

Go Missions to Mexico

VBS Orientation

Sunday and Wednesday evenings (Wed. Optional), and Monday -Thursday afternoons, your mission team will do Vacation Bible School Outreaches at the specially chosen church you'll be serving with for the week. The children will range in ages from 3-12. Often, the younger ones will be accompanied by their moms. Teenagers will often be involved as well or observe from a distance.

A Vacation Bible School is a great way to share the Gospel and disciple those who attend. We have carefully and prayerfully put together this VBS package and have seen it produce great results. It communicates what we believe is a clear, thorough, attractive presentation of the gospel that is fun and interesting at the same time.

Your Team Will Do 4 Full VBS's, and 2 Scaled Down VBS's

The full versions of the VBS's will take place Monday-Thursday afternoons and will last about two hours. The scaled down versions of the VBS's will take place during the preaching time of the church outreaches Sunday and Wednesday evenings and will last about an hour.

The full VBS's will tend to reach more of the street, unsaved children. The scaled down VBS's will tend to reach the children who attend church. Following is the schedule of the VBS's:

- Sunday Evening - Scaled Down VBS (includes testimonies, Bible story, puppet show, and craft & snacks)
- Monday Afternoon - Full VBS
- Tuesday Afternoon - Full VBS
- Wednesday Afternoon - Full VBS
- Wednesday Evening - Scaled Down VBS (includes testimonies, Bible story, and puppet show)
- Thursday Afternoon - Full VBS

Note: Wednesday evening ministry is optional. Please advise us if you will not be doing this.

Style of VBS

VBS in Mexico is different than in the states. We have found the best method is to have all the children together rather than trying to divide them up into age groups. Following are the reasons why: (1) many of the older siblings are commanded by their parents to watch their younger siblings so these little family units cannot be broken up; (2) the children down here are harder to direct and work with (3) generally, there are inadequate facilities to accommodate a number of groups.

Full V.B.S. Outreach Schedule - Approximate time 2 hrs.

- Game time outside with children (20 min.)
- Song time (15 min.)
- Two short testimonies geared towards children (10)
- Drama or skit if you have one (5-10 min.)
- Puppet show (10 min.)
- Memory verse (10 min.)
- Bible story done by Go Missions to Mexico staff (20 min.)
- Crafts & snacks (15 min.)

Following is more detail on each aspect of the VBS's:

Game Time - 20 min.

Your group will play outside games with the children such as jump rope, bean bag toss, ball tosses, duck-duck-goose, soccer, bubbles, face painting, frisbee games, baseball (with plastic bats and balls, etc.). You can organize your mission team into smaller groups who can be in charge of the various games happening. There won't be large group games where all the children will be involved in, but various, smaller games happening at the same time. The children usually will rotate and go from one game to the other as they please. After game time, make sure each group picks up their sports equipment as the children will often try to take it. This is a time to get to know the children and draw a crowd from the community. We would ask if you could, to bring some sports equipment with you for this time.

Song Time - 15 min.

If your team is able, you will do 4-5 children's Spanish songs. If you are not able to do this, then our ministry can do them utilizing your team as desired, or just us doing them. Several of these should be upbeat songs with motions, and several can be slower songs.

Testimonies - 10 min.

Two short testimonies geared towards children (5 minutes each). Please try to share something about how you got saved and how God has changed you, or something God has done in your life that brings Him glory. [More on sharing your testimony](#)

Puppet Show - 10 min.

A big highlight of the V.B.S. is the puppet show. We have the puppets and the Spanish scripts. The scripts are easy to follow. They basically just involve voice recognition of each person's puppet. Before each puppet show, we'll do a short practice to orient you. It's really simple so no worries.

Memory Verses - 10 min.

This is a time to embed God's Word into the hearts of those attending the VBS's. These verses will follow the theme of the gospel message and will play a large part in a salvation opportunity we'll give the children on the last day of VBS.

Additionally, during the last VBS, we'll hand out prizes for those who can say from one to all the memory verses. If your team could bring some prizes for the memory verses, it would be great (50-75 would be good). We'll talk more about what kinds of prizes at the bottom of this page. If your team would like to include the verse in your crafts, here's the verses:

Monday Afternoon

Romanos 5:12: El pecado vino al mundo por lo que un hombre hizo. Y con el pecado vino la muerte. Entonces, esta es la razón por la que todas las personas deben morir, porque todas las personas han pecado.

Tuesday Afternoon

Mateo 13:49-50: Así será en el fin del mundo; los ángeles saldrán, y sacarán a los malos de entre los justos, y los arrojarán en el horno de fuego; allí será el llanto y el crujiir de dientes”

Wednesday Afternoon

Isaías 53:5: Pero Él fue herido (traspasado) por nuestras transgresiones, molido por nuestras iniquidades. El castigo, por nuestra paz, cayó sobre Él, y por Sus heridas (llagas) hemos sido sanados.

Thursday Afternoon

Juan 3:16: Pues Dios amó tanto al mundo que dio a su único Hijo, para que todo el que crea en él no se pierda, sino que tenga vida eterna.

Bible Story - 20 min.

This is done by Go Missions to Mexico staff. Because the children are more unruly in Mexico and harder to control, we find a Bible Story told by us works best. We will tell the story utilizing pictures and verses shown on a big screen TV.

Themes of the Bible Stories

- Sunday Evening: “How Sin Affects Our Relationship with God”
- Monday Afternoon: "Creation and Fall of Mankind"
- Tuesday Afternoon: “Moses and the Ten Commandments”
- Wednesday Afternoon: “Life and Miracles of Jesus”
- Wednesday Evening: “Overcoming Temptation”
- Thursday Afternoon: “Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus”

Craft & Snack Time - 20 min.

This is an important time where your team's participation is important. The children are divided into groups of ten, with one or two people from your team attending them. You will need to bring crafts and snacks for at least 100 children for each of the five VBS's that you'll be doing (we will notify you if more are needed). Package the crafts in bags of 10 (snacks do not need to be packaged in bags of 10). We have discovered that by forming groups and having them sit on the floor, works best for crowd control. Try to avoid candy and sweets for snacks.

Salvation Altar Call - Last Day of VBS

The last VBS (Thursday), we'll present a clear salvation invitation for children to receive Christ. This will be the culmination and goal for all that has been done in the VBS's. It's a special time, and many children will pray to receive Christ or recommit to Him.

Summary of What Items You'll Need to Bring for Your VBS Ministry

- Bring game equipment to play with children during the play time.
- Be prepared to sing some children's songs (If you need help let us know). For help with children's VBS songs consult our website for more help
- Bring crafts and snacks for five VBS's with enough for 100 in each VBS.
- 50-75 prizes for those who memorize VBS verses.
- Come prepared to share 12 testimonies geared for children. [More on sharing your testimony](#)

Craft Ideas

- Coloring books - You can photocopy pages, or purchase a Bible coloring book (preferably in Spanish) and have the children color them. Crayons needed.
- Puppets - Use paper lunch sacks and provide pieces for their mouths, ears, etc. Crayons needed for this craft.
- Paper plate half-masks - Beforehand, cut paper plates in half, punch holes by ears, and cut eye-holes and a slot for the nose. Let the kids color them and put rubber bands through the holes. They can wear the masks by putting the rubber bands around their ears.
- Paper plate visors - Beforehand, cut paper plates in half and punch a hole near each corner. Have the kids decorate them and tie a piece of pre-cut elastic through the holes to make a visor.
- Crowns - Trace a simple outline of the front of a crown onto tag board or other stiff paper. Cut them out and punch a hole at each end. Let the kids decorate them and put a piece of pre-cut yarn or elastic through each hole. To put the crown on, place on head and tie strings in back.
- You can look on the Internet for other great ideas as well.

Snack Ideas

- Single serving of canned fruit/applesauce, pudding (don't forget spoons.
- Single-serving bags of chips.
- Single-serving bags of peanuts.
- Single-serving boxes of raisins.
- Single-serving cookies, or animal crackers.
- Granola bars individually wrapped Hostess/or similar treats.
- Graham crackers.
- Handi-Snacks (crackers and peanut butter, etc.)

It definitely works best if the snacks are individually wrapped and easily transported. It is often possible to get stores in your area to donate these types of items. Drinks for VBS are optional and up to the discretion and desire of each mission team.

VBS Prize Info

These are given to children who can say anywhere from one to all of the memory verses. Prizes are a great way to reward those who have worked hard to hide God's word in their hearts.

We'll give out varying kinds of prizes depending on how many verses the children can say. It's best to hand out the same kind of prize for the amount of verses memorized. For example; all who can say one verse would all get the same prize, etc. This helps with crowd control and cuts down on each child wanting a different prize (when working with large numbers of children crowd control becomes important).

Here are some ideas for prizes:

- For saying 1 verse - Pencil with a small coloring book or workbook leaflets (in Spanish please).
- For saying 2-3 verses: Rubber balls, small cars (boys) hair things (girls) crayons, party favors toys, bubbles, dollar store stuff, coloring books or workbook leaflets (in Spanish please).
- For saying 4-5 verses: Frisbees, jump ropes, soccer type balls, markers, coloring books (in Spanish please), small stuffed animals, etc.

Normally, we'll hand out about 40 prizes to those who can say 1 verse, about 25 for those who can say 2-3 verses and about 10 to those who can say all the verses. Of course, sometimes these numbers can vary if we have more children in the VBS. Any extra items are put into our prize cache and used when numbers are up at a VBS.

We would appreciate it, if you can get a hold of large amounts of coloring book type leaflets, pencils, or crayons, to bring them down. They work great for prizes for those who say 1-3 verses.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness, and we're looking forward to a great VBS with your team.