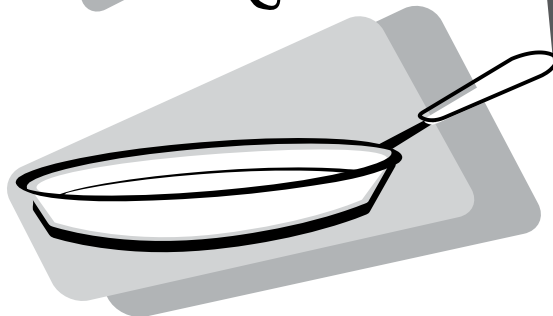
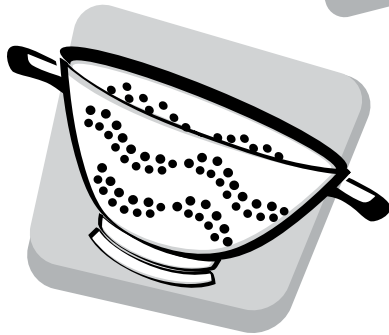
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Students With Special Needs

All children are welcome! God created each one of us with a variety of abilities and disabilities that leaders need to take into consideration when planning Vacation Bible School.

These challenges may create difficulties in understanding material quickly or may require adaptations to the physical environment. You may have children/students who need structure and routine or children who have a difficult time relating to other children and adults. However, all children, regardless of their limitations, are children of God who need to experience the love of Jesus Christ through caring adults

Gathering and Closing

Times at the Picnic Spot

When you design the Picnic Spot, keep in mind that it will be used for the opening and closing of your day. It will also serve as “chill out” or relaxation area as needed by individual students throughout the session. Prepare a picnic basket with materials such as packing bubbles, a stuffed animal, play dough, books, puzzles that relate to the lessons for the session. Have those items available and keep them in the Picnic Spot. Students will use these materials to help them to relax if they become over stimulated.

Visual Aids

When you prepare the visual aids for each day, it is recommended to use the color of the day in the text and or mounting background to reinforce the connection throughout the day.

Scheduling

Devise a schedule for each session that uses words and or pictures to represent the various activities. When students know what to expect next, anxiety is reduced. As much as possible, attempt to follow the same routine during each session. If it becomes necessary to deviate from the schedule, give as much advance warning as possible. Avoid putting the times for each activity; some students will become anxious if the time for an activity is shortened or lengthened beyond what is posted.

Transitions

Transitional times can be stressful. A supportive technique is to give a “two minute warning” and then a gradual countdown to prepare students for the next activity.

“Fidgets”

The use of “fidgets” is encouraged. Many students with special needs benefit from having something in their hands when they are being asked to focus. For each session, you will find a suggested “fidget” that, reflects the session theme. However, if preferred, the same simple stress ball, textured cloth, etc. might be offered for each session. For a small number of students, the use of “fidgets” might be distracting. However, when given clear directions about their use, most students respond well.

Hands-On Help

There might be students in your classroom who require “hand over help” with crafts or other activities. Involve them in the process as much as possible. For example, if you are going to color for them, show your students two colors and have them indicate which one you are going to use.

Students Who Are Nonverbal

Students who are nonverbal would benefit from a communication board or cards with options such as YES/NO; A,B,C,D,E,F; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; and swatches of colors. Use this communication tool when they are answering questions, playing games, and so forth.

Design review questions that can be answered either with a simple yes or no response or give two choices for the answer (a or b). These adaptations would also benefit any children in your class that might be functioning on a lower cognitive level by giving them a greater opportunity for success.

Most students who are nonverbal enjoy music while others are singing, provide a bell bracelet, scarf, or shaker for them to use.

Auditory and Visual Adaptation

Simple adaptations may be necessary if you have a student who is hearing or visually challenged to increase the use of their preferred sense. The use of a “buddy” is encouraged to facilitate their involvement in activities. The teacher or buddy is encouraged to facilitate their involvement in activities. The teacher or buddy will need to look at each activity and decide whether to add visual clues (such as pictures or actual items), hand over hand assistance, or auditory cues (such as words or actual items) to allow for full participation.

Adults with Special Needs

With the exceptions of some songs and games, most of the activities described in this curriculum could be used in a classroom of adult special learners. It would be more age-appropriate to focus on one or two songs from the Shake It Up Complete Music CD over the course of VBS. Most adult learners would not need fidgets. They may wish to undertake a week long craft, such as designing a cookbook or scrapbook that combines recipes with pictures and a summary of the lessons used in VBS.

Missions

Missions can be introduced in the large group setting or added to one of your other times. The Shake It Up curriculum provides a mission component, or your church may choose to address a local mission project.

General Tips for Teachers

- ☞ Use teaching methods that allow students to see, talk, listen, touch, move, smell, and taste while making sure the room is safe and ready for play.
- ☞ Ignore harmless annoying behaviors. Often a touch on the shoulder or a pat on the knee will help calm a child who is disruptive.
- ☞ Give simple directions and only one direction at a time.
- ☞ Provide an atmosphere of love, care, and respect and a positive attitude that nurtures all children.

Tips for Recreation Leaders

- ☞ Review the games and determine what adaptations need to be made. For example, add a bell to the inside of a ball if you have a child with a visual impairment. Adapt the game for a child who is unable to walk or run.
- ☞ Ask questions to make sure that the children understand how to play the game.

Tips for Discovery Leaders

- ☞ Provide a visual, step-by-step guide illustrating the different steps of the experiment.
- ☞ Announce a two-minute warning before the activity ends to accommodate a smooth transition between activities.

Tips for Music Leaders

- ☞ Use sign language and motions while singing.
- ☞ Use song charts with the words. When needed, provide words of the song in large print or Braille.

Tips for Craft Leaders

- ☞ Provide additional assistance with cutting, pasting, and other tasks required to complete the craft project. Be sure to foster independence by allowing the students to complete as many tasks as possible.

Tips for Snack Leaders

- ☞ Ask parents if their child has a food allergy. If so, serve an alternative snack. You can prepare a different snack for that particular child or serve snacks that all children can eat.
- ☞ Be aware that some students can have severe allergic reactions to certain foods or food products, such as peanuts, without ingesting the food.

See pages 136-137 in the Directors’s books for additional tips for working with students with special needs.

Today's Special Exodus 13:3-10

Israelites celebrate Passover (Exodus 13:3-10)

Bible Bite

"Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!" Psalm 27:14

Secret Ingredient

Be Ready for God!
Shake it up!

Color of the day

Orange

Materials

- picnic basket
- baked bread scented candle
- relaxation items such as play dough, puzzle, book, stuffed animal, stress ball, small wrapping poppies, drawing paper and markers, individual CD player with earphones
- Complete Music CD
- CD Player
- bread baskets
- bread
- recipe cards
- digital kitchen timer
- Menu Board schedule
- heavy cream, salt and container for butter making

Use the leader books from the Shake It Up Cafe Starter Kit to assist you with these lessons.

Gathering Time

Each day the gathering time will begin at **Picnic Spot**.

Preparation

- Decorate a corner of the room as a quiet picnic spot including a basket of fresh bread.
- Prepare picnic basket with relaxation items.
- Light a baked bread scented candle.
- Prepare a bread basket filled with recipe cards. Place a name of an adult or child on each card.
- Design a Menu Board that reflects the day's schedule in pictures and words.

I'm so excited about Shake It Up VBS. We're going to be cooking up new creations and shaking up our lives to be better followers of God.

This is the spot in our room where we will begin and end each day. It is a quiet place like a picnic spot. Do you see the creek and the soft green grass? I see a picnic basket and it looks like someone is all ready to eat! Mmm, sniff - do you smell something yummy? (Let children respond.) Look, what do you see?(Let children respond.) Yes, it looks like freshly baked bread! Now all we need is some butter! Let's make some butter!

What ingredients do you think we need? (Let children respond.) Yes, butter is made from a special part of milk called the cream. (Pour cream into container.) We can add a little dash of salt for flavor. (Add

salt and seal the container.) Now everyone needs to work together so we can make butter. To help us do that we need to learn the names of people in our class. We'll pass a bread basket filled with recipe cards around the circle. We'll use our kitchen timer and some music to add to the fun. We'll pass the basket while our helper sets the kitchen timer. (Have helper set timer for different times between 10 and 30 seconds.) When the timer goes off, whoever has the basket reaches in and pulls out a recipe card. Show us the name on it and the person named will shake the container for thirty seconds. While they are shaking, we will sing a special song. It goes like this:

(Sing to the tune of "This Is the Way." Wave hands in the air.)

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up. This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

When singing the next verse, add person's name who is shaking. Add a verse for each person - pointing to person to remind children whose name to sing. Repeat verses.

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up. This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

Remember, we can't stop shaking!

Complete the activity to prepare the butter while learning names. See recipe in Preschool/Kindergarten, Discovery Time Leader book or Elementary Children Leader's book. Note that children who are lactose

intolerant can participate in the shaking, but provide jam for them to eat with their bread. Invite the children to enjoy their bread and butter while you share the following and review picture/word schedule.

Did you know that shaking cream in a container would make butter? Shaking things up brought about a new creation. During each session of Shake It Up VBS, we're going to learn an ingredient to help you shake up your life to carry out God's plan.

During the day, if you need a place to be quiet for a little while, you are welcome to come to the picnic spot to relax. There are some items in this basket that would help you relax. We'll start and end each day at this site. Now let's check our Menu Board to see what we'll be doing the rest of the day. Review picture/word schedule for the day with children.

Let's move over to our Kitchen a la King area. That's where we'll learn how food was an important part of the lives of people in Bible times. We'll see what these people have to teach us about living for God. Why don't we sing our Shake It Up song while we're moving? This time we can wiggle our whole bodies to Shake It Up! Sing while moving to the area prepared for Bible Study.

Bible Story

Preparation

- ☐ Decorate an area of the room like a Bible times kitchen as described in Elementary Children Leader's book.
- ☐ Prepare a baggie of dough for each child. See Bible Storyteller or Elementary Classroom Leader book for recipe.
- ☐ Write review questions on laminated pictures of kitchen items.

Secret Ingredient

In our assembly time, we learned a secret ingredient. Each day we will focus on an ingredient to help us live the way God wants us to live. We call these ingredients "secret ingredients," but they're not really a secret at all. In fact, God wants everyone to know them! Listen to me say today's secret ingredient: "Be ready for God." When you hear someone say the secret ingredient, I want you to respond with "Shake It Up" and shake your body like we learned for our song earlier. When we're seated, we'll just wave our hands. Okay? Let's practice.

That was great! Now let's learn a secret sign that will help us remember the secret ingredient! This is the sign for the word "ready." Cross your fingers and arms in front of your chest. Then open your arms while keeping your fingers crossed. Let's practice.

Throughout the day, let's show each other that sign to remind us how to carry out God's word. Okay, remember- what's the secret ingredient? That's right - "Be ready for God!" Good, you used the secret sign! And then what - that's right, "Shake It Up!"

Attention Getter

Today we are going to hear a story about preparing for a special celebration. Our special word of the day is WAIT. Today's Bible story is going to tell us about a time when the Israelites had to wait but also be ready for God. Yes, that's it: "Be ready for God. Shake It Up!" You remembered the secret sign!!! Good for you!

When we celebrate birthdays, we have cake and candles. Do you like to blow out the candles? I do. Let's blow out these candles together. Blow out candles and get ready to move on to story. Candles will relight if you use trick

Materials

- ☐ Session One Secret Ingredient Poster from the Decorating Poster Pak
- ☐ Word of the day poster WAIT
- ☐ Attention getter - play dough "cake" with trick
- ☐ candles, matches
- ☐ one baggie of dough per child
- ☐ toothpicks
- ☐ Bible story poster for Session One
- ☐ Bibles and orange bookmarks
- ☐ laminated pictures of kitchen items with review questions printed on back
- ☐ Shake It Up Music CD and CD player

Materials

candles available at most grocery stores. **Oh my, what happened? I thought we blew them out. Let's try again.** Blow out the candles and wait - several should relight again. Encourage children to wait each time to see if the candles relight until all candles **are extinguished.** **Sometimes it is hard to wait, but that time waiting was fun. We waited to see which candles would light up again! We had to be ready to blow but wait until the right time! Let's hear that Bible story.**

Bible Story

In today's Bible story, we will hear how God wanted the Israelites to have a celebration where they eat only thin or unleavened bread. We'll learn what that big word means in our story. While you are listening, you can have a piece of dough to hold. You can knead the dough while you are listening. To knead it, push the dough forward with the heel of the palm of your hand, then use your fingers to pull the dough back over itself. (Demonstrate.)

Share the Bible story using either the Bible Storyteller leader book or the Preschool/Kindergarten leader book or a combination of these books. You might ask the children to listen for the word "ready" in the story and either make the secret sign or hold up their dough whenever they hear it.

At the end of the story, lead the children in using their dough to make a sample of matzo bread as described in the Bible Storyteller leader book or Preschool book. Set aside to dry and take home as a story reminder.

Bible Wrap-Up

The Bible story today came from the book of Exodus. Let's put an orange bookmark in our Bibles there. Help children find the book of Exodus by giving page number. It is helpful to have a classroom set of Bibles so that all have the same. On the last day, the children should be given the Bibles to take home.

In today's Bible story, we heard how God wanted the Israelites to have a celebration where they eat only thin or unleavened bread. The key to making this bread is to be ready by having all of the ingredients and supplies gathered together. If they worked quickly the bread would be unleavened. Who remembers what that word means? (Let children respond.) Yes, thin without rising.

Remember that God wanted the Israelites to be ready to leave right away. They were so ready, they ate their meal with their coats on, walking sticks in hand. They listened to God.

Here is today's Bible story poster. In our Bible story we heard that God told the Israelites to make a meal from some meat, some vegetable, and a special kind of bread called unleavened bread or thin bread. Can you find the unleavened bread? What do you see the people doing? Why were the people making this meal? Yes, they were getting ready for the Passover meal. To help us remember how the Israelites were ready for this special meal, let's say today's secret ingredient. Remember the secret sign! "Be ready for God. Shake it up!"

Bible Story Review

Modify the Kids in the Kitchen response game found in the Preschool/Kindergarten book to review the story. Scatter on the floor mounted pictures of kitchen items. Write review questions on the backs of the pictures. Have the children walk around the pictures while you play from the Complete Music CD. When the music stops, children step on a picture. You call out the name of one of the kitchen items. The child standing on it picks up the picture and reads the review question aloud for the group to answer. (Offer the option of having a teacher read the question.) Remind the children that they need to wait patiently on their picture when the music stops just like the Israelites did so they will be ready to answer the question.

Sample review questions

1. **What was the name of the special people group in our story?**
2. **What had God promised to do?**
3. **What was the last thing God wanted them to do in their old home?**
4. **Did the Israelites sit down to eat this meal or stand up?**
5. **When did the people move?**
6. **When the Israelites celebrate this special time that God cared for them, what do they eat?**
7. **How did the Israelites stay ready?**

(These questions are based on the story format from the Preschool/Kindergarten Leader book. Modify if you use the older children's version. You may choose to give two possible answers for each question and make at least one question a yes/no answer.)

Prayer

God had a plan for the Israelites, but God needed them to be ready to go! We need to be ready too. That's right! You showed me the secret sign. "Be ready for God! Shake it up!"

We can make choices that will help us know God so we can be ready for whatever God needs us to do. You can get ready by reading your Bible, coming to church and praying to God. These are all ways to get to know God better. You never know when God will call you, so be ready! Let's talk to God right now.

Have children repeat each phrase after you.

**Dear God,
I want to be ready to do what you want me to do.
Amen.**

Alternatively, lead the response prayer as suggested on page 17 of the Bible Storyteller book.

Materials

Bible Bite

- ☞ slice of bread shaped papers
- ☞ mixing bowls
- ☞ Bible Bite poster for Session One
- ☞ Scripture Treasures for Session One
- ☞ chili powder sample

Teacher Tip

It is best to use this Bible Bite Activity after Snack Time and before the Carryout Time!

Bible Bite Activity

Preparation

- ☞ Write one phrase from the verse on each sheet of bread-shaped paper. Include the scripture reference on another sheet. Make two sets.
- ☞ Tape one set on the wall and another set on the bottom of mixing bowls. Place Scripture Treasures in mixing bowls.

“Wait for the Lord; /be strong,/ and let your heart/ take courage;/ wait for the Lord!” /Psalm 27:14.

This Bible Bite is like a sandwich. It has the same words at the beginning and the end, like slices of bread around the filling of a sandwich. Let's play a game to help us learn it.

Encourage children to take turns tossing a beanbag into the mixing bowls. Whenever a beanbag lands in a bowl, reveal the phrase underneath. Remove that phrase from the Bible verse on the wall and lead children in repeating the verse - filling in the phrase that was removed. The Scripture Treasure in the bowl is given to the child.

Continue in this pattern until all the phrases have been removed from the wall and students can recite the Bible verse with you.

Modify this if you have more than six children in your class. You might choose to use page 16 in the Bible Storyteller book to teach sign language for the Bible Bite.

In our Bible story today, the Israelites knew they had to wait for God to give them instructions to leave. God wanted them to be ready. Great job! You remembered the secret sign! Do you think it was hard to wait?

Today's Bible Bite gives us this message. Wait for the Lord and be strong and courageous. If God is going to call you to do something, then God will be with you and you will be strong. Waiting helps us be ready for God!

Does being strong mean we need to have big muscles? No, we can be strong in our faith by being ready for God and trusting God to take care of our needs. It is just like this special spice I brought today. It is chili powder. Would you like to smell it or taste it? This seasoning comes from a chili pepper. You don't need much to put a lot of flavor in your food. Like chili powder, strong faith in God goes a long way.

Option

If you set up the science experiment earlier, return to check on the balloon now.

Wow, the flat bread we made earlier reminds us of how God wanted the Israelites to be ready to go. But this experiment with yeast reminds us of what it means to grow closer to God. The yeast needed to combine with other ingredients to make the balloon or bread rise. That's just like us. We need to study the Bible, learn from others and be in prayer. That's how we learn to follow the recipe for how to live the way God wants us to live.

Recreation Time

Chef Says

- ☞ Use suggestion from the Pre-school book. See page 9.

Restaurant Roundup

Modify game from the Recreation Leader book on page 6 to make it cooperative rather than competitive.

Preparation

- ☞ Hide multiple kitchen items around the room.

Children sit in a circle. Set kitchen timer for a reasonable time. Call out an item and a child's name. The child runs to find the item as quickly as possible and bring it back to the circle. The item must then be passed all the way around the circle before being placed in the basket. Children find as many items as possible before the timer goes off. Reset timer and find remainder of items.

Wow, you did a great job! You had to be ready when your name was called and you had to listen to know what to find. Even if you were really excited to take your turn, you still paid close attention so that you were ready to go. In today's Bible story, God told the Israelites to be ready to leave on a moment's notice but they didn't know exactly when. You can imagine their excitement! We can share this excitement as we wait to see what God is going to do in our lives. All we have to do is be ready and waiting for God's instructions! Yes - the secret sign!!!

Materials

Recreation Time

Chef Says

No materials needed.

Restaurant Roundup (for one team)

- ☞ basket
- ☞ apron
- ☞ chef's hat
- ☞ two oven mits
- ☞ dish towel
- ☞ plastic nesting measuring cups
- ☞ plastic measuring spoons
- ☞ ladle
- ☞ wooden spoon
- ☞ spatula

Craft Time

Consult the Craft Leader for these materials.

Materials

Discovery Time

- ☐ large rubber balloon
- ☐ pitcher or mixing bowl with a spout
- ☐ 1 package (1/4 oz.) rapid rise yeast
- ☐ 2 tablespoons sugar
- ☐ 1 cup warm water (120 F-130 F)
- ☐ slow cooker (optional)
- ☐ plastic spoon
- ☐ empty plastic one-pint water bottle
- ☐ small funnel

Craft Time

Consult the Craft Leader for these materials.

Discovery Time

Use suggestion for yeast expansion experiment on page 6 in Discovery Time leader book. Set up the demonstration and allow the balloon to inflate while you teach the Bible Bite activity.

Craft Time

Use suggestions from the Craft Leader for Session One crafts options or this other alternative.

Craft Stick Bread Basket

In a self-contained special needs classroom, there will most likely be a wide range of fine motor skills among the children. You may wish to offer a more advanced craft that would take several days to complete for some of your students. An example would be a bread basket from craft sticks and glue. The directions can be found at www.instructables.com.

Snack Time

Choose an appropriate snack based on the allergies, dietary restrictions or other needs of the children in your class. See Preschool/Kindergarten leader book for suggestions.

Carryout Time

Preparation

- ☐ Make two copies of each day's key words on index cards and tape to posterboard. Suggested words to include are WAIT, READY, SHAKE IT UP, BREAD, BUTTER, ISRAELITES.
- ☐ Cover one set of the key words with food-shaped papers labeled with letters (A,B,C,D,E,F) and the other set with papers labeled with numbers (1,2,3,4,5,6). Attach with paper clips.

Our last part of the time at the Shake It Up Cafe will be called our Carryout Time. It will be our time to carry out some of the things we have learned today and use them at home or at school!

Our first day at Shake It Up VBS is almost over. I sure had fun and I hope you did too. Have you figured out why our VBS is called Shake It Up? I think it is because we need to shake up our lives when we follow God. God wants us to make changes in the way we live and in the things we do. Sometimes the changes are easy to make and sometimes they're hard.

Today we heard a Bible story from the book of Exodus that told us about the time when the Israelites celebrated Passover. The Israelites were ready to go when God said go! Did I say ready? Yes! "Be Ready for God. Shake it Up!" And you remembered the secret sign. Teach that phrase and sign to your family. Share it with your friends too.

We heard how God wanted them to remember the meal by celebrating a special festival where they ate only thin bread without yeast. Anytime you eat a cracker or a tortilla or some other bread that is flat, remember that God loves and is taking care of you! Let's repeat our Bible verse one more time. Say it with me. "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! Psalm 27:14. What was our special word of the day? WAIT!

Now I have a challenge for you. You know how you often leave a restaurant with carryout food? Well, I'm going to give you a carryout challenge based on each ingredient in our recipe. Take a look at everything you do in a day and see if you can find a special time in your day when you can talk to God. At our next session, plan to tell me when you decided your special "God time" will be. It doesn't have to be a long time, just a special time.

Let's review our day with a fun game. Have children choose one letter and one number at a time to uncover and attempt to match the words. Discuss.

Let's move back to our Picnic Spot to wait for our parents or other family members. I have some fun pages for you to work on while you are waiting.

Offer activities from Reproducible Fun Pages related to Session One that are appropriate for your students' abilities and ages.

Materials

- ☐ index cards
- ☐ posterboard
- ☐ paper clips
- ☐ markers
- ☐ food shaped note pads (available at local teachers' stores)
- ☐ Reproducible Fun Pages (Younger and Older Chef)

Teacher Tip

If you have nonreaders, use picture cues along with the words. Another option is to use a different color pen for each pair of words - nonreaders can remember and match the colors.

Teacher Tip

It is best to use the Bible Bite Activity from page 8 before the Carryout Time!

Today's Special Leviticus 23

Bible Bite

"Don't forget to do good and to share what you have, because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices!"

Hebrews 13:16

Secret Ingredient

Be Ready for God!
Shake it up!

Color of the day

Green

Materials

- ☐ plastic spoons labeled with children's names
- ☐ paper mixing bowl
- ☐ sunglasses
- ☐ blindfold

Festival celebrations for the israelites (Leviticus 23)

Gathering Time

Each day the gathering time will begin at **Picnic Spot**.

Preparation

- ☐ Move the visual aids used in Session One from the Bible story area to the picnic spot area in order to review the session's teachings.
- ☐ Label spoons with children's names.
- ☐ Draw a large mixing bowl from craft paper.
- ☐ Cover lens of sunglasses with construction paper.

Welcome back to Shake It Up VBS! Each session we're discovering a new secret ingredient that helps us shake up our lives to be better followers of God. We had so much fun last time! Let's review.

(Review the Secret Ingredient, Word of the Day and Bible Bite from Session One, pointing to each one in turn.) **You had a special challenge to complete when you went home. Can someone share when you decided your special "God time" will be?**

Review today's schedule with the children. **Well, all of that looks like so much fun, I'm certainly ready to get started today. What's that? You did the sign for "ready." You are so smart!!! That's right! We need to Be Ready for God! Did you know that just by coming to VBS you're being ready for God? You're learning about God to be**

ready whenever God may call you.

Today we are going to hear another story about a special celebration. Remember in yesterday's story, God told the Israelites to make a special kind of bread to help them remember and celebrate the time when God moved them to a special land. Today's story is about the festivals and celebrations that God wanted the Israelites to have when they got to their new home. Festival is a fancy name for party. Sounds like fun, doesn't it? When I go to a party, I like to play games and eat. One of my favorite games is Pin the Tail on the Donkey. How about you? Since our VBS theme is about food, let's play Put the Spoon in the Mixing Bowl.

Lead children to play the game using plastic spoons and a paper mixing bowl. Children who do not wish to use a blindfold may use sunglasses that have been covered so the child can not see or just close their eyes.

Remember, today's story is going to be about a special festival or party.

Does anyone remember the song we learned yesterday about Shake It Up? Let's sing it again as we move over to the Kitchen a la King for our Bible study. Remember to wiggle your whole body as you shake it up!

(Sing to the tune of "This Is the Way." Wave hands in the air.)

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up,

shake it up.

This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

Bible Story

Preparation

- ☐ Place cards and rocks in small lunch bags - one for each child and adult. Some bags will have multiple items, some will have one, and some will have none.

Secret Ingredient

In our assembly time, we learned a new secret ingredient. Remember we call these ingredients "secret ingredients," but they're not really a secret at all. God wants everyone to know them! Does anyone remember the new secret ingredient? That's right - "Give Happily to God!" And what is the response - yes, "Shake It Up!" Let's practice.

That was great! Now let's learn a secret sign that will help us remember the secret ingredient! This is the sign for the word give. Close your fingers with the thumb on top of your other fingers. Make sure your palm is up. Move your hand forward. Let's practice. Throughout the day, let's show each other that sign to remind us how to carry out God's word. And remember - HOW do we give? That's right - Happily! So put on a BIG smile when you say it! Okay, remember- what's the secret ingredient? That's right - "Give Happily to God!" Good, you used the secret sign! And then what? That's right "Shake It Up!"

Attention Getter

Today we are going to hear another story about some special celebrations. Our special word of the day is SHARE. Today's Bible

story is going to tell us about a time when the Israelites gave thanks to God by sharing some of what God gave them. Do you like to share? Sometimes it is easy, like giving away old clothes when we're outgrown them. The shake up comes when we give away something we would really like to keep. Let's practice that now.

(Give out the bags that you have prepared. Ask children and adults to look into their bags and take out what is in them. Giving bags to adults may make it easier for the children to share. Adults can take the lead if necessary.)

Okay, now we can get ready to tell the story because everyone has two barley cards, two bread cards and two grapes cards. Right? Oh no, did I make a mistake when I put the items in the bags? Everyone needs two of each card but some people have more than one and some folks don't have any. And some folks have rocks with little smiles on them. What do you think we should do? Do you think we could put them all together and make sure that everyone has what they need? (Lead children to share until everyone has two cards of each food item and a happy rock.) Was it hard to share when you really wanted to keep them all?

That kind of gift is called a sacrifice. It is when we give away something we still want but choose to do without. That's why you each have a happy rock. Keep it in your pocket to remind you to give happily. Remember, when you sacrifice, give happily! Don't give something away and then complain or be in a bad mood. Remember the secret ingredient. "Give happily to God! Shake it up!" That's it - you remembered the secret sign! Let's hear how the Israelites thanked God by giving happily.

Materials

- ☐ Secret Ingredient Poster for Session Two
- ☐ Word of the Day poster - SHARE
- ☐ Attention getter - Lunch bags, two cards for each person of barley, grapes and bread (from page 101 in *Preschool book*), small rock with happy face for each person
- ☐ sample recipe card
- ☐ basket with seeds
- ☐ Bible story poster for Session Two
- ☐ Bibles and green bookmarks
- ☐ lyrics to "Give Happily" written on posterboard (from page 48 in *Preschool book*)

Materials

Bible Story

In today's Bible story, we will hear how God gives the Israelites some special instructions to follow, just like chefs follow a recipe card.

Share the Bible story using Preschool/Kindergarten book. You might ask the children to listen for the phrase "give happily" in the story and either make the secret sign or hold up their happy rock when they hear it.

Bible Wrap-Up

The Bible story today came from the book of Leviticus. Let's put a green bookmark in our Bibles there. (Help children find the book of Leviticus by giving page number.) Today we heard about three festivals or parties God wanted the Israelites to celebrate. God wanted the Israelites to show their love for God by giving away some of what they had. But the Israelites were not sad when they brought their food to the temple. They gave happily!

Let's look at today's Bible story poster. In our Bible story we heard how God gave the Israelites everything they needed, so the Israelites worshiped God. Do these people seem happy or sad? Yes, they do look happy! Because they were happy, they sang and played instruments. Can you name the animals in the picture? Let's look at the background. I see something that the Israelites planted. Can you find it? Yes, that's the wheat they planted. The Israelites showed their love to God by following God's recipe and giving some of what they had. They gave happily! Yes, remember the secret sign! "Give happily to God. Shake It Up!"

Bible Story Review

I know a fun song that we can sing to help us remember about today's story and secret ingredient. I think you will recognize the tune. Let's sing.

Sing the following to the tune of "Do You Know the Muffin Man?"

**Give happily with what you have,
with what you have,
with what you have.
Give happily with what you have,
for this is pleasing to God.**

Play response game Kind Kids in the Preschool/Kindergarten leader book on page 39.

Prayer

God asked the Israelites to give back to God a part of what they had. This giving wasn't a punishment. Instead, it was a way of thanking God for loving us. God asks the same of us today. Everything we have is a blessing from God, and God wants us to give back by sharing those blessings with other people. Can you think of some ways we can give back to God? Lead the children to answer. Giving something you can see (money or toys) or giving something you can't see (your time, share a special skill, give kind words to someone who is sad.) **The key to giving is to do it cheerfully. Give as a way to thank God with a smile and a happy heart! Let's talk to God right now. Have children repeat each phrase after you.**

Dear God,

**Help me to give happily
and show that I love you.
Amen.**

Alternatively, lead the response prayer as suggested on page 27 of the Bible Storyteller leader book.

Bible Bite Activity

Preparation

☞ Tear or cut dark green paper to look like lettuce bites, light green paper to look like cucumber slices and red paper to look like tomato wedges. You will need seven salad ingredients for each child in your class. Write one phrase or word from the verse and scripture reference - see suggested phrases below- on each ingredient.

☞ Make an additional set of salad ingredients and tape on the wall.

**“Don’t forget/to do good/and/ to share/ what you have.”
Hebrews /13:16**

Living a life that pleases God is what we should try to do every single day. From today’s story, we know that God is happy when we share happily with others. Even if our giving is a sacrifice that makes us sad, knowing that it pleases God can take the sadness away. Because our story has to do with food, I thought we would learn today’s Bible Bite by serving a tossed salad. Let’s play a game to help us learn it.

Give each child a paper plate for their “salad.” Take turns coming to the salad bowl and use the tongs to take out an ingredient. Remove that phrase from the Bible verse on the wall and lead children in repeating the verse filling in the phrase that was removed. If the child needs the word or phrase, he/she puts it on his paper plate. If not, he /she shares with another child who does not have that phrase yet. Continue in this pattern until all of the children have the ingredients to make the complete verse.

Put ingredients in correct order on each plate and share glue sticks. Give out Scripture Treasures for Session Two. You might choose to

use page 26 in the Bible Storyteller book to teach sign language for the Bible Bite.

In our Bible story today, the Israelites celebrated by giving happily. Great job you remembered the secret sign! Let’s do it again “Give happily to God! Shake it up!” Remember there is more to give than just money. We can give our time or a special talent that could help someone else. You can even give a smile! Everything we have is a gift from God. God wants us to share these gifts with other people.

Giving and sharing are sweet things to do, so today I brought in a spice we use a lot when we make sweets, such as cookies and doughnuts. Cinnamon itself isn’t sweet, but it’s used in recipes for many dishes that are. Would you like to smell it or taste it? God wants us to be sweet to others and share what we have. When you taste or smell cinnamon, remember this lesson.

Materials

Bible Bite

- ☞ Bites poster for Session Two
- ☞ paper lettuce bites, cucumber slices, and tomato wedges
- ☞ salad bowl
- ☞ tongs
- ☞ paper plates - one per child
- ☞ glue sticks
- ☞ Scripture Treasures for Session Two
- ☞ cinnamon sample

Materials

Recreation Time

Bottle Battle

(for one team)

- milk crate
- ten empty drink bottles (half-lete or mini)
- plastic tongs

Hot Potato

- small ball
- oven mitts

Discovery Time

Harvest in a Snap

- white granulated sugar (at least 1/4 teaspoon)
- ground black pepper (at least 1/4 teaspoon)
- colored paper or plastic
- dessert plate
- rubber balloon

Giving a Lift

- 1/2 cup water
- clear plastic cup
- paper or plastic plate
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 3 tablespoons vinegar
- 3 kernels of plain popcorn

Craft Time

Consult the Craft Leader for these materials.

Recreation Time

Use suggestion from the Recreation book on page 10 for Bottle Battle.

Hot Potato

Play the game Hot Potato with a small ball. Play this game in a variety of ways. For example, passing potato down a line, around a circle, across a circle, pairs tossing, etc. Remind children to “give happily” in this game means to toss the potato (ball) in a way that the next person has a good chance to catch it! You could add a special twist by playing one round with children wearing oven mitts!

Discovery Time

Use suggestions for experiments on pages 10-13 of the Recreation leader book for these two activities. Allow each child to conduct the Harvest in a Snap experiment.

Conduct the Giving a Lift experiment as a demonstration.

Craft Time

Use suggestions from the Craft Leader for Session Two crafts options.

Snack Time

Choose an appropriate snack based on the allergies, dietary abilities or other needs of the children in your class. See Preschool/Kindergarten leader book for suggestions.

Carryout Time

Preparation

- ☐ Make two copies of each day's key words on index cards and tape to posterboard. Suggested words to include are GIVE, HAPPY, SACRIFICE, BARLEY, SHARE, and FESTIVAL.
- ☐ Cover one set of the key words with food-shaped papers labeled with letters (A,B,C,D,E,F) and the other set with papers labeled with numbers (1,2,3,4,5,6). Attach with paper clips.

It is almost time to go. I sure had fun again today and I hope you did too. Today we heard a Bible story about the recipes God gave the Israelites for the celebrations God wanted them to have. God wanted them to grow food and then give part of the food at the festivals. God gave the Israelites everything they needed, so the Israelites gave happily to God. Oh, did I say it? Yes, "Give Happily to God. Shake it Up!" And you remembered the secret sign. Teach that phrase and sign to your family. Share it with your friends too. God gives us everything we need, so we can give happily to God, too! We can give our money, our food, our toys, our clothes and our friendship.

Let's repeat our Bible verse one more time. Say it with me. "Don't forget to do good and to share what you have. Hebrews 13:16. What was our special word of the day? GIVE! For today's carryout challenge, I want you to sacrifice some of your time for someone else. For example, maybe you want to play with your friends, but instead you choose to help with a chore. At our next session, be ready (Yes, I did say Be ready- you did the sign!) to tell me how you sacrificed some time for someone else.

Let's review our day with a fun game.

Have children choose one letter and one number at a time to uncover and attempt to match the words. Discuss.

Let's move back to our Picnic Spot to wait for our parents. I have some fun pages for you to work on while you are waiting. Shall we sing our "Shake It Up" song as we move?

Sing to the tune of "This is the Way."

**This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up.
This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!**

Offer activities from Reproducible Fun Pages related to session two that are appropriate for your students' abilities and ages.

Materials

- ☐ index cards
- ☐ posterboard
- ☐ paper clips
- ☐ markers
- ☐ food shaped note pads (available at local teachers' stores)
- ☐ Reproducible Fun Pages

Teacher Tip

If you have nonreaders, use picture cues along with the words. Another option is to use a different color pen for each pair of words. Nonreaders can remember and match the colors.

Today's Special
Jesus Celebrates the Festival of Booths
John 7:37-44

Bible Bite

"Believe in God, believe also in me." John 14:1b

Secret Ingredient

Believe Fully in Jesus!
Shake it up!

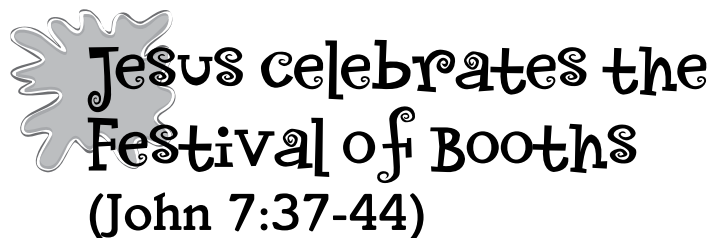
Color of the day

Red

Materials

- Menu Board schedule
- card tables
- tablecloths or sheets

Use the leader books from the Shake It Up Cafe Starter Kit to assist you with these lessons.



Jesus celebrates the Festival of Booths (John 7:37-44)

Gathering Time

Each day the gathering time will begin at **Picnic Spot**.

Preparation

- Move the visual aids used in Session Two from the Bible story area to the picnic spot area in order to review the session's teachings.

Welcome back to Shake It Up VBS! We've been learning about secret ingredients that will help us shake up our lives to be better followers of God. Let's review from the first two sessions. (Review the Secret Ingredient, Word of the Day and Bible Bite from Session One and Session Two, pointing to each one in turn.) **You had a special challenge to complete when you went home. Can someone share a sacrifice you made for someone else?**

Review today's schedule with the children.

The last time we were together, we talked about festivals that God wanted the Israelites to celebrate once they reached their new home. Today we're going to hear about how one of those festivals, the Festival of Booths, was celebrated several hundred years later, in the time when God's Son, Jesus, was teaching on earth. Sounds like fun, doesn't it? Let's build a simple booth right now so that we'll be ready to celebrate!

Lead children to construct a simple booth as suggested in the Bible Storyteller book on page 31.

Remember, today's story is going to be about a special festival or party. I'm ready to hear about it - how about you?

It's time for our song. Let's sing it again as we move over to the Kitchen a la King for our Bible study. Remember to wiggle your whole body as you shake it up!

(Sing to the tune of "This Is the Way." Wave hands in the air.)

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up. This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

(Sing once and then continue singing as children move to Bible Storytelling area.)

Bible Story

Preparation

- ☐ If you are going to use the Activity Option fill a small zipped bag half filled with water.
- ☐ Pour water gel into Styrofoam cup ahead of time.

Secret Ingredient

In our assembly time, we learned another new secret ingredient, yet it is not really a secret! That's right! God wants everyone to know about it! Does anyone remember the new secret ingredient? That's right. It is "Believe Fully in Jesus." And what is the response? Yes! "Shake It Up!" Let's practice. That was great! Now let's learn a secret sign that will help us remember the secret ingredient! This is the sign for the word believe.

Point your index finger to your temple and then clasp your hands in front of you. Let's practice. Throughout the day, let's show each other that sign to remind us how to carry out God's word. Okay, remember, what's the secret ingredient? That's right. "Believe Fully in Jesus!" Good. You used the secret sign! And then what? That's right. "Shake It Up!"

Attention Getter

Today we're going to pretend that we're at one of these festivals, or parties, we have been talking about during VBS. Our special word of the day is TRUST. I wonder if you trust me. For some of you that might be hard because we haven't known each other very long. So I'm going to ask (Say a name of one of your volunteers) to help me.

Use water gel in a Styrofoam cup. Add water and then pour over adult volunteer's head. Water is absorbed by gel and does not come out of cup. Explain how the trick works.

Activity Option

Use zipped bag half filled with water. Hold over head and push two pencils through the bag. Water will not leak out as long as pencils remain in baggie.

Wow, that trick was fun, but now let's hear a story about someone you can ALWAYS trust: Jesus.

Remember the secret ingredient. "Believe fully in Jesus! Shake it up!" That's it. You remembered the secret sign! In today's story Jesus wants everyone to trust him and believe fully that he is the Son of God.

Bible Story

Remember, we learned about a festival where the people would bring their fruits and vegetables to give back to God. This festival is called the Festival of Booths, and we're going to pretend to celebrate it today.

Share the Bible story using Preschool or Children's book or a combination of the two. Give out branches for children to use as "fidgets" and as props during the telling of the Bible story. Make sure to choose small branches and instruct children about proper use of branches as a "fidget" before beginning the story. (Twirling around finger, rolling in hand, rubbing with fingers, etc. - not hitting or tapping.) Leader can sit in "booth" while telling the story.

Bible Wrap-Up

The Bible story today came from the book of John. Let's put a red bookmark in our Bibles there. (Help children find the book of John by giving page number.) Today we heard about a time when Jesus celebrated the Festival of Booths. Let's look at today's Bible story poster. Where is Jesus? Yes, Jesus is standing with his hands open. Jesus told everyone to believe that he is God's Son. Good

Materials

- ☐ Session Three Secret Ingredient Poster from the Decorating Poster Pak.
- ☐ word of the day poster - TRUST
- ☐ attention getter - water gel (available from www.riversedgecurriculum.com), two Styrofoam cups, water
- ☐ optional attention getter - zipped top baggie, water, two pencils
- ☐ small leafy branches
- ☐ Bible story poster for Session Three
- ☐ Bibles and red bookmarks
- ☐ fruits and vegetables labeled with review questions
- ☐ basket

Materials

 Bible times cloaks

job - you remembered the secret sign! Now we see why Jesus had his hands open wide. He was telling others that he is God's Son and to believe in him. The people were waving palm branches. See if you can find the people waving palm branches. Look at these structures called booths. How do you think these booths were made? Tell me some other items you see in this poster.

Bible Story Review

When we believe fully (yes, that's the sign) in Jesus, we grow as followers of God. We're better able to carry out God's recipe. Believing fully also helps us share Jesus' story with others, so they can learn how to carry out God's recipe, too. When we believe fully in Jesus, we learn about how important it is to love others. Since it makes us happy to know that Jesus is God's Son and that he loves us very much, let's sing "If You're Happy and You Know It."

Review Questions

You will need to prepare the questions based on which version of the story you told. Write the questions on labels and apply the labels to fruits and vegetables. Hide the food around the room. Give children a basket and have them take turns gathering food. Read questions aloud for all to help answer.

Prayer

We know that Jesus went to the Festival of Booths. We learned that some people believed in Jesus and some did not. Jesus is God's Son, so listening to Jesus and following his instructions is like listening to God. When you decide to believe in God and in Jesus, you show that you trust that God is in charge. You show that you know God loves you and has a relationship with you. We must believe in Jesus and believe in God. Let's talk to God right now.

Have children repeat each phrase after you.

**Dear God,
Help me to
believe fully in Jesus,
Your Son.
Amen.**

Alternatively, lead the response prayer as suggested on page 37 of the Bible Storyteller.

Bible Bite Activity

Preparation

☞ Prepare a set of cards with one word from the verse on each. Tape to wall.

☞ Put three to five cups in front of the children on floor. Make sure the cups will slide easily and that the cards will stay under the cups while moving.

Today's Bible Bite is from John 14:1. "Believe in God. Believe also in me." In one of the last conversations he had with his disciples, Jesus told them to believe in him and in the God who sent him. With this simple statement, Jesus gave the disciples and you and me several important messages. God is in charge. God loves each of you. God wants to be a part of your life every day.

Believing in Jesus as God's Son means that you're never alone. You can trust that when you face something difficult or scary, God is with you and will help you. Remember our word of the day is trust.

Let's play a game to help us learn our Bible verse.

Ask a child to choose one word, take it down from the wall and place it under one cup. Then move the cups around. Have the children guess which cup the word is under by pointing to their choice and saying, "I fully believe the word is under that cup." After the guess, show the cup the word is under and repeat the verse by reading from the wall filling in the blank for the words removed. Continue until all words are removed from the wall.

Give out Scripture Treasures for Session Three. You might choose to use page 36 in Bible Storyteller book to teach sign language for the Bible

Bite.

We need to make believing in God and Jesus part of our everyday lives. It is not something we do only when we come to church. Believing fully means believing every day.

Today I've brought a spice or seasoning that gives a dish a stronger taste. So I've brought garlic. Would you like to taste or smell it? Our full belief in Jesus strengthens us and is the key ingredient to being a Christian. Our secret ingredient says what? Yes, "Believe Fully in God. Shake it up." Great - you remembered the sign!

Materials

Bible Bite

- ☞ Bible Bite poster for Session Three
- ☞ cards in the shape of a fruit or vegetable
- ☞ large paper cups
- ☞ Scripture Treasures for Session Three
- ☞ garlic sample

Materials

Recreation Time

- turkey baster
- two-liter bottle
- masking tape
- bucket or kitchen trash can, filled with water

Discovery Time

See *Discovery Time* leader pages 14-15 for these materials.

Craft Time

See *Craft* leader pages 20-21 for these materials.

Recreation Time

Use the *Thirsty Scurry* game from page 14 in *Recreation* leader book along with *Teacher Tip* to make the game cooperative rather than competitive.

Discovery Time

Conduct the *Solid Believer* experiment on page 14-15 in *Discovery* leader book as a demonstration. Then let children take turns spinning the eggs.

Craft Time

Use suggestions from the *Craft* leader book for today's session to make a placemat picture frame. See pages 20-21 for these directions.

Another option would be to have students decorate with markers or paint a ¼ bushel basket to use as a fruit basket. You could have students fill these for local nursing home residents or a local food pantry.

Snack Time

Choose an appropriate snack based on the allergies, dietary abilities or other needs of the children in your class. See *Preschool/Kindergarten* leader book for suggestions.

Carryout Time

Preparation

- ☒ Make two copies of each day's key words on index cards and tape to posterboard. Suggested words to include are BELIEVE, TRUST, BOOTH, FRUITS, BRANCHES, and SHAKE IT UP.
- ☒ Cover one set of the key words with food-shaped papers labeled with letters (A,B,C,D,E,F) and the other set with papers labeled with numbers (1,2,3,4,5,6). Attach with paper clips.

Another day is almost over. I hope you enjoyed today. Today we heard a Bible story about Jesus showing up at a festival and speaking to people, touching each of their lives. We learned that some people believed in Jesus and some did not. Jesus wants us to shake up our lives to be a super fan. He doesn't want us to go to church just because we like the people and the music there. Jesus wants us to fully believe in him because we know him and love him and want to tell everyone about it. Oh, did I say it? Yes, "Believe Fully in Jesus. Shake it Up!" And you remembered the secret sign. Teach that phrase and sign to your family. Share it with your friends too. We show we believe fully in Jesus when we shake up our lives to follow God's ways and show God's love to everyone. Let's repeat our Bible verse one more time. Say it with me. "Believe in God, believe also in me." John 14:1. What was our special word of the day? TRUST! For today's carryout challenge, I want you to ask God to help you believe fully so you can live your life as a follower of God.

Since it makes us happy to know that Jesus is God's Son and that he loves us very much, let's sing "If You're Happy and You Know It."

Let's review our day with a fun game.

Have children choose one letter and one number at a time to uncover and attempt to match the words. Discuss.

Let's move back to our Picnic Spot to wait for our parents or other family members. I have some fun pages for you to work on while you are waiting.

(Sing to the tune of "This Is the Way." Wave hands in the air.)

**This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up.
This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!**

Offer activities from Reproducible Fun Pages related to Session Three that are appropriate for your students' abilities and ages.

Materials

- ☒ index cards
- ☒ posterboard
- ☒ paper clips
- ☒ markers
- ☒ food shaped note pads (available at local teachers' stores)
- ☒ Reproducible Fun Pages (Younger and Older Chef)

Teacher Tip

If you have nonreaders, use picture cues along with the words. Another option is to use a different color pen for each pair of words. Nonreaders can remember and match the colors.

Today's Special Luke 22:8-20

Jesus celebrates Passover (Luke 22:8-20)

Bible Bite

"Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19b)

Secret Ingredient

Remember Jesus Often!
Shake it up!

Color of the day

Purple

Materials

- tray
- cloth
- holiday items-
Valentine, Mother's
Day card, Father's Day
card, Thanksgiving
decorations, Christmas
decorations
- Menu Board schedule

Use the leader books from the Shake It Up Cafe Starter Kit to assist you with these lessons.

Gathering Time

Each day the gathering time will begin at **Picnic Spot**.

Preparation

- Move the visual aids used in Session Three from the Bible story area to the picnic spot area in order to review the session's teachings.
- Place holiday items on tray and cover. If you have nonverbal children, have a tray with duplicate items for them to use for pointing.
- Design a Menu Board that reflects the day's schedule in pictures and words.

Welcome back to Shake it Up VBS! We've been learning about secret ingredients that will help us shake up our lives to be better followers of God. Let's review from the first three sessions.

Review the Secret Ingredient, Word of the Day and Bible Bite from Sessions One, Two, and Three - pointing to each one in turn. **The last time we were together I challenged you to ask God to help you believe fully. Did you remember to do that?**

Review today's schedule with the children.

Many times during the year, we take time to remember and celebrate a special person or event that is important to us. On Mother's Day, we remember

moms. On Father's Day, we remember dads. On Thanksgiving, we remember a feast that the Pilgrims and the Native Americans ate together. At Christmas, we remember how Jesus was born in a stable. During many of these celebrations, we make a special meal and eat it with our family and friends. The meal helps us remember the special person or event. Let's play a game about remembering.

Place holiday items on a tray. Cover the tray with a dish towel. Remove the towel for a few seconds letting everyone look. Ask children to cover their eyes. Remove one item. Recover the tray. Have children uncover their eyes. Uncover tray and ask children to tell you what is missing. Continue to play removing more items.

Today's Bible story tells us about one day when Jesus ate a special meal with his friends. I'm ready to hear about it - how about you?

Let's sing our song again as we move over to the Kitchen a la King for our Bible study. Remember to wiggle your whole body as you shake it up!

(Sing to the tune of "This is the Way.")

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up.

This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

(Sing once and then continue singing as children move to Bible Storytelling area.)

Bible Study

Secret Ingredient

Does anyone remember the new secret ingredient for today? That's right - "Remember Jesus Often." And what is the response - yes, "Shake It Up!" Let's practice. But it is not really a secret! God wants everyone to know about it! Now let's learn a secret sign that will help us remember the secret ingredient! This is the sign for the word remember. Close both of your hands into fists with your thumbs pointing toward each other. Then move one hand up to touch your forehead with your thumb - then bring it down to touch your other thumb in front of your chest. Let's practice. Throughout the day, let's show each other that sign to remind us how to carry out God's word. So when do we remember Jesus? That's right - Often! "Remember Jesus Often!" Good, you used the secret sign! And then what? That's right, "Shake It Up!"

Attention Getter

Today we are going to hear a story from the Bible that will help us remember a special meal that Jesus had with his friends. We can remember often that Jesus loves us, just like he loved his friends. Our special word of the day is THINK. What kinds of things do your parents tell you to remember? Do you always remember? Or do you sometimes forget? Sometimes we forget because we're not thinking about what we're doing. We have our mind on something else, so we forget what we should do. Let's play a game to show you what I mean. Have you ever played "Mother, May I"? This game is similar. I'll give each of you a bunch of grapes. I'm going to tell you to do something. BEFORE you do it, you must say "Mother, May I?" If you remember to say that, after you complete your task,

you may eat a grape. But if you forget to say "Mother, May I?" you'll have to wait until the next time I call your name to have a grape. Let's practice one time together. Everyone, put your grapes above your head. Good, you remembered to say "Mother May I?" first so you may eat a grape.

Lead the children in playing a short game - asking them to put grapes by their ear, in their right hand, by their noses, etc. Start out slowly and then increase the speed. If you have a non-verbal child, have him nod his head or some other sign when it is time to say "Mother May I?"

You did a great job of remembering to stay focused. Sometimes it was hard to remember to say the words first, wasn't it? You had to really THINK. Sometimes it helped us to hear our friends saying the words. Jesus doesn't want us to forget about his life. He wants us to stay focused on him and on the way he taught us to live.

You might choose another food item instead of grapes. Another option is to have a set of stickers for each child. They can receive a sticker each time they remember to repeat the phrase before completing the task.

Bible Story

In today's Bible story, we will find out what happened when Jesus celebrated Passover with his friends. We already learned about that festival on the first day of VBS. The ways of celebrating it changed when Jesus' teachings became a part of it. Passover became a way that God showed new ideas and teachings to the followers of Jesus and helped them remember God's love. That's right - "Remember Jesus Often. Shake it Up!" And you did the secret sign!!! Great!

Materials

- ☐ Secret Ingredient poster for Session Four
- ☐ Word of the day poster- THINK
- ☐ Attention getter- a bunch of grapes for each child (if swallowing/ choking is a concern, use another type of fruit, small candies or a set of stickers)
- ☐ "fidgets" (one piece of string or a silly band for each child)
- ☐ Bible story poster for Session Four
- ☐ Bibles and purple bookmarks

Share the Bible story using Preschool Leader's book with additional info from Children Leader's book as appropriate. Give children a piece of string to place around their finger or a silly band to use as a "fidget" during the story. Tell them that sometimes folks use a string around their finger as a way to remember something they need to do.

Bible Wrap-Up

The Bible story today came from the book of Luke. Let's put a purple bookmark in our Bibles there. (Help children find the book of Luke by giving page number.) **When Jesus offered the bread and wine (juice) to his disciples, he asked them to do something when they ate it. What did he ask them to do? Jesus wanted them to remember his life, his work and his teachings.**

Let's look at today's Bible story poster. Jesus is in the middle of the picture. The other friends are sitting beside Jesus. Can you tell me their names? They were named Peter and John. What is Jesus holding? Yes, it is the wine or juice. What does the wine help us remember?

Bible Story Review

I know a fun song to sing that will help us remember the story.

Sing the following to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

"Jesus Served a Special Meal"

**Jesus served a special meal,
special meal, special meal.
Jesus served a special meal
so many years ago.**

**He passed around the juice and
bread,
juice and bread, juice and bread.
He passed around the juice and
bread so many years ago.**

**We can share this special meal,
special meal, special meal.**

**We can share this special meal
with friends we've come to know.**

Prayer

**We need to remember Jesus' life
and teachings to make our faith
strong. Let's talk to God right
now.**

Have children repeat each phrase after you.

**Dear God, Help me remember
Jesus often. Help me remember
the special meal he ate with his
friends. Amen.**

Alternatively, lead the response prayer as suggested on page 47 of the Bible Storyteller.

Craft Time

Use suggestion for Tidbit Tray from Elementary Children's Leader. Trays can be ordered from Cokesbury. If the skills fit your children, consider making this craft a woodworking project. Have pieces precut. Students can sand pieces, nail together and stain. Use washable stain product.

Materials

See individual books for a list of materials needed for these activities.

Recreation Time

Use the suggestion game of Pass the Cups found in the Children's book. Modify the game to have just one team of the whole class working together to pass the cups down the line without having the cups fall. After a practice round, conduct timed rounds to try to improve.

Play I'm Going to a Restaurant. Begin by stating, "I'm going to a restaurant and I'm going to order a salad." The next person will need to say, "I'm going to a restaurant and I'm going to order a salad and a ____." Continue around the circle adding foods to the order. If needed, give memory aid clues.

Snack Time

Choose an appropriate snack based on the allergies, dietary abilities or other needs of the children in your class. See Preschool Leader book for suggestions.

Discovery Time

Conduct as a demonstration the experiment called Complete the Connection as described in the Discovery leader book.

Materials

Bible Bite

- ☐ seven clusters of paper grapes
- ☐ tape
- ☐ Scripture Treasures for Session Four
- ☐ vanilla sample

Bible Bite Activity

Preparation

Write one word from the Bible Bite, including the Scripture reference, on each grape cluster. Tape to wall.

When Jesus gave the disciples the bread to eat and the wine (juice) to drink, Jesus said, “Do this in remembrance of me.” This verse, Luke 22:19, is today’s Bible Bite. Wine comes from grapes. Grapes grow in clusters on a vine. To help us remember our Bible Bite, we’re going to attach our grape clusters to our Human Grapevine.

Children will choose one grape cluster at a time to remove from the wall and tape to their Human Grapevine (an adult co-worker). Remind the children to be appropriate, but this can be funny! Repeat the verse, each time filling in the missing words.

Give out Scripture Treasures for Session Four. You might choose to use page 46 in Bible Storyteller book to teach sign language for the Bible Bite.

In our Bible story today, Jesus started a new tradition for the Passover meal. He asked his friends to remember him as they ate and drank. Remembering Jesus is a very important part of our faith. Can you tell me some of your favorite stories about Jesus?

Celebrations and traditions are joyful times filled with great memories that give us a warm happy feeling. Vanilla has a scent that remind some people of special memories like baking cookies. I brought in a sample of vanilla. Would anyone like to taste or smell it? When you smell or taste vanilla, remember the warmth of Jesus’ love for you!

Carryout Time

Preparation

- ☐ Make two copies of each day's key words on index cards and tape to posterboard. Suggested words to include are THINK, GRAPES, MEAL, REMEMBER, PASSOVER, and FRIENDS.
- ☐ If you have nonreaders, use picture cues along with the words. Another option is to use a different color pen for each pair of words - nonreaders can remember and match the colors.
- ☐ Cover one set of the key words with food-shaped papers labeled with letters (A,B,C,D,E,F) and the other set with papers labeled with numbers (1,2,3,4,5,6). Attach with paper clips.

Wow, just one more day of Shake It Up Café tomorrow. Our time together has gone by so quickly! In today's Bible story, Jesus wanted his friends to remember his life, his work, and his teachings. He wanted them to remember his gifts of forgiveness and salvation. He wants us to remember those things too. Let's repeat our Bible verse one more time. Say it with me. "Do this in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19. What was our special word of the day? THINK! For today's carryout challenge, I want you to spend some time remembering Jesus and your favorite stories about him like we did as a group. But then share what you remember with a family member or friend. Can you do that? Maybe today's secret ingredient will help you. What was it? That's right - "Remember Jesus often! Shake it Up!" And you didn't forget the sign! Great job!

Let's review our day with a fun game.

Have children choose one letter and one number at a time to uncover and attempt to match the words. Discuss.

Let's move back to our Picnic Spot to wait for our parents. I have some fun pages for you to work on while you are waiting. Shall we sing our "Shake It Up" song as we move?

Sing to the tune of "This is the Way."

**This is the way we shake it up,
shake it up, shake it up.
This is the way we shake it up
while we're at VBS!**

(Sing once and then continue singing as children move to Kitchen Nook area.)

Offer activities from Reproducible Fun Pages related to Session Four that are appropriate for your students' abilities and ages.

- ☐ index cards
- ☐ poster board
- ☐ paper clips
- ☐ markers
- ☐ food shaped note pads (available at local teachers' stores)
- ☐ Reproducible Fun Pages

Today's Special

Acts 2

Bible Bite

"I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever."
(Psalms 45:17)

Secret Ingredient

Celebrate God Forever!
Shake it up!

Color of the day

Blue

Materials

- ☐ sound birthday card that plays "Celebration"
- ☐ local sports teams' shakers, towels, etc.
- ☐ Menu Board schedule

Use the leader books from the Shake It Up Cafe Starter Kit to assist you with these lessons.

celebrating the Festival of Weeks and Pentecost (Acts 2)

Gathering Time

Each day the gathering time will begin at **Picnic Spot**.

Preparation

- ☐ Move the visual aids used in Session Four from the Bible story area to the picnic spot area in order to review the session's teachings.
- ☐ Design a Menu Board that reflects the day's schedule in pictures and words.

Welcome back to Shake It Up VBS! We've been learning about secret ingredients that will help us shake up our lives to be better followers of God. Let's review from the first four sessions. Review the Secret Ingredient, Word of the Day and Bible Bite from Sessions One, Two, Three and Four - pointing to each one in turn.

The last time we were together I challenged you to spend some time remembering Jesus and then tell what you remember to a family member or friend. Did you do that?

Review today's schedule with the children.

Today we are going to learn about celebrating! How many of you like sports? What kind of sports are your favorites? It's fun to play and it's fun to watch. I really like to cheer on my team and sometimes I use things like shakers, towels, horns, etc. to cheer and celebrate. I'm going to give out some of those now and let's practice celebrating. Okay, get ready and every time I open this card and you hear the celebration song, start celebrating - dance around, shake your shaker, swing your towel, blow your horn - whatever! But listen carefully, when the card is closed and the song stops - you stop!

Open and close card several times. That was fun. I think you all really know how to celebrate!

Now let's sing our song as we move over to the Kitchen a la King for our Bible study. Remember to wiggle your whole body as you shake it up!

(Sing to the tune of "This is the Way.")

This is the way we shake it up, shake it up, shake it up. This is the way we shake it up while we're at VBS!

(Sing once and then continue singing as children move to Bible Storytelling area.)

Bible Study

Secret Ingredient

Last time for a new secret ingredient - especially ones that are not really secret!!! That's right - "Celebrate God Forever." And what is the response - yes, "Shake It Up!"

Let's practice.

That was great! Now let's learn a secret sign that will help us remember the secret ingredient! This is the sign for the word celebrate. Close both hands into fists. Shake them both up high beside your head. Let's practice. Throughout the day, let's show each other that sign to remind us how to carry out God's word. And remember - HOW do we celebrate? That's right - be excited! So put on a BIG smile when you say it! Okay, remember-what's the secret ingredient? "Celebrate God Forever!" Good, you used the secret sign! And then what? That's right, "Shake It Up!" This secret ingredient sounds like so much fun! One way we celebrate is to tell others. If you're planning a celebration, you don't keep it a secret, right? You want everyone to share in the good times. We can invite everyone to join in our celebrations by telling them about the love of God.

Attention Getter

Today we are going to hear a story from the Bible about a time when many people decided to become followers of Jesus! Our special word of the day is EXCITED! When I get excited sometimes I am just bubbling over and I have to let it out. Watch this!

If possible, have children gather at an open window to watch a co-worker conduct this attention getter outside. The co-worker will use a two liter bottle of diet soda and a full roll of Mentos candies. Hint -

pour Mentos candies into a paper funnel, squeeze shut, place into bottle and run! As the funnel opens, a giant fountain erupts! If the outside option is not feasible, place a can of diet cola in a pan or baking dish. Drop one or two Mentos candies into the cola and quickly step back. A smaller but effective eruption will occur.

Tip

Place a pan under these items if doing this experiment.

Bible Story

Share the Bible story using Preschool/Kindergarten Leader's book.

Give out blower party favors as "fidgets." Instruct the children to hold the party favors in their hands until you give the signal by blowing yours. As you tell the story, use the blowers at the end of each verse of the song "Celebrate with Me" throughout the story.

Bible Wrap-Up

The Bible story today came from the book of Acts. Let's put a blue bookmark in our Bibles there. (Help children find the book of Acts by giving page number.) **In our Bible story today we heard about a man named Peter. Let's look at today's Bible story poster. Where is Peter in this poster? Peter talked to the people gathered at the festival and told them all about Jesus. After the people heard about Jesus, they wanted to become followers of him. Look at the faces of the people in the poster. Do the people look happy or sad? Yes, they look happy. Why are they happy? Now that they were followers of Jesus, they wanted to tell even more people about him! They were celebrating! Yes, "Celebrate God Forever! Shake it Up!" - that's right, show me the sign!**

Materials

- ☐ Secret Ingredient Poster for Session Five
- ☐ Word of the day poster - EXCITED
- ☐ Attention getter- Mentos candies, paper funnel, two liter bottle of diet soda or can of diet soda
- ☐ fidget - blower party favors
- ☐ lyrics to 'Celebrate With Me' written on poster-board from page 85 in Preschool book
- ☐ Bible story poster for Session Five
- ☐ Bibles and blue book-marks
- ☐ one birthday candle
- ☐ a birthday gift bag filled with paper balloons with a review question written on each

Bible Story Review
Remember that our Bible story was about the birthday of the church. When I think of birthdays, I think of candles and gifts. Let's play a game with both of them to review our story.

Modify the Response Game - Candle, Candle, Who Has the Candle? - found on page 87 in the Preschool/Kindergarten leader book to review the story. Have the children sit in a circle on the floor. Have children cup their hands together so it looks like any of them could be hiding the candle. Have an adult co-worker look away as you place the candle in the hands of one child. Remind the children not to give the co-worker hints with their faces or bodies if they have the candle. When the co-worker guesses correctly, the child holding the candle pulls a review question from a gift bag.

Sample review questions

- 1. How did the people plan to celebrate the Festival of Weeks?**
- 2. What did the loud noise sound like? or Did the loud noise sound like a strong wind blowing?**
- 3. Who was Peter telling the people about?**
- 4. What did Peter say sounded like the wind?**
- 5. Name one thing Peter told the people they should remember often.**
- 6. How many people decided to become followers of Jesus that day?**
- 7. What was the same about the new believers? What was different about those people?**
- 9. Why were the new believers celebrating?**

These questions are based on the story format from the Preschool book. Modify if you use the older children's version. You may choose to give two possible answers for each question and make at least one question a yes/no answer.

Prayer

The day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and was shared with so many people is known as Pentecost. Pentecost is fifty days after Passover. We've talked about this day as being the birthday of the church because so many people made the decision to follow Jesus. The church has grown this way for hundreds of years. Through Jesus, God's love for us has shaken up the whole world. When we carry out God's Word, loving others and sharing Jesus' teachings with them, we help others know God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. And that's something we can celebrate forever!! Let's talk to God right now.

Have children repeat each phrase after you.

Dear God, We believe in Jesus. We can celebrate him together! We thank you now for Jesus. We can celebrate him forever! Amen.

Alternatively, lead the response prayer as suggested on page 56 of the Bible Storyteller.

Craft Time

Use suggestion for reusable shopping bag from the Elementary Children's Leader book for today's session. Another option would be to personalize recycled water bottles with foam shapes that relate to cooking and paint pens.

Recreation Time

Combine recreation with a missions project. The class will be making a Birthday Box to donate to a local food pantry or abuse shelter. You will need a large white cake box from a local bakery. Also collect birthday party ingredients such as a disposable cake pan, mix, icing, sprinkles, candles, balloons, hats and party favors. Make a circle of chairs with one less chair than the number of participants. Children walk around chairs as the music plays and find a seat quickly when it stops. The child who is left standing will choose a birthday party ingredient to place in the cake box. Repeat. At the end of the game, have the children work together to decorate the box.

Play Big Ball Pass. Use an oversized ball. Pass the balls back and forth in pairs, counting aloud until the ball drops or you reach a set number.

Say: **We passed the ball ___ times!
Jesus wants us to celebrate his good news by sharing it with as many people as we can!**

Modify the game Red Light, Green Light using a large candle as the signal. When the candle is raised, children move quickly toward the leader. When the candle is lowered, children must stop.

Snack Time

Choose an appropriate snack based on the allergies, dietary abilities or other needs of the children in your class. See Preschool Leader's book for suggestions.

Discovery Time

Use Shaking Celebration experiment found in Preschool and Discovery leader books. Using half and half instead of milk will make the ice cream set up more quickly.

Materials

Craft Time

Consult the Craft Leader for these materials.

Recreation Time

- ☐ oversized ball
- ☐ birthday party ingredients- large white cake box, disposable cake pan, mix, icing, sprinkles, candles, balloons, hats, party favors
- ☐ large candle

Materials

Bible Bite

- ☐ Bible Bite poster for Session Five
- ☐ balloons - large round ones using different colors
- ☐ trash bag
- ☐ paper balloons of similar colors as actual balloons
- ☐ tape
- ☐ Scripture Treasures for Session Five
- ☐ sample of cayenne
- ☐ yogurt - spoons

Bible Bite Activity

Preparation

Blow up balloons. Put in trash bag to hold. Label each paper balloon with a phrase from the Bible Bite. See suggestions below. Tape paper balloons to wall.

“I will cause/your name/ to be celebrated/ in all generations; therefore/ the peoples /will praise you /forever and ever.” /Psalm 45:17

We have SO MUCH to celebrate! We celebrate God, who is with us always and cares deeply for us. We celebrate Jesus, whose life and teachings change us and give us eternal life. And we celebrate the Holy Spirit, who helps us live in a way that pleases God. When I celebrate I like to have balloons. What about you?

Earlier in the week, make sure that no child in your class is uncomfortable with balloons. If they are, use the Bible Bite suggestions in the Bible Storyteller leader book.

Children will take turns reaching into trash bag to choose a balloon to pop. They may choose to use their feet, their bottoms on a chair (the most fun!), or a pencil to pop the balloon. When the balloon is popped, the child may remove the corresponding color paper balloon from the wall. Lead children in repeating the verse - filling in the phrase that was removed.

Give out Scripture Treasures for Session Five. You might choose to use page 55 in the Bible Storyteller book to teach sign language for the Bible Bite.

The coming of the Holy Spirit added a “kick” to the festival. It gave the people a whole new reason to celebrate. There are spices and seasonings that add a special “kick” to a recipe. I brought in some cayenne. This

spice comes from ground dried chili peppers. They are HOT!!! Does anyone want to taste or smell them? Have a little bit of yogurt available to soothe hot taste buds if necessary! Water doesn't work as well.

Carryout Time

Preparation

- ☐ Make two copies of each day's key words on index cards and tape to posterboard. Suggested words to include are EXCITED, CELEBRATE, PETER, WIND, BIRTHDAY, and CHURCH.
- ☐ Cover one set of the key words with food-shaped papers labeled with letters (A,B,C,D,E,F) and the other set with papers labeled with numbers (1,2,3,4,5,6). Attach with paper clips.

Wow, I just want to invite everyone to join in our celebration by telling them about the love of God and sharing Jesus' teachings with them. I want to be just like the new believers we learned about today. Do you want to do that too? The Holy Spirit will help us understand God's amazing recipe. We've learned about it at Shake It Up Café VBS! Be ready for God, give happily to God, believe fully in Jesus, remember Jesus often, and celebrate God forever!!!! That's right - You remembered every secret sign! Let's repeat our Bible verse one more time. Say it with me. "I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever." Psalm 45:17. What was our special word of the day? EXCITED! This is your carryout challenge for today - stay excited and follow the recipe!!!

Let's review our day with a fun game.

Have children choose one letter and one number at a time to uncover and attempt to match the words. Discuss.

Let's move back to our Picnic Spot to wait for our parents. How about one last verse of our "Shake It Up" song as we move?

(Sing to the tune of "This is the Way.")

**This is the way we shake it up,
shake it up, shake it up.
This is the way we shake it up
while we're at VBS!**

Offer activities from Reproducible Fun Pages related to Session Five that are appropriate for your students' abilities and ages.

Materials

- ☐ index cards
- ☐ posterboard
- ☐ paper clips
- ☐ markers
- ☐ food shaped note pads (available at local teachers' stores)
- ☐ Reproducible Fun Pages (Younger and Older Chef)

Teacher Tip

If you have nonreaders, use picture cues along with the words. Another option is to use a different color pen for each pair of words - non-readers can remember and match the colors.