

BREAKOUTS

Preschool Overview

Laura Clontz

An introduction to Bible teaching for 3s–Kindergarten (rising 1st graders). This session will be applicable whether you are teaching the 3s–Pre-K or Kindergarten resources.

Preschool Rotations Overview

Laura Clontz

Come join us as we take a closer look at Preschool Rotations! You'll have a first-hand experience with music, missions, crafts, and recreation activities designed specifically for preschoolers.

Grades 1–2 Overview

Jared Simpson

An introduction to the Bible study resources for teaching 1st–2nd graders.

Grades 3–4 Overview

Lauren Brown

An introduction to the Bible study resources for teaching 3rd–4th graders.

Grades 5–6 (VBX) Bible Study Overview

Justin Green

An introduction to the Bible study resources for 5th–6th graders.

VBX Crafts and Recreation

Justin Green

An overview of the stand-alone crafts and recreation ideas created exclusively for preteens (Grades 5–6).

Snack & Recreation Rotation Overview

Taylor Johnson

An introduction to the Grades 1–6 recreation rotation resources and snack ideas for all ages. Come play games and taste and see themed snacks to keep your crew energized during VBS. This session will also cover preschool- and allergy-friendly snacks as well as easy, prepackaged snack suggestions.

Missions Rotation Overview

Lezah Maitland

An introduction to the Grades 1–6 missions rotation resources.

Crafts Rotation Overview

Krista Staton

An introduction to the Grades 1–6 crafts rotation and craft pack resources.

Music & Motions

Sandy Bennett

Learn the Grades 1–6 VBS songs and motions with our VBS choreographer.

Student & Adult VBS Overview

Josh Renck

Let's make VBS shine for everyone! From teens to grown-ups, learn how to use VBS 2026 to reach all ages.

Student & Adult VBS Extras

Josh Renck

Get ready to make your VBS come alive for all ages! Learn how to adapt your rotations to reach everyone—from kids to adults—with fresh ideas for missions, crafts, recreation, and snacks, along with unique approaches for middle schoolers and up.

Directors Overview

Stephanie Chase

Tips for new and experienced VBS directors plus an introduction to the *VBS 2026 Administrative Guide*.

Lighting Up Your Church with Decorations

Penny Reedy

Bring your Vacation Bible School to life with creative, budget-friendly decorating ideas that shine! This session will explore practical ways to transform your church spaces into vibrant, theme-focused environments that excite and inspire. Learn how to make your space glow with meaning and joy using decorations that will enhance the message of VBS and illuminate the hearts of all who attend.

Shine a Light on Leader Appreciation

Penny Reedy

Showing appreciation to those who serve in VBS is not only kind—it's biblical. This session will explore how celebrating your leaders can inspire, motivate, and strengthen your ministry team. Discover creative and practical ways to express gratitude that make everyone who serves feel seen, valued, and encouraged. Join us as we share ideas to help your leaders feel appreciated in their service, ensuring they continue to shine brightly in the ministry God has called them to.



Guiding Lights: Equipping Buddies and Volunteers to Fully Engage Every Child

Lauren Brown

This session will focus on training and equipping “buddies” or inclusion volunteers who work one-on-one with children who need extra support. We’ll cover expectations, proactive strategies, de-escalation tips, and how to partner with parents to make VBS a success. Learn how to be the calm, consistent light that helps every child engage and thrive.

All Together Now: Shining Bright with Multi-age VBS

Lauren Brown

When space, volunteers, or class sizes are limited, combining age groups for Bible Study can be a bright idea! Join us as we walk through what a multi-age VBS classroom can look like. You’ll learn how to plan for mixed ages, adapt activities, and build meaningful connections that help older kids and younger kids learn in the same class.

Shining a Spotlight on Preschool Characteristics

Laura Clontz

Have you ever tried to imagine what church must be like for a preschooler? In this session, we’ll look together at the characteristics of preschoolers and discover how we can best teach them about Jesus.

Building a Deconstruction-Proof Faith for the Next Generation

Taylor Johnson

Many kids today hear about Jesus but don’t always see who He truly is. This session will equip leaders with tools to help kids build a confident, lasting faith grounded in the truth of God’s Word. Learn practical ways to guide conversations and help kids walk in the light of truth, even when the world grows confusing or dark.

Understanding the Kids You’ll Teach

Taylor Johnson

Each child learns and experiences God’s truth in unique ways. In this session, we’ll look at how kids think, learn, and grow—covering Gen Alpha research, brain development, and faith formation. You’ll gain practical insight to connect with kids right where they are and help them see Jesus clearly as the Light of life.

Illuminating the Gospel for Kids

Jared Simpson

Sometimes we feel anxious about having gospel conversations with kids. Why? Because it’s a big deal! In this session we’ll talk about how to maximize the opportunities VBS provides to share the gospel—whether in Bible Study, crafts, or while eating a snack! Join us as we discuss trusting the guidance of the Holy Spirit in gospel conversations at VBS.

Glow with the Flow: Guiding Behavior at VBS

Jared Simpson

We want our communities to engage fully in VBS—but how do you lead kids when you don’t know what the group dynamic will be until Day 1? In this session, we’ll explore practical strategies and guiding principles for creating a calm, Christ-centered environment where kids can focus on the main thing: Jesus.

VBS Recruitment: Shining a Light on a Struggle We All Feel

Lezah Maitland

Recruiting VBS volunteers can sometimes feel like both a game of chess and a NASCAR race! But it’s also one of the best opportunities to see God at work and to watch the body of Christ serve together. In this session, we’ll discover that it’s okay to ask, explore different ways to invite volunteers, learn how to cast a vision for VBS, and be reminded of its eternal purpose. We’ll also discuss specific ways to pray for volunteers before and during VBS, share helpful tips to prepare them for serving, and talk about how to keep volunteers coming back year after year.

What I Wish Someone Had Told Me About Teaching VBS


Lezah Maitland

Whether this is your first year teaching VBS or you’re a seasoned veteran, this session will offer practical tips, advice from fellow teachers, insight into learning styles, an understanding of how boys and girls learn differently, and ways to help kids retain information. You’ll also find affirmation in what you’re already doing and be reminded of why investing in the next generation is so important.

Let Safety Shine

Justin Green

Discover how to build a safe and secure VBS where God’s light can shine brightly—protecting every child and volunteer from registration to follow up. Together, let’s learn how being a light for Jesus means leading with care, vigilance, and love.



Discipling on the Go: How to Disciple the Family Who Is Always Moving

Josh Renck

With families busier than ever, how can we effectively disciple those constantly on the go? We'll unpack practical methods—from intentional event planning to organic discipleship opportunities—to help families grow in their walk with Christ.

Volunteer Leader Light Up

Stephanie Chase

Would you love for every VBS leader to be trained, ready, and empowered to shine in their role? During this session, we will create a high-energy, inspiring training plan for YOUR VBS! Walk away with everything you need to train your VBS Leaders to light up your church and community for Jesus.

Illuminate the Messiah in Your Ministry & See Kids Light Up Their World

Stephanie Chase

In a world full of lies and uncertainty, God has called you to empower kids to reflect the light of Christ and discover how to shine brightly for Him. This session will empower you with exciting lessons, creative activities, and fun games that teach kids to know the Light, Jesus, and illuminate His truth everywhere they go.

Steps to an Evangelistic VBS

Krista Staton

VBS isn't just about crafts, games, and songs—it's one of the best opportunities your church has all year to reach children and families with the gospel. Discover practical ways to share the gospel clearly, train your volunteers to be gospel-minded, and create follow-up plans that will connect families to your church long after the week is over. Let's make this year's VBS more than just bright ... let's make it life-changing!

Shine the Light on Follow Up

Krista Staton

VBS doesn't end when the lights are turned out. Come learn practical steps for follow-up, communication ideas that keep families engaged, and creative ways to invite kids back to church. Whether your VBS reaches 50 or 500, you'll walk away with tools to help your church turn an exciting week into lasting relationships and ongoing gospel impact.

Engaging the Whole Church in Vacation Bible School

Delanee Williams

Discover how every member of your church can play a meaningful role in VBS. In this session, we'll explore how to effectively communicate the vision for VBS and share practical, actionable ways for people to be involved.

SPANISH SESSIONS

Directores a Todo Voltaje

Brenda Jiménez

Prepárate para brillar con propósito en *Estación Iluminación*, un entrenamiento diseñado para equipar a los directores de la EBV en la planificación, desarrollo y supervisión efectiva de la EBV. A través de actividades dinámicas, aprenderán a enfocar su liderazgo, estructurar planes adecuados para cada edad y cada rotación, organizar tareas estratégicas, y mantener la luz encendida en su ministerio después de la EBV. El objetivo es inspirar líderes que reflejen la luz de Cristo y guíen a sus equipos a vivir una experiencia transformadora que resplandezca en su comunidad.

Preescolares Radiantes

Brenda Jiménez

En *Estación Iluminación*, los líderes aprenderán a planificar y dirigir sesiones dinámicas para preescolares de 3 a 5 años. Descubrirán cómo estructurar actividades creativas, adaptar las lecciones a necesidades especiales, usar recursos visuales, musicales y sensoriales para enseñar verdades bíblicas de manera efectiva e interactiva. El objetivo es equipar a los líderes para crear un ambiente donde los preescolares descubran a Jesús y brillen con Su luz.

Escolares al Máximo de Energía

Brenda Jiménez

En *Estación Iluminación*, los líderes de escolares tendrán la oportunidad de encender su creatividad y liderazgo para guiar a los niños en un aprendizaje lleno de luz y diversión. Este taller está diseñado para capacitar a líderes de escolares de los grados 1º al 6º, en la implementación del currículo de Estación Iluminación, explorando estrategias para estructurar horarios, planificar sesiones efectivas y liderar clases dinámicas. Los participantes aprenderán a desarrollar estudios bíblicos con aplicaciones prácticas, así como adaptar las lecciones a escolares con necesidades especiales, asegurando que cada sesión sea significativa y participativa.

Preadolescentes Resplandecientes

Brenda Jiménez

En la EBX *Estación Iluminación*, los líderes aprenderán a planificar y dirigir sesiones dinámicas para preadolescentes. Descubrirán cómo estructurar horarios, desarrollar estudios bíblicos relevantes, adaptar actividades a necesidades especiales y enseñar la verdad de Dios de manera eficaz e interactiva. El objetivo es equipar a los líderes para conectar con los preadolescentes y crear experiencias que iluminen su crecimiento espiritual.