



# STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## GO-TO GUIDE





# **WELCOME TO WAYSIDE CHAPEL STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

We are so glad you have chosen to be a Conductor this week and we have created this Go-To Guide to give you step-by-step instructions to help you guide children through Wayside's video-led Staycation Bible School. Get ready to bring your whole crew on board for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway VBS! At Rocky Railway, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. The children will experience amazing Bible Adventures and watch for God in everyday life. They will discover that God is active in their lives and that His fingerprints are everywhere! Rocky Railway is an exciting, fun-filled, Bible-based program your kids will love!

## **SEND US YOUR PHOTOS**

In an effort to share all of the fun and join our crews in community, we will be posting photos on our Wayside Kids Facebook page. At the end of each day, please send your favorite photos to [Kids@WaysideChapel.org](mailto:Kids@WaysideChapel.org). Remember to choose "Actual Size" when you send them.

## **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**

@Wayside.Kids





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# *Tracking with Jesus*





# ALL ABOARD . . . .

## EASY-TO-LEARN TRUTHS

At Rocky Railway, kids learn one important Bible Point each day. Instead of trying to teach kids more than they can remember or apply, Rocky Railway focuses on one key biblical concept. The Bible Point is reinforced daily through Bible adventures, key Bible verses, songs, snacks, and hands-on activities that help kids know more about God.

## GOD SIGHTINGS

God hasn't retired, you know. He's as busy now as He's ever been. But until you see that with your own eyes, it's tough to have a vibrant faith. God can seem distant or impersonal. God *is* active in our everyday lives—and we can learn to look. We can make it a habit to keep an eye out for the daily overwhelming evidence that God is doing great things all around us.

At Rocky Railway, you'll encourage your crew to look for God Sightings—everyday clues that God is present, passionate, and powerful. A God Sighting is simply an acknowledgment that God has done something. It's giving God credit where credit is due. It's developing a God-focused view and a grateful heart. Kids will discover that they can see God in things like Scripture, people, circumstances, and nature.

On Monday, your child will learn about God Sightings during KidVid. In your kit you will find a silicon wristband for each child in your crew to have as a reminder to look for signs of God. Throughout the day, incorporate the Bible point into your activities and encourage the children to respond, "Trust Jesus!"

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN EACH DAY:

- Assemble craft supplies and review instructions.
- Prepare snack ingredients.
- Gather and set up items for games.
- Prepare your heart by reading Daily Depot Devotional for Conductors.
- Log in to [WaysideChapel.org/vbs](http://WaysideChapel.org/vbs) to access activity videos.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- A television or computer screen with internet access to watch the Rocky Railway activity videos.
- Have space around the television or computer for the children to sit and watch, as well as space so they can stand and do the motions for the songs.
- Table space for the children to sit to do crafts.
- Indoor or outdoor location for snacks.
- Outdoor space for games.

## DAILY LINKS

Each day you will need to log onto our web page at [WaysideChapel.org/vbs](http://WaysideChapel.org/vbs). Click on the correct day button to begin the All Aboard Opening Assembly at 9 am. When the assembly is over you will select the video link for each activity in the order you choose.



# .... LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!

Each day will begin with the All Aboard Opening Assembly at 9 am. After that, you have the freedom to set your own course and can do the activities at your own pace and in the order that works best for you. As the conductor, we hope you feel free to adjust the activities to best suit the age and size of your group. The goal is to have fun and keep your crew on track!

## RECOMMENDED DAILY SCHEDULE:

**PRAYER TIME:** Daily Depot Devotionals for Conductors are provided for you to use before you "leave the station" each morning with your crew. Take some time to fill your tank and pray for the day ahead. Devotions are found on pages 19-25.

**\*ALL ABOARD OPENING ASSEMBLY:** Our fun, action packed opening assembly begins each day at 9:00 am. Join us at [WaysideChapel.org/vbs](http://WaysideChapel.org/vbs) and click on the correct day button as we set out on the day's adventure.

**\*BIBLE ADVENTURES:** While your passengers are all still fresh, set the tone for the day and introduce them to the day's Bible lesson.

**\*CRAFT DEPOT:** All of the supplies you need for each day's craft are included in your Staycation Bible School Kit. Step-by-step instructions are included for each day in this Go-To Guide.

**CHEW CHEW SNACKS:** Explore the day's key Bible verse through a fun food experience and get to know each other better while you eat. Fun conversations starters can be found in the Railway Play: Fun Stuff to Choo with your Crew section found on pages 28-32.

**\*KIDVID CINEMA:** Help the kids discover the Bible Point through watching true stories of children from around the world. This is a great time to discuss God Sightings!

**LOCOMOTION GAMES:** Allow the kids to wiggle and move as they explore the Bible Point in active ways. Games may need to be modified to adjust for size and age of your crew. Feel free to substitute an activity if you think it will work better.

**\*ROCKY'S WRAP-UP:** You will close out each day back with Rocky and Spike as they review what they have learned each day with fun stories, jokes, music and more!

\*Daily video links are available for these activities

**ALL ABOARD  
OPENING  
ASSEMBLY**



**BIBLE  
ADVENTURES**



**CRAFT DEPOT**



**CHEW CHEW  
SNACKS**



**KIDVID  
CINEMA**



**LOCOMOTION  
GAMES**



**ROCKY'S  
WRAP-UP**



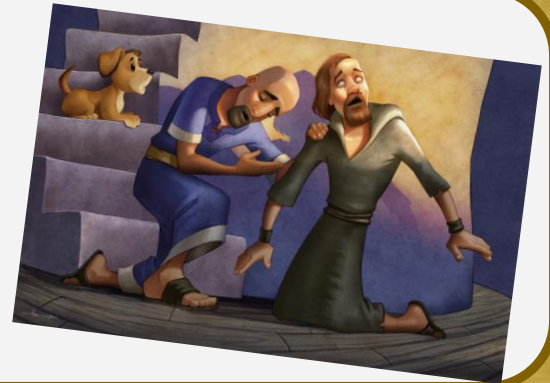
# DAY 1

## Bible Adventures

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.

**Bible Story:** Ananias helps Saul. (Acts 9:1-19)

**Bible Verse:** "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13)



## Craft Depot: Mountain Scene Craft

### Instructions:

Write a message with a crayon across the top few inches of your card stock page. (Message: Trust Jesus! Or Jesus gives me power to do hard things!)

Paint colorful stripes across page (like a sunset). Allow a few minutes to dry.

Cut triangle mountains out of black paper; glue mountains on bottom portion of card stock

Optional: glue pieces of cotton ball at tip for snowy mountaintop.

### Supplies:

Cardstock  
Black paper  
Watercolor paint set  
Scissors  
Glue

### Optional:

Crayons & Cotton balls

## Chew Chew Snacks: Coal Car Crunch Snack Mix

### Ingredients:

Pretzel sticks  
Bugles crispy corn snacks  
Cheerios  
Cheez-it crackers  
Cocoa Puffs cereal  
Mini Oreos  
M&Ms  
Mini white marshmallows

### Instructions:

Pour any of the suggested ingredient options (or your choice of ingredient ideas) in separate, open containers to allow for easy access and assembling.

Put a large spoon or a scoop in each container

Give each child a container (Ziploc bag, paper bag or bowl) to use to create their own yummy snack mix.



See page 28 for "Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew"



## KidVid Cinema

Watch the KidVid Video.

Answer the following two questions with your crew:

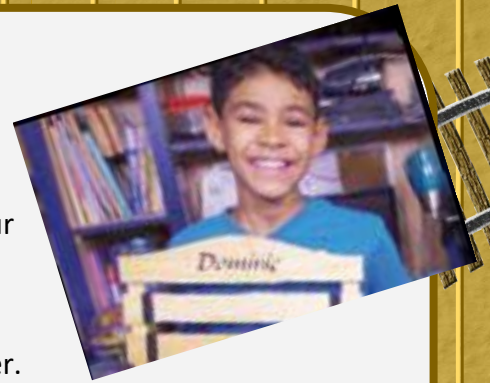
Dominic loves karate, even though it's hard. What is something in your life that you like to do, even though doing it can be hard?

How did Jesus help Dominic do the hard things we saw in the video?

Take out your Bible look up Philippians 4:13. Say the verse aloud together.

Watch the video with Axle Amy & All-Aboard Ashley where they discuss the KidVid video & questions, the key verse of the day, and God sightings!

Share your own God Sighting with your crew and then e-mail them to [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org). Some of your God sightings may be shared on the Wayside Kids Facebook page so be on the lookout for them and see how some of your friends are seeing God working as well!



## LocoMotion Games

### Caboose:

Have your crew form a single file train by holding hands.

Designate one end of the train as the "engine" and the other end of the train as the "caboose".

All the other crew members make up the train cars.

The purpose of the game is to have the engine keep away from the caboose. If the caboose can catch the engine they have won.

Mix up your train and play again.



### Obstacle Course:

Use your swing set, trampoline, old tires, ropes, left over floor tiles, etc. to create a stellar obstacle course and then take turns "doing hard things."



A **God Sighting** is when we watch for God and then notice what God is doing all around us—all the time! God can be at work through things like nature or through someone else showing us love! To help remind you to **Watch for God** this week and even after VBS, we have included a wristband in your Staycation Bible School Kit!





# DAY 2

## Bible Adventures

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE.

**Bible Story:** Paul encourages others in a storm and shipwreck. (Acts 27)

**Bible Verse:** "So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the LORD!" (Psalm 31:24)



## Craft Depot: Pine Cone Bird Feeder

### Supplies:

- Pine cone
- Bird seed
- Yarn
- Shallow plate or bowl
- Peanut butter, nut butter, or vegetable shortening
- Spatula or butter knife
- Cookie sheet

### Instructions:

Tie the piece of string to the top of the pine cone using the middle of the string, so that there are 2 pieces to tie around a branch.

Pour the birdseed into the shallow plate or bowl, set aside. Use the butter knife or spatula to spread the peanut butter, nut butter, or shortening all over the pine cone. Be sure to get it into all the cracks and crevices to fully coat your pine cone.

Roll the pine cone in the bird seed, covering as much of the pine cone as possible.

Find the best place outside to hang it. Tie the string around a branch and enjoy watching the birds come to eat.



## Chew Chew Snacks: Train Station S'mores

### Ingredients:

- Graham crackers
- Mini marshmallows
- Chocolate spread

### Instructions:

Break a graham cracker in half or in quarters.

Spread some chocolate on one of the graham cracker pieces.

Place mini marshmallows on top of the chocolate.

Top marshmallows with another graham cracker.

Repeat the process to make additional s'mores, if desired.

### Substitutions:

Mini marshmallows substitute: regular sized marshmallows or marshmallow spread.

Chocolate substitutes: chocolate syrup, Nutella spread, melted chocolate candy bars, melted chocolate chips, or chocolate frosting.



See page 29 for "Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew"



## KidVid Cinema

Watch the KidVid Video.

Answer the following two questions with your crew:

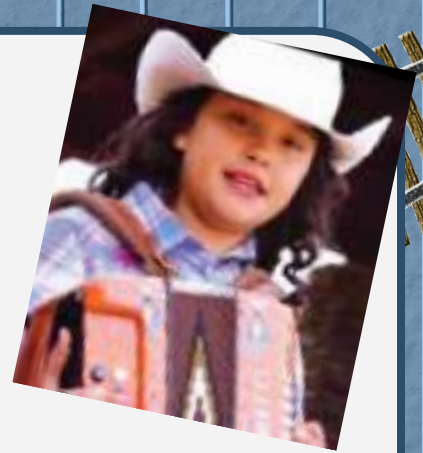
Who in your life brings you comfort and hope? What do they do?

What's a talent you have—something you're good at—that could bring comfort and hope to someone?

Take out your Bible look up Psalm 31:24. Say the verse aloud together.

Watch the Video with Axle Amy & All-Aboard Ashley.

Share your own God Sighting with your crew and then e-mail them to [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org)



## Trust Jesus!

### LocoMotion Games

#### Storm Tag:

Designate one side of your play area as a "ship" and the opposite side as an "island". You can use a jump rope or a sheet if you want to create an enclosed area.

Place all of your crew into the "ship" and say, "The men who sailed with Paul had to swim to an island when their ship got stuck. Let's play a game where we try to get safely to that island."

The kids try to run from the ship to the island without getting sprayed by the leader (Use spray bottle, squirt gun, or hose). If they get wet they must return to the ship and start over.



#### Tossed in a Storm:

Have crew members spread out around a sheet.

Place five balls in the center of the sheet. Say, "We're going to pretend these balls are sailors on a ship in our storm. We're going to make wild waves with our sheet, but we want our "sailors" to stay safe on their ship!"

Designate a child or two to be lifeguards. They can rescue any "sailors" who do fly off the parachute and return them to the "storm".





# DAY 3

## Bible Adventures

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD.

**Bible Story:** Peter and John teach about Jesus. (Acts 3:1—4:31)

**Bible Verse:** "He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless." (Isaiah 40:29)



## Craft Depot: Wood Slice Ornament

### Supplies:

Wood slice  
Twine  
Sharpies, paints  
Stickers

### Instructions:

Decorate wood slices with whatever material you have available—sharpies, paint, stickers. Be creative with your designs—draw a picture, write "Trust Jesus", or any other designs that will remind you of VBS 2020. Allow wood slice to dry before threading the twine through and tying a knot to create a loop for hanging.



## Chew Chew Snacks: Railroad Crossing Wafers

### Ingredients:

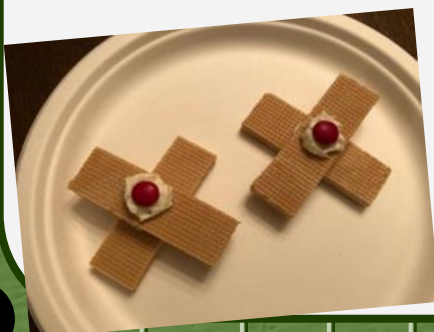
Sugar wafers (vanilla)  
Frosting  
Red M&Ms or other round candy of similar size

### Instructions:

Use a tiny dollop of frosting to connect two of the wafers together to form a railroad crossing sign.  
Add a small amount of frosting to the center of the top wafer.  
Press one candy into the frosting.  
Repeat the process to prepare more of these lip-smacking morsels.

### Alternative snack:

Make a savory snack with a flavored cream cheese spread, peanut butter, or alternate spread to connect two pretzel rods together to form the sign. Add a dollop of your spread and a candy to finish off the snack.



See page 30 for "Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew"



## KidVid Cinema

Watch the KidVid Video.

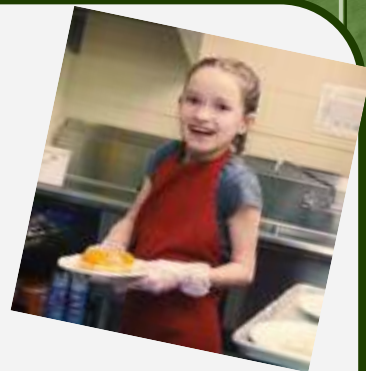
Answer the following two questions with your crew:

What would be some great things about serving in a community kitchen?  
Sometimes it's hard to try new things. Have you ever wanted to help someone, but something stopped you from helping? What stopped you?

Take out your Bible look up Isaiah 40:29. Say the verse aloud together.

Watch the video with Axle Amy & All-Aboard Ashley.

Share your own God Sighting with your crew and then e-mail them to [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org)



## LocoMotion Games

### Bold Balloons:

Fill water balloons. Divide your crew into pairs.

Begin playing a game of toss with the balloons with the pairs standing close together.

After each successful toss take one step backwards.

Continue until the balloon is burst.

Measure the farthest distance that you were able to make the catch without bursting the balloon.



### Luggage Scramble:

Spread out several pieces of luggage (suitcase, duffle, recycle bag, etc.) in your play area.

Place about 20 items in each piece of luggage.

Have each crew member choose a piece of luggage and stand near it.

For the first round, each crew takes items from other crew member's bags, and runs them back to their own. Each person can only carry two items at a time.

Crew members cannot stop anyone from taking items from their bags, but they can work fast to take from other bags so their own bags don't get completely emptied.

The round ends when one crew member's bag is emptied.

In round two, redistribute the items and play again, but this time the crew member's goal is to completely empty their bag.



*Through life's ups and downs,  
Jesus' power pulls us through.*





# DAY 4

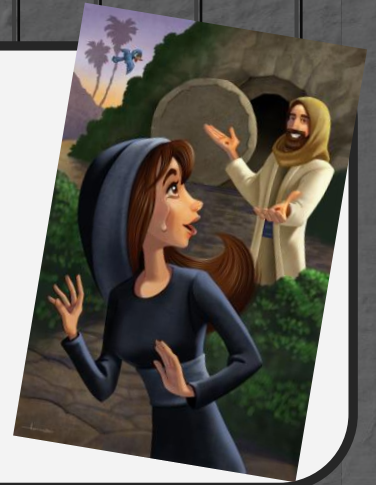
## Bible Adventures

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER.

**Bible Story:** Jesus' death and resurrection. (Matthew 26:17—28:10)

**Bible Verse:** "The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you."  
(Romans 8:11)

**Activity:** Your kit came with a cross template and black dots that will be used with the Bible lesson today.



## Craft Depot: Gospel Bead Keychain

### Supplies:

Keychain craft kit  
Gospel colors card  
Glue  
Scissors  
Paperclip

### Tip:

If hole in bead is too small,  
use tip of paper clip to create  
bigger opening for black cord.

### Instructions:

Thread cross bead onto black cord. Slide across to the middle so that both ends of the cord are the same length. Tie 1 or 2 knots on each side of the cross to hold in place.

Use Gospel story card to thread beads through both ends of the cord in this order: blue, purple, yellow, black, red, white and green. Tie both cord ends around the metal key ring with a double knot.

Trim excess cord and add a drop of glue to secure knot.

Allow time for craft to dry and add the Gospel colors card.

See page 16 for more information about how to lead a child to Christ.



## Chew Chew Snacks: Coal Car Crunch Snack Mix

### Ingredients:

Leftover snack ingredients

### Instructions:

Use ingredients from the previous snack ideas or from your pantry to create your Chew Chew Train Treat. We've included some pictures to get your creative juices flowing.



See page 31 for "Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew"



## KidVid Cinema

Watch the KidVid Video.

Answer the following three questions with your crew:

When Isaac was sad, he found that dancing helped him feel better.

What is something you like to do when you are sad?

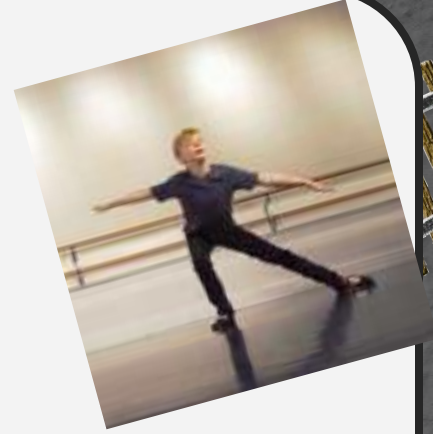
What does the word "forever" mean to you?

What do you think heaven will be like?

Take out your Bible look up Romans 8:11. Say the verse aloud together.

Watch the video with Axle Amy & All-Aboard Ashley.

Share your own God Sighting with your crew and then e-mail them to [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org)



## Tracking with Jesus



## LocoMotion Games

### Celebrate the Victory:

Divide your group in pairs.

Today we celebrate that Jesus' power lets us live forever! (Trust Jesus!) Have each pair create a cheer that they will use to celebrate every time they accomplish their goal.

Place two buckets of water in the playing area on opposite sides.

You will need to put one sponge per pair in the bucket at the start line.

The goal is for the pairs to work together to get the sponge from one bucket to the other bucket without dropping it. The first person takes the sponge and moves towards the other bucket. After three steps they must throw it to the other person. The second person can be as close or as far away as they wish, but if they drop the sponge they have to go back to the original bucket. Then the second person can only take three steps and they must then throw to the first person.

Once they reach the other bucket they submerge the sponge again and do their cheer!

Repeat as time and interest allows.



### God Sighting Walk:

Go for a walk in your neighborhood, backyard or local park and find five things that God created. Take along a small bag to collect items you find. When you get home, thank God for all He has created.



# DAY 5

## Bible Adventures

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS.

**Bible Story:** The church is united. (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35)

**Bible Verse:** "Love each other in the same way I have loved you." (John 15:12)



## Craft Depot: Train Track Frame

### Supplies:

Train Track Frame Kit  
3X5 Picture of Rocky & Spike  
Markers, colored pencils,  
and crayons  
Glue or tape

### Instructions:

Color frame and decorate with stickers.  
Apply magnet to the back of frame.  
Glue or tape picture into the frame.



Jesus' power

pulls us through.

## Chew Chew Snacks: Dining Car Delights

### Ingredients:

Favorite Frozen Treat

### Instructions:

Choose a favorite frozen treat for a fun way to end the week and stay cool!

**Ideas:** Popsicles, ice cream sandwiches, frozen juice bars, or any frozen option you desire.

See page 32 for "Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew"



## KidVid Cinema

Watch the KidVid Video.

Answer the following three questions with your crew:

What are some things Renee and Alina like to do together?

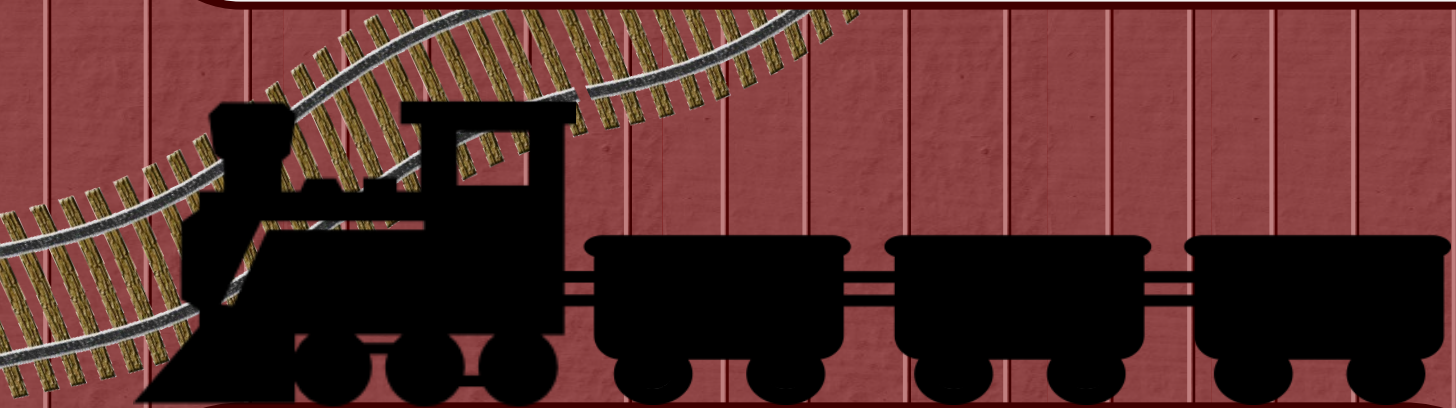
What's your favorite thing to do with your friends?

In your life, what do you look for in a good friend? For example, for Axle Amy, she'd like a good friend to be honest.

Take out your Bible look up John 15:12. Say the verse aloud together.

Watch the video with Axle Amy & All-Aboard Ashley.

Share your own God Sighting with your crew and then e-mail them to [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org)



## LocoMotion Games

### Three-legged race:

Stand with your partner and face the same direction with your legs touching.

Tie a bandana or cloth securely around the touching ankles. For more stability have each partner put an arm around the other partner's waist. Work together to run to the other side of the playing area.

Variations: Try the race blindfolded; walk backwards; or flip directions with one person facing forward and one back as they race.

### Train Race:

Grab an old blanket or beach towel.

Child 1 stands while holding one end of the towel. Child 2 sits on the other end of the towel.

Child 1 pulls his friend as fast as he possibly can.

At the goal line, Child 1 and 2 switch places and hurry back to the start.



This can be a race against other friends or against their own time.








# Leading a Child to Christ

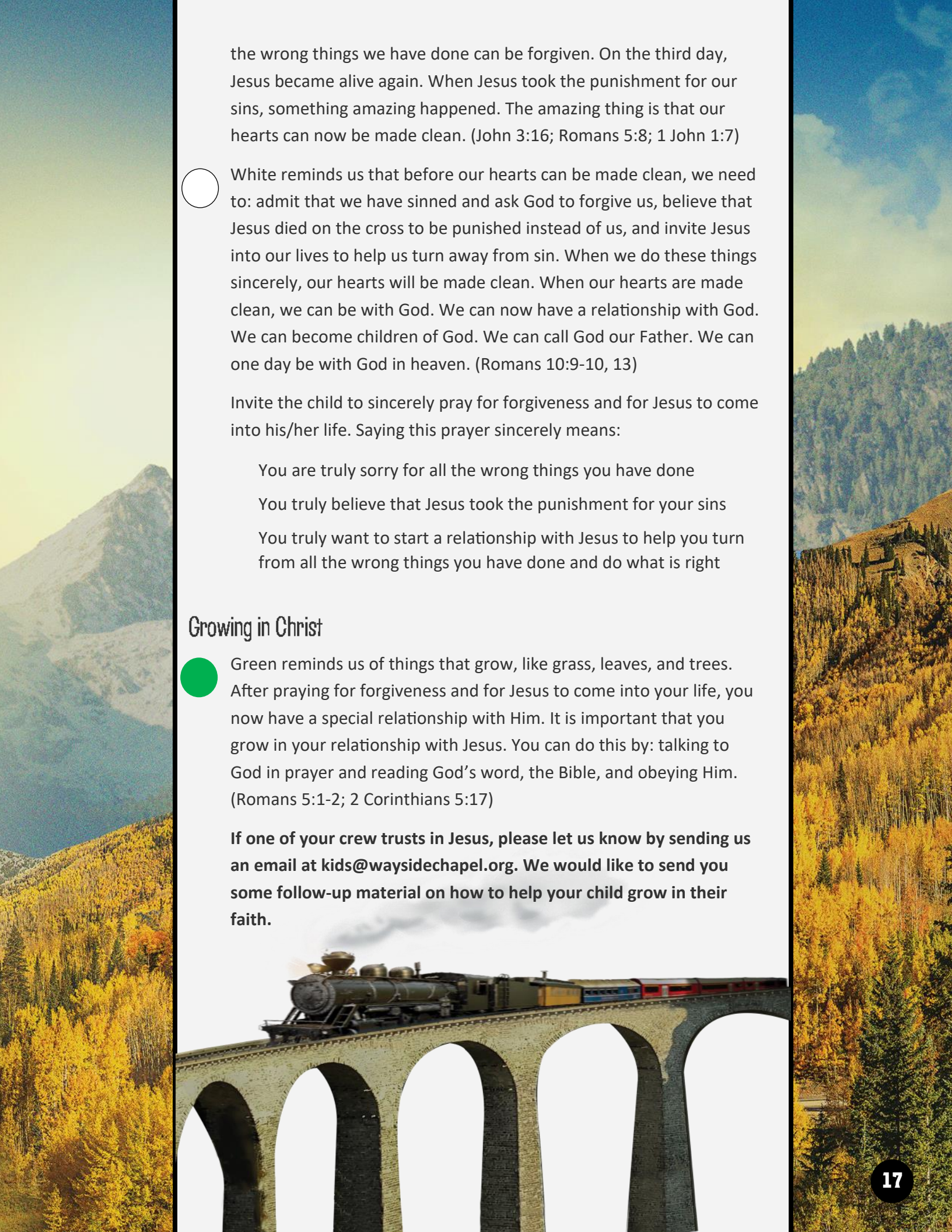
## Foundation:

-  Blue represents creation. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. He created the sky, and the seas and the land. He created the birds, fish, and animals. Lastly, He created man in His own image. God created mankind because He wanted to have a relationship with them. God made the first man and the first woman a garden, and He walked with them and talked with them each day in the garden. (Genesis 1:26-31; Genesis 1—3)
-  Purple is for God. God is perfect, and holy, and good. He is also sovereign. Sovereign means that He is over all things. He is the King of kings. It is really amazing that the King of kings would care for us and want to have a relationship with us forever and ever. (Deuteronomy 10:17)

## Gospel:

-  Gold is for heaven. Heaven is God's eternal home. Heaven is very different from where we live. In heaven, there is no pain, suffering, sadness, or sickness. Everyone always has all that they need. The most wonderful thing about heaven is that God is there. God loves us very much and wants us to be with Him, but there is something that keeps us from being with God. (2 Chronicles 2:6; John 14:2; Revelation 21:4)
-  Dark represents sin. We sin when we do, say or think bad things. Telling a lie, hitting someone, or taking something that isn't ours are examples of sins. All of us have sinned. When we sin, it separates us from God and makes Him sad. This is because God is perfect. God always does what is right and loving and good. Because sin makes our hearts unclean we cannot be with God. God saw that we had a problem with sin and that we were unable to fix our sin problem on our own. But God showed His amazing love for us by giving us the help we need. (Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23)
-  Red represents the blood of Jesus — the only way our hearts can be made clean. God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:22) was a man who was different from any other person. Jesus is God and never sinned. Jesus came from heaven to earth to take the punishment for our sins. Instead of us being punished, He took our place. Jesus died on the cross so that all





the wrong things we have done can be forgiven. On the third day, Jesus became alive again. When Jesus took the punishment for our sins, something amazing happened. The amazing thing is that our hearts can now be made clean. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 1:7)



White reminds us that before our hearts can be made clean, we need to: admit that we have sinned and ask God to forgive us, believe that Jesus died on the cross to be punished instead of us, and invite Jesus into our lives to help us turn away from sin. When we do these things sincerely, our hearts will be made clean. When our hearts are made clean, we can be with God. We can now have a relationship with God. We can become children of God. We can call God our Father. We can one day be with God in heaven. (Romans 10:9-10, 13)

Invite the child to sincerely pray for forgiveness and for Jesus to come into his/her life. Saying this prayer sincerely means:

You are truly sorry for all the wrong things you have done

You truly believe that Jesus took the punishment for your sins

You truly want to start a relationship with Jesus to help you turn from all the wrong things you have done and do what is right

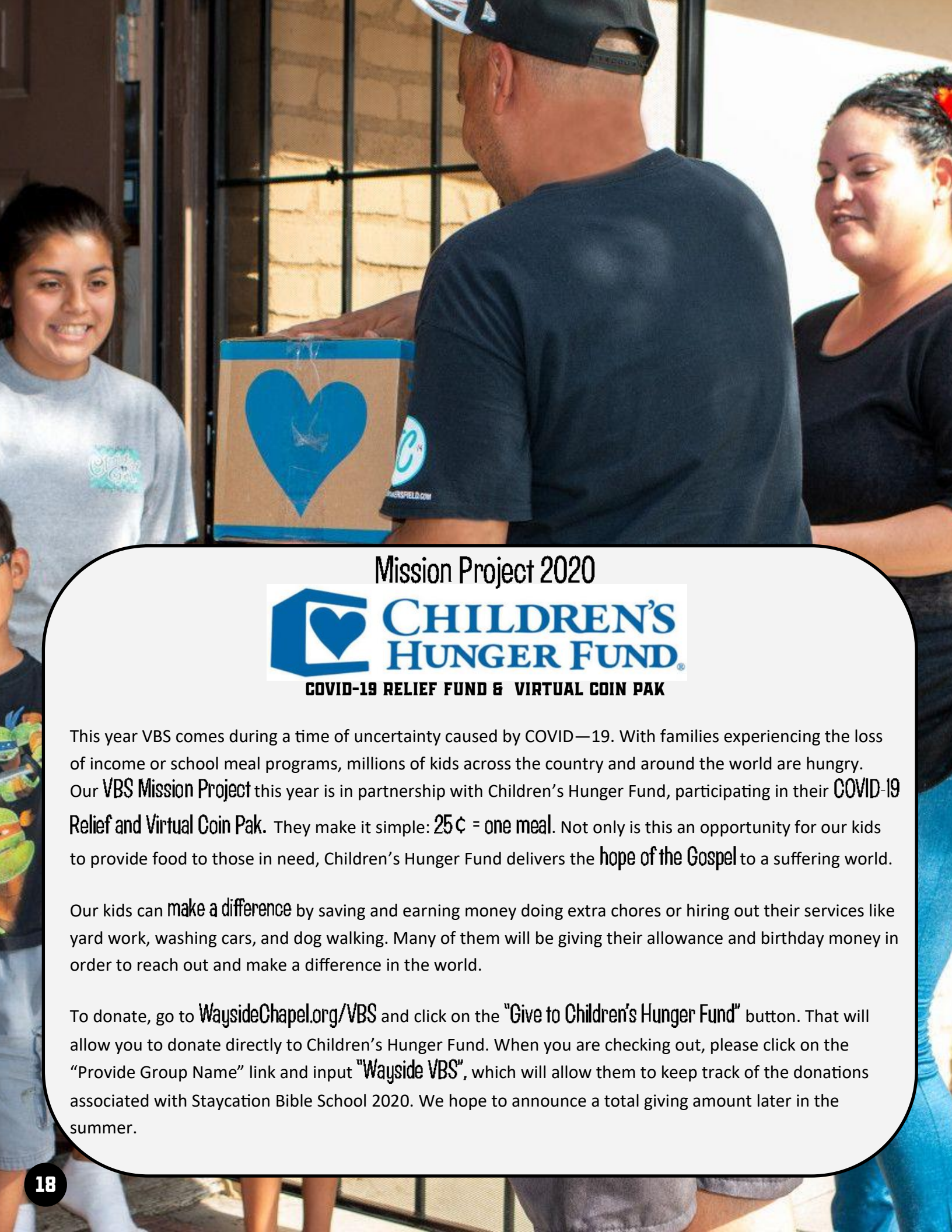
### Growing in Christ



Green reminds us of things that grow, like grass, leaves, and trees. After praying for forgiveness and for Jesus to come into your life, you now have a special relationship with Him. It is important that you grow in your relationship with Jesus. You can do this by: talking to God in prayer and reading God's word, the Bible, and obeying Him. (Romans 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

**If one of your crew trusts in Jesus, please let us know by sending us an email at [kids@waysidechapel.org](mailto:kids@waysidechapel.org). We would like to send you some follow-up material on how to help your child grow in their faith.**





## Mission Project 2020



This year VBS comes during a time of uncertainty caused by COVID—19. With families experiencing the loss of income or school meal programs, millions of kids across the country and around the world are hungry. Our **VBS Mission Project** this year is in partnership with Children's Hunger Fund, participating in their **COVID-19 Relief and Virtual Coin Pak**. They make it simple: **25¢ = one meal**. Not only is this an opportunity for our kids to provide food to those in need, Children's Hunger Fund delivers the **hope of the Gospel** to a suffering world.

Our kids can **make a difference** by saving and earning money doing extra chores or hiring out their services like yard work, washing cars, and dog walking. Many of them will be giving their allowance and birthday money in order to reach out and make a difference in the world.

To donate, go to [WaysideChapel.org/VBS](https://WaysideChapel.org/VBS) and click on the **"Give to Children's Hunger Fund"** button. That will allow you to donate directly to Children's Hunger Fund. When you are checking out, please click on the **"Provide Group Name"** link and input **"Wayside VBS"**, which will allow them to keep track of the donations associated with Staycation Bible School 2020. We hope to announce a total giving amount later in the summer.



# SUPPLY LIST

## Day 1

### Craft

Cardstock\*  
Black paper\*  
Watercolor paint set\*  
Scissors  
Glue  
Crayons  
Cotton balls

### Snack

Pretzel sticks  
Bugles crispy corn snacks  
Cheerios  
Cheez-it crackers  
Cocoa Puffs cereal  
Mini Oreos  
M&Ms  
Mini marshmallows

### Games

Household items to be used  
to make an obstacle course

Lesson found on pages 6-7

## Day 2

### Craft

Pine cone\*  
Bird seed\*  
Yarn\*  
Shallow plate or bowl  
Peanut butter, nut butter,  
or vegetable shortening  
Spatula or butter knife  
Cookie Sheet

### Snack

Graham crackers  
Mini marshmallows  
Chocolate spread

### Games

Jump rope or sheet  
Spray bottle, squirt gun or  
hose  
Sheet or blanket  
5 balls

Lesson found on pages 8-9

## Day 3

### Craft

Wood slice\*  
Twine\*  
Sharpies, paints  
Stickers\*

### Snack

Sugar wafers (vanilla)  
Frosting  
Red M&Ms

### Games

Water balloons  
Suitcases, duffles, bags, etc.  
20 items to pack in suitcases

Lesson found on pages 10-11

## Day 4

### Craft

Key chain craft kit\*  
Gospel colors card\*  
Glue  
Scissors  
Paperclip

### Snack

Leftover ingredients from  
Days 1-3

### Games

2 Buckets  
Large sponge for each pair of  
kids

Lesson found on pages 12-13

## Day 5

### Craft

Train Track Frame Kit\*  
Picture of Rocky & Spike\*  
Markers, colored pencils,  
and crayons  
Glue or tape

### Snack

Favorite Frozen Treat

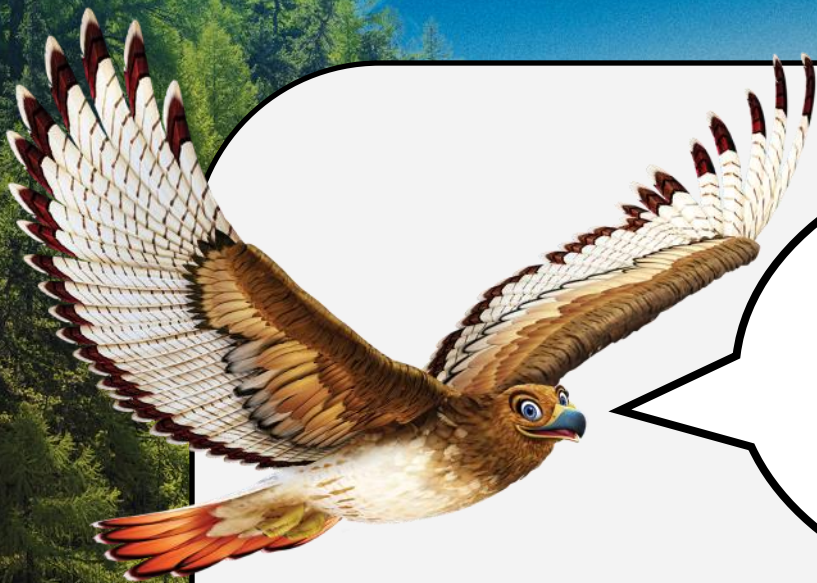
### Games

A bandana or cloth tie for each  
pair of kids  
Blanket or beach towel

Lesson found on pages 13-14

\*Item is included in your Staycation Bible School Kit





Yet those who wait for the Lord  
will gain new strength; They will  
mount up with wings like eagles,  
They will run and not get tired,  
they will walk and not become  
weary. —Isaiah 40:31

## DAILY DEPOT DEVOTIONALS

### For Conductors

We have included daily devotions for our conductors so that you can have some time each day to focus on the main Bible point and be encouraged as you lead your crew through the activities.

We are praying for you and it is our hope God will use you mightily this week as you guide your group of kids.





# DAILY DEPOT

## ##### DEVOTIONAL #####

### FOR THE CONDUCTOR—DAY 1

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.

**Bible Story:** Ananias helps Saul. (Acts 9:1-19)

**Bible Verse:** "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."  
(Philippians 4:13)

#### Consider This . . .

The Bible makes it evident that God often asks His followers to do hard things. Noah built an ark. Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son. Mary bore the Son of God. Ananias had the terrifying job of reaching out to Saul.

To understand the difficulty of Ananias' job, it's important to realize just how much Saul hated the early church. He approved the stoning of Stephen, arrested Christians in Jerusalem, and set his sights on imprisoning Christians living in Damascus. Christians ran away from Saul—not toward him!

Ananias' name means "protected by the Lord." It's likely that his parents didn't know the importance of such protection during this important, history-altering mission.

In Acts 9:15, God doesn't ease Ananias' misgivings with words of comfort or empowerment. He simply shares his life-changing plan for Saul and urges Ananias to go.

Because of his selection and obedience, Ananias got to be the first person to welcome Saul as a Christian. In spite of any misgivings or fear, Ananias warmly greeted Saul with the phrase "Brother Saul."



#### Why It Matters . . .

Jesus still asks his followers to do hard things. The kids at your VBS know it's hard to forgive when someone hurts their feelings. Some are dealing with difficult things at home. Kids can tell you how tough it is to make new friends, do what's unpopular, learn a new skill in school, and reach out in friendship to someone who's lonely. That's why today's activities will encourage kids with the truth that Jesus' power can fortify them through life's challenges. Just as Ananias drew strength from God's reassurances and plan, kids will come away with renewed inspiration that they can trust in Jesus' power to tackle the hard things they face.



# DAILY DEPOT

## ##### DEVOTIONAL #####

### FOR THE CONDUCTOR—DAY 2

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE.

**Bible Story:** Paul encourages others in a storm and shipwreck. (Acts 27)

**Bible Verse:** “So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the LORD!”  
(Psalm 31:24)



#### Consider This . . .

After Paul became a follower of Jesus, he fervently shared the news of Jesus everywhere he went. In Jerusalem, Paul encountered a group of men who opposed his teachings. These men began a riot, accusing Paul of spreading false doctrine and of defiling the Temple. Guards arrested Paul and threw him in prison. The following years included trials, death threats, secret transfers to other prisons, and finally a trip to Rome where Paul could plead his case before Caesar.

In Acts 27:9, Paul notes the sailing season in connection with Jewish observances. Sailors typically only sailed from Pentecost (May-June) through Tabernacles (after the Day of Atonement in Late September or early October). Roman sailors resisted sailing in November, as it typically proved dangerous.

The sailors battled the fierce storm for at least three days, using every trick they knew to secure the ship and survive hurricane-force winds and waves. Finally, the weary seamen lost hope of ever being saved. At this low point, Paul shares the hopeful news given by God.

God's message of hope, conveyed through Paul, rang true for the soldiers, the sailors, and the prisoners. God's angel assured Paul that “none of you will lose your lives” (Acts 27:22). However, after the shipwreck, the soldiers planned to kill the prisoners so they wouldn't escape (Roman law mandated that a soldier who lost a prisoner had to take that prisoner's place!). “But the commanding officer wanted to spare Paul, so he didn't let them carry out their plan” (Acts 27:43). And, just as the angel said, not even a prisoner died.

#### Why It Matters . . .

In many ways, Paul was powerless in the stormy sea. He didn't have experience as a sailor. Guards held him prisoner. And, of course, he couldn't stop the crashing waves and howling winds. But Paul did have Jesus' power on his side! In the same way, the kids at your VBS may feel powerless through life's storms. The world can seem turbulent, dark, and confusing. Bad news crashes over us. Fear blows relentlessly, leaving kids feeling hopeless. Yet God promises to strengthen us with His power! And we can trust that God's promises are true. Like Paul, we have Jesus' power on our side. Today, celebrate that truth and give kids the hope of victory and comfort during life's uncertainties.



# DAILY DEPOT

## #### DEVOTIONAL ####

### FOR THE CONDUCTOR—DAY 3

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD.

**Bible Story:** Peter and John teach about Jesus. (Acts 3:1—4:31)

**Bible Verse:** “He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.”  
(Isaiah 40:29)

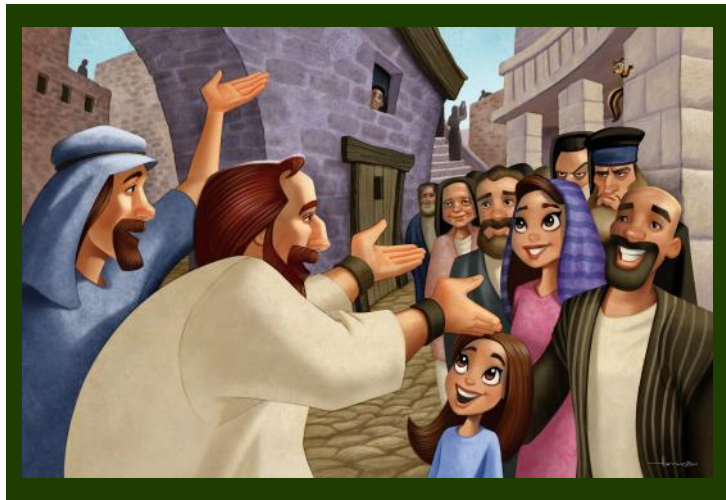
#### Consider This . . .

In the name of Jesus, Peter and John healed a lame man at the Temple gate. The man celebrated the miracle so loudly that a crowd gathered. Peter, making the most of this instant audience, stood up and boldly shared the good news of Jesus.

The priests who heard Peter's message were most likely Sadducees. Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection, nor did they believe in the existence of angels or spirits. These leaders also maintained loyalty to the Roman government and sought to maintain the status quo.

At the time, most Jews could read and write, but few—if any—received rabbinical training. Such an education would have made them skilled at lengthy theological discussions. So when Peter and John boldly preached before the Sanhedrin (a crowd of highly trained priests), the judges marveled at their ability and noted that they must have been with Jesus.

After Peter and John's release from prison, the church gathered around them for prayer and praise. It's interesting to note that they don't pray for the persecution to stop, but that God would give them the boldness to continue sharing the news of Jesus in spite of their suffering.



#### Why It Matters . . .

Like Peter and John, most kids at your VBS are “untrained.” Speaking out about their faith can be intimidating, especially in the face of a culture that often feels “anti-Christian.” Many kids feel shy about praying before a restaurant meal, inviting a friend to church, or even mentioning Jesus in regular conversation. Other kids may feel unsure when it comes to showing Jesus' love, playing with a new friend, or reaching out to someone who's lonely. Today, give kids the chance to practice speaking about Jesus with ease and confidence. Provide opportunities for kids to daringly step out of their comfort zones. Bolster their bravery and cultivate a courageous faith, encouraging kids to rely on Jesus' power to help them be bold.



# DAILY DEPOT

## ##### DEVOTIONAL #####

### FOR THE CONDUCTOR—DAY 4

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER.

**Bible Story:** Jesus' death and resurrection. (Matthew 26:17—28:10)

**Bible Verse:** "The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you."

(Romans 8:11)

#### Consider This . . .

The Passover meal shared between Jesus and His disciples commemorated God's miraculous provision for His people centuries earlier. In this traditional celebration, Jews remembered the sacrificial lamb whose blood (marked on their doorposts in Egypt) saved them. How appropriate that Jesus—our sacrificial lamb—completes His work on earth with such a symbolic event.

In Jesus' culture—and in some Middle Eastern cultures today—eating together equaled friendship. Scholars equate sharing a meal with trust and intimacy, adding weight to Jesus' comment to Judas: "One of you who has just eaten from this bowl with me will betray me" (Matthew 26:23).

The Roman government had deprived the Sanhedrin of the right to carry out most capital punishments. Therefore, even though their chief priests and elders found Jesus guilty, they had to turn Him over to Pilate for execution.

At Jesus' death, Matthew 27:51 records that "the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom," showing our sin that separated us from God was dealt with by Jesus' death on the cross. Even Jesus' followers found his resurrection hard to believe! Matthew 28:17 tells us, "but some of them doubted!" Yet Jesus removed their doubts by appearing to them repeatedly over 40 days (Acts 1:3; 10:40-41)



#### Why It Matters . . .

Death is an uncomfortable—and even scary—topic for children and adults. Even though we don't like to talk or think about it, it's likely that most kids will experience the death of a pet, friend, or relative. That's why it's critical that we help children understand the hope we have through Jesus. Even though death may mean the end of this life, kids can celebrate the astonishing promise of eternal life with Jesus. Use today's lesson to help children understand their need for Jesus. Guide them as they discover that through Jesus' miraculous power, we can live forever in heaven.



# DAILY DEPOT

## ##### DEVOTIONAL #####

### FOR THE CONDUCTOR—DAY 5

**Bible Point:** JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS.  
**Bible Story:** The church is united. (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35)  
**Bible Verse:** "Love each other in the same way I have Loved you."  
(John 15:12)

#### Consider This . . .

The book of Psalms mentions prayer more than 60 times—more than any other section of Scripture. The book of Acts comes in second, recording the importance and occurrence of prayer about 34 times. Clearly, the early church relied on prayer for hope, communion, healing, provision, and unity. Communication with God became a critical part of their community and a Christian's walk with God. Scholars believe that the early church probably met in Solomon's Colonnade, a porch along the inner side of the Temple wall, up on the Temple Mount. Many of the first Christians came from Jewish backgrounds, meaning they probably already followed God's command to give to the poor (Deuteronomy 15:4-8). Uniting and caring for others may have been a natural connection with their faith family. Acts 4:33 records the great power with which the apostles testified about Jesus' resurrection. It's likely this refers to a boldness given by the Holy Spirit.

While Acts shines a light on the rapid growth of the early church (Acts 2:47; 4:4; 6:7; 9:31; 21:20), in a city of around 200,000 people, they still represented a minority of the population. This small band of believers needed to stick together and support each other!



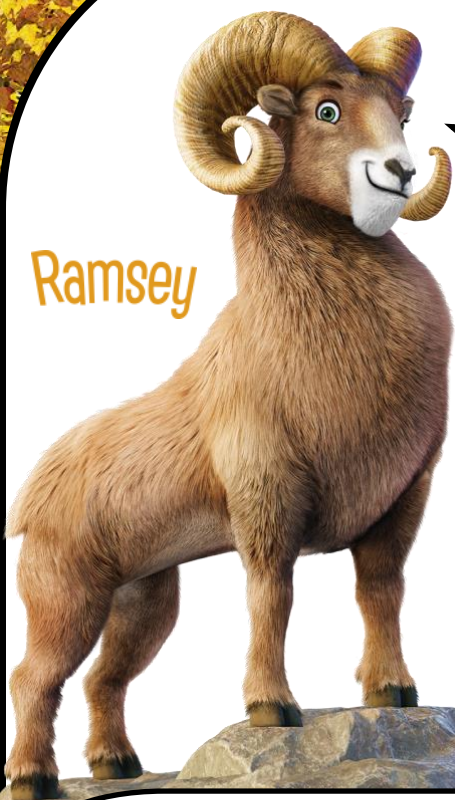
#### Why It Matters . . .

Are the kids at your VBS like or unlike the early Christians? Why? Do they have a heart to serve, share, and bear one another's heartaches? What would happen if kids today had the same spirit of that first faith family? What would the church of tomorrow look like? You have the opportunity to send kids off with a passion for sharing Jesus' love in powerful and practical ways! With Jesus' power, we can transform tomorrow's faith community into an environment of belonging, sharing, caring, and community. Today, help kids discover how Jesus' power can help them be faithful friends who truly care for each other.



# BIBLE

Ramsey



Rams like me have a special ability to scale and stand on very steep ground. It's too hard for predators like bears to bother us the higher we climb. God gave us the feet we need to cling to cliffs and do what's best for us by doing something hard. I'll help everyone remember that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.**



Ava

You know, it wasn't easy to learn to fly, but I kept hoping that one day I'd figure out how to ride the wind and soar way up in the sky—and I did! *Hope* helped me not give up, and now I get to see the world from high above. I'll help everyone remember that **JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE.**

Sierra



I'm known by a *lot* of different names, such as *mountain lion*, *puma*, *cougar*, *panther*, and *catamount*. Big cats like me are known by so many names because we're bold enough to roam all over the Americas! I'll help everyone remember that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD.**



# BUDDIES

To rainbow trout like me, and many others in my big fish family, home is *very* important. Did you know many of us will return to the exact spot we were born toward the end of our lives? Jesus made a way for you to share a *forever* home with him, and my heart for home will help everyone remember that **JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER**—in a home called heaven.



Lawrence Elk



Elk like me make a very unique sound. It's called *bugling*, and it's a high-pitched, screeching sound that you might not expect from big animals like us! We bugle loudly, and it helps us be good friends by keeping track of everyone in our sometimes *large* herds. I'll help everyone remember that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS.**



# RAILWAY PLAY

## Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew

### Train to Tallahassee

Some of the longest trains are *more than a mile long*, with the engine pulling up to 100 cars! Of course, that all depends on where the train is going, whether there are hills and sharp turns along the way, and what the train is carrying.

How much cargo can *your train* (or your *brain*) carry? Find out by playing this game.

Start with the person whose name comes first in the alphabet.

That person will say, “The train to Tallahassee carries \_\_\_\_.” The person will say any cargo that begins with the letter A—apples, armadillos, avocados, or Australians! The sillier the better!

The next crew friend will say, “The train to Tallahassee carries [the cargo just named that begins with A] and \_\_\_\_\_,” adding on a cargo that starts with the letter B.

See if your crew can get all the way through the alphabet, remembering all the crazy cargo you’re carrying!

### Sweet Sounds

Today you’ll learn about a guy who heard Jesus’ voice...even though he didn’t see Jesus! Wow! That must’ve been a surprising sound.

Put on your “engine-ears” and talk about this with your crew:

What’s the sweetest sound *you’ve* ever heard?

What sound reminds you of home? summer? school?

What’s one sound you’d love to hear every day?

What’s your least favorite sound?

Be sure to tell why!

## Laugh Tracks

Why was the train late?  
It kept getting sidetracked.

Why are Ramsey’s friends so quiet?  
Because they’re shhh-h-eeep.

Why did Ramsey get in trouble when he was a little kid?  
He was too rambunctious!



### RAMSEY

Your stomach is sort of like a balloon—you eat, it gets full, and it squishes up the food to digest it. But a bighorn sheep’s stomach has *four* parts, like four little balloons inside one big balloon! That lets me gobble up food while I can, then move to a safer place away from predators, and then chew and digest the food again. Weird (and maybe a little gross to humans), but it works!



# RAILWAY PLAY

## Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew

### Fuel Up!

Trains are powered-up by engines that run on steam, diesel, or electricity. There are even high speed trains that use magnetic power! (And *they* can go around 300 miles per hour!)

You may not be able to run 300 miles per hour, but *you* chug along on fuel, too—food! Which energy source would *you* rather fire up with?

Popcorn or popsicles?

Butterfingers or butternut squash?

Green eggs or green ham?

Grapes or crepes?

French toast or french fries?

Peas or cheese?

### Shipwrecked

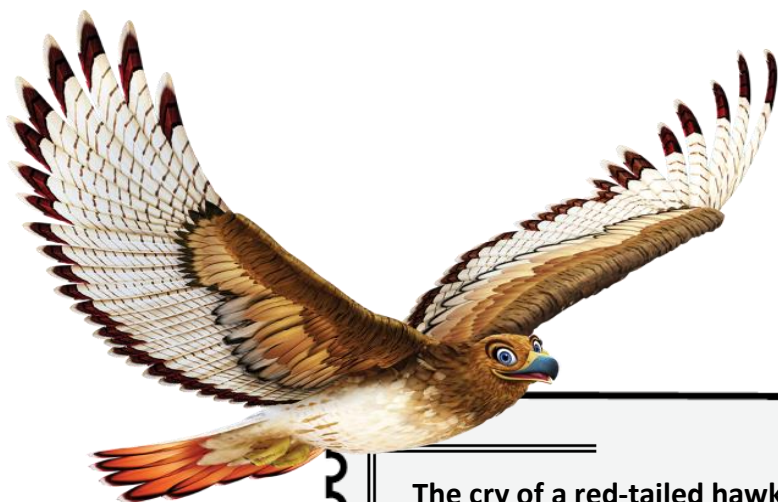
Today you'll hear the true Bible story about a crew of sailors who got shipwrecked on an island. If you were shipwrecked, what one thing would you miss the most about home? What would be the most fun about being shipwrecked? Who would you want to be stranded with, and why?

## Laugh Tracks

How did the locomotive get so good at its job?  
Lots of training

Why did the little bird get in trouble at school?  
Because he was caught tweeting on a test.

What is Ava's favorite movie?  
Lord of the Wings



### AVA

The cry of a red-tailed hawk *sounds* so fierce and wild that oftentimes filmmakers use the hawk's cry in place of an eagle's call in movies or on TV! (Hey, that's *my* voice!) You may not be surprised to learn that God gave red-tailed hawks *amazing* eyesight, but did you know I can see things humans *can't*? Hawk eyes are so unique; they can see colors in the ultraviolet range. Those are colors that human eyes can't observe without special lights.



# RAILWAY PLAY

## Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew

### Train Trek

Are trains getting in your brain?

Ready to grab your backpack and hit the tracks?

Getting loco about locomotives?

Then we have the choo-choo for *you*! Jump on a train in Portugal, and in 12 days (and 11,000 miles) you'll end up in South Vietnam! That's the longest train trek you can make.



Imagine your crew is coming up with its own remarkable rail route. Start with the person who has a birthday closest to today. That person's dream location will be the starting point. Then let each person add a city, mapping out a route *just* for your crew!

### No Feet? No Problem!

Today you'll hear about a man who couldn't walk for years and years. When he wanted to go somewhere, people carried him. What are some crazy ways *you've* moved from place to place? Has anyone traveled by...

Pogo stick?

Skis?

Helicopter?

Zip-line?

Ambulance?

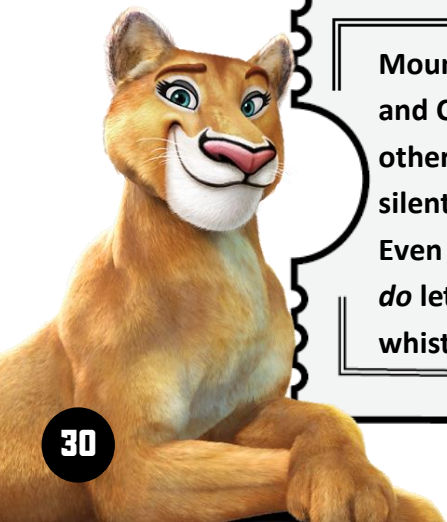
What other surprising ways have you gotten from here to there?

Surfboard?

## Laugh Tracks

What do you call a mountain lion's reflection?  
A copycat

What do you call a train loaded with bubble gum?  
A chew-chew train



### SIERRA

Mountain lions are found in 21 of the 23 countries in North, South, and Central America. Our wide range makes us a recordholder—no other animal has as many names as we do! Mountain lions are silent stalkers that quietly creep up on their prey before pouncing. Even though we're called "lions," you won't hear us roar. Females *do* let out a wild scream now and then, but usually we just chirp, whistle, or growl (a little like a cat).

# RAILWAY PLAY

## Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew

### Elevation Station

Want a choo-choo with a view? You'll have to head to Tibet (that's not far from China) and board the Qingzang Railway, which chugs through a pass that's more than 3 *miles* above sea level! The train goes so high that there's oxygen on board for every passenger!

Today, as you steam through Rocky Railway, give super-high-fives to other crew members. Work with your crew to come up with a cheer that will make everyone's spirits sky high!

### Forever Friends

Today you'll discover a story about Jesus, who loved you so much that He made a way for you to live with Him *forever*! It's hard to imagine what forever even *means* because it's endless—and not many things on our planet are like that. Think about Jesus' endless love for you as you share with your crew:

What food could you eat forever?

What friend would you want to be with forever?

What song could you listen to over and over and over?

What vacation spot would you want to be in day after day after day?

Tell about a game or activity you wouldn't mind playing forever.

## Laugh Tracks

What birthday party game do fish like to play?  
Salmon Says

Where does Finn keep his money?  
In the river bank

Why were the railroad tracks angry?  
Because people are always crossing them.



### FINN

You may think a baby fish is pretty much the same as a grown-up fish. But think again! Baby trout don't have scales for the first month after we hatch! Fish like me can actually help keep *you* safe! Rainbow trout can only survive in clean water, so people use us as a sign that water is (or isn't) polluted.



## RAILWAY PLAY

### Fun Stuff to Choo With Your Crew

#### Who's Been Workin' on the Railway?

It takes a lot of people with special jobs to make sure trains run smoothly, safely, and on schedule. Hey, that's a lot like your crew! See which jobs each crew member had this week at Rocky Railway.

Signal Maintainer: Who made sure everyone communicated well?

Railroad Conductor: Which crew member kept things moving and made sure everyone felt included and welcomed?

Railroad Mechanic: Who took the time to fix hurt feelings, mend dented friendships, and patch up broken hearts?

Brake Operator: Was there someone who made sure you stopped to thank each other—and God—every day?

Rail Car Loader: Which friend made sure you were loaded up with encouragement, fun, and all your crew goodies each day?

#### Cheers for Souvenirs

Today you'll hear about a time Jesus' followers shared everything, like a big, happy, helpful family!

Which of *these* things have you and your crew shared this week?

HIGH-FIVES Friendship Hugs STORIES Prayer SURPRISES Laughter Music FUN Food

## Laugh Tracks

Where does Lawrence Elk go for ice cream?  
Deery Queen

What does Lawrence take when his stomach hurts?  
Elk-a-Seltzer

How does Lawrence Elk know what day of week it is?

He looks at his calen-deer.

### LAURENCE ELK

Your parents may think *you* grow fast, but I bet *you* can't beat my antlers. Elk antlers can grow as much as **1 inch per day!** The antlers on a male elk can grow **4 feet** over the top of the elk's head! (That means my antlers are taller than some of *you*!)





## Special note of thanks . . .

We wish to thank Group Publishing Company for recognizing that during this unusual time, “kids really need the hope, reassurance, and abundance of God’s love” that can be delivered through the unique ministry of VBS. Because of Group’s copyright permissions this year, our kids and those we reach out to this summer will experience God’s Word, the message of salvation, wonderful worship, and all the enriching activities that will teach them that Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through!”





## Notes





# Notes







Jesus' Power  
TO YA!  
ROCKY

Trust  
Jesus  
SPIKE