



## **VBS 2013 *Thrill Seekers* Student Base Conference**

### **Purpose Statement**

This two-hour conference is designed to introduce church leaders to the LifeWay 2013 Student Vacation Bible School, *Thrill Seekers*, preparing them to teach other leaders who work with students in local churches. Conferees will be introduced to VBS resources, including the Leader Guide, Student Book, and accompanying DVD-ROM.

### **Resources to Prepare and Collect**

- Youth VBS 2013 Student Books and Leader Guides (at least enough for small groups to share)
- *Thrill Seekers* theme poster (pull out from middle of Leader Guide)
- Markers and pens (one for each attendee)
- Tape (safe for attaching posters to walls)
- Nametags
- Purchase and download the suggested music playlist from the DVD-ROM to your MP3 player.

### **Ride 3**

- Print “Team Tickets” (item 10) from the DVD-ROM.
- Craft foam, paper, swim noodles, and foam pipe insulation
- Glass marbles
- Scissors
- Masking tape

### **Ride 4**

- Print the following terms on separate sheets of paper: *leader guide, student book, DVD-ROM, Motivate, Examine, Apply, fastest, tallest, most inversions, longest, oldest operating, and steepest drop.*
- Print the following definitions on separate strips of paper:

- *Completely redesigned to a sleeker, more aerodynamic, and easy-to-read format. Each session is separated into three main headers, and the activities and teaching points can be found in a distinct bulleted format.*
- *The Formula Rossa: 149.1 mph—Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*
- *Smaller in size but bigger in visual and spiritual impact. Packed with exciting graphics, engaging statistics, and biblical truth.*
- *Kingda Ka: 456 feet—Jackson, New Jersey*
- *Sleek, shiny, and circular, this is a first-time appearance in LifeWay's Student VBS, sure to add visual impact and real-life appeal through missions videos and countdown timers.*
- *Jingling Happy World: 11 inversions—Lu'an, China*
- *Active, fast-moving, and engaging time at the beginning of each session designed to get students on track.*
- *Steel Dragon 2000: 8133 feet, 2 inches—Nagashima, Japan*
- *Sure to get to minds rolling with this biblically deep section of the teaching session.*
- Attach terms to the focal wall. Attach definition strips to the bottoms of conferees seats.

### **Ride 5**

- 5 different colors of crepe paper streamers
- Print the following on separate sheets of paper: *Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, Day 5.*
- On a single sheet of paper, print the Title, Biblical Truth, and Bible Passage from session 1. Continue to print the information for each session on separate sheets of paper.
- Attach session number sheets on one wall in order. Attach session information sheets on the opposite wall in random order.

### **Ride 6**

- Mimicking the look of the posters on page 12, print the following statements on large sheets of paper:
  - List each session's mission activity.
  - List each session's recreation activity.
  - List each session's snack suggestion.
  - List each session's craft activity.
  - Write the quote from each session's Worship suggestion.
- Attach signs to different walls around the room.

### **Ride 7**

- Print the "2 Timothy 1:7" poster (item 9) from the DVD-ROM.
- Attach to the focal wall.

### **Ride 8**

- Print the each session's Life Question poster from the DVD-ROM.
- Attach posters to the focal wall.

### **Resources to Copy**

- Make copies of "Changes" (Handout 1) for each conferee.

- Make copies of “Rotations” (Handout 2) for each conferee.

### **Focal Wall Description**

- Attach theme poster to the center of the focal wall.
- Position the TV/DVD player or projector screen near the theme poster.
- Attach other signs and posters found on the DVD-ROM.

### **Room Setup Description**

- Set table near front of the room/focal wall for leader use.
- Arrange chairs in sets of two, forming several rows of chairs with aisles between them to give the feel of a roller coaster.
- Set up laptop and projector on leader table and large screen on focal wall (if unable to project on focal wall).
- Set up side table with CD-ROM items printed out for attendees to view, as well as the craft items you have prepared.

### **Decoration Suggestions**

- Decorate the room using suggestions from page 5 of the Leader Guide.
- Display theme-park-type items.

### **Audiovisual Needs**

- Laptop computer (with DVD-ROM)
- Projector (to connect to laptop)
- Large screen (if unable to project onto focal wall)
- CD player or MP3 player

### **Teaching Procedures**

#### **Ride 1: “Pre-Ride Prep” (Before Conferees Arrive)**

- Gather the markers and nametags.
- Cue the video clips to view later.

#### **Ride 2: “Countdown Clock” (As Conferees Arrive)**

- Play the Day 1, *Thrill Seekers* VBS countdown video from the DVD as conferees enter.
- Welcome the conferees as they enter, and lead them to the markers and nametags. Ask them to write their names and list their favorite thing to do at a theme park or carnival.

#### **Ride 3: “Coaster Competitions” (10 minutes)**

- Welcome the conferees to *Thrill Seekers: Embracing the Unexpected* by giving each one a team ticket (item 10).
- Form three teams according to the ticket each conferee possesses: the Zippin Pippin Team, the Scream Machine, and the Roll Over and Over team.
- Give masking tape to each team. Display other coaster-constructing material.
- Challenge the teams to use their materials to build a marble roller coaster that contains at least two loops.

- Announce a 8-minute time limit for the activity, and instruct teams to begin their work. Play a Christian music CD as coaster construction begins.
- Launch a marble in each completed roller coaster to test it. Award each coaster with a special designation such as *fastest*, *tallest*, or *most creative*.
- Explain that during the *Motivate* portion of *Thrill Seekers*, youth will be engaged in the Bible study through a variety of activities like this one. Further explain that the conferees have just learned about *Coaster Competitions* from *Motivate* Day 1.

#### **Ride 4: “Coaster Crazy” (15 minutes)**

- Explain that *Thrill Seekers* VBS for Students has been completely redesigned for 2013. Explain that the Roller Coaster Database online lists the world’s record-holding coasters. Draw conferees’ attention to the focal wall where you have the following headings posted: *leader guide*, *student book*, *DVD-ROM*, *Motivate*, *Examine*, *Apply*, *fastest*, *tallest*, *most inversions*, *longest*, *oldest operating*, and *steepest drop*.
- Explain that prior to the conference you placed a statement strip under each conferee’s seat and that he or she must now guess which “record” the statement strip matches.
- Allow the conferees a few minutes to match their strips to the correct header. Then discuss the following statements:
  - *Leader guide: Completely redesigned to a sleeker, more aerodynamic, and easy-to-read format. Each session is separated into three main headers, and the activities and teaching points can be found in a distinct bulleted format.*
  - *Fastest: The Formula Rossa: 149.1 mph—Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*
  - *Student book: Smaller in size but bigger in visual and spiritual impact. Packed with exciting graphics, engaging statistics, and biblical truth.*
  - *Tallest: Kingda Ka: 456 feet—Jackson, New Jersey*
  - *DVD-ROM: Sleek, shiny, and circular, this is a first-time appearance in LifeWay’s Student VBS. Sure to add visual impact and real-life appeal through missions videos and countdown timers.*
  - *Most Inversions: Jingling Happy World: 11 inversions—Lu’an, China*
  - *Motivate: Active, fast-moving, and engaging time at the beginning of each session designed to get students on track.*
  - *Longest: Steel Dragon 2000: 8,133 feet, 2 inches—Nagashima, Japan*
  - *Examine: Sure to get to minds rolling with this biblically deep section of the teaching session.*

#### **Ride 5: “Changed” (25 minutes)**

- Explain that *Thrill Seekers* will be a life-changing event for those students who choose to accept the challenge to step out of their comfort zones and truly impact the world for Christ.
- Explain that on one side of the room, you have placed different session numbers and on the other side of the room, you have placed information about each session. Tell the participants that they will create a “skylift” between each of the sessions and its corresponding Bible study.
- Form five teams of conferees, and assign each team to a session (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5). Give each team a roll of colored party streamer, and tell them they must attach their day to its corresponding Bible study.

- Distribute copies of handout 1. After the conferees have connected their session to its Bible study, briefly explain what students will learn in that day's study.

**Ride 6: "Commissioned" (20 minutes)**

- Point out that one of the great values of *Thrill Seekers* Youth VBS is that it is a total VBS experience for the students in churches. It includes missions options, craft options, recreation options, snack options, and even worship opportunities.
- Guide conferees to rejoin their teams from the previous activity. Call attention to the posters you have placed around the room. Challenge the teams to travel the room and list the different activities from each day's session that answer the questions written on the posters.
- Allow the groups have time to work together to answer the questions.
- Distribute copies of handout 2, and go over the different rotation options available for each day. If you will be teaching the "Youth VBS Extras" conference, explain that you will be going into more depth about these options in that conference.

**Break (5 minutes)**

- Offer attendees the snack and drink that you have prepared.
- Encourage attendees to look at the craft items and DVD-ROM items, if they desire.
- Point out where nearby restrooms are.

**Ride 7: "Countdown Clock" (5 minutes)**

- Play the Day 3 *Thrill Seekers* VBS countdown video from the DVD as conferees regroup.
- Lead a discussion on the conferees' favorite theme parks they have visited.

**Ride 8: "Equipped" (10 minutes)**

- Point to the "2 Timothy 1:7" poster (DVD-ROM item 9), and state that 2 Timothy 1:7 is the focus verse for VBS.
- Ask who wrote 2 Timothy; then explain that Paul wrote the letter to Timothy some 30 years after his life-changing experience with Ananias.
- Discuss how Ananias' actions toward Paul demonstrate this truth from 2 Timothy 1:7: "God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness."
- Emphasize that Ananias discovered, just as you can, that whenever a person trusts God and steps out to obey His call, He empowers that person, through His Spirit, to accomplish His plan. Help conferees know that this is just a sampling of the powerful truths they will be teaching students this summer.

**Ride 8: "Sharp Turns" (10 minutes)**

- Explain that at the end of each session, students will be challenged to answer a Life Question.
- Display the Life Questions from the DVD-ROM.
- Read over the Life Questions, and ask for conferees to give answers to each of them.
- Explain that it is important to study these questions and for the conferees to know how they would answer them in order to help the students get the most out of each session.

**Ride 9: “Roller Coaster Changes” (20 minutes)**

- Tell the conferees that it is time for them to get on the coaster.
- Guide the conferees to pretend that they are sitting on a roller coaster.
- Encourage the conferees to use facial expressions and gestures to dramatize the experiences you will lead them on the roller coaster. As the leader and “driver” of the roller coaster, take the conferees on a trip using some of the following directions: a steep ascent, a sudden drop, a total inversion, and so forth.
- Explain that just as a roller coaster ride is full of changes, a believer’s life should be full of changes as he is being molded into Christ’s image.
- Instruct the teams to discuss changes they would make or have made in the past to make Youth VBS more impactful. If discussion wanes, lead the conferees to list changes they would make in the way they schedule, plan fellowships, recruit leaders, or advertise.
- As the time draws to a close, pray that the conferees will release the safety harnesses this year and engage students in a life-changing experience during *Thrill Seekers*.

# Changes

## Session 1: Sharp Turn

**Biblical Truth:** When God is involved, we have every reason to embrace change and no reason to be afraid.

**Bible Passage:** Acts 9:1-18

Notes:

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## Session 2: Sudden Drop

**Biblical Truth:** God can do great things through us when we boldly do what He wants us to do.

**Bible Passage:** Acts 9:19b-31

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## Session 3: Violent Shakes

**Biblical Truth:** I can trust God's plan of salvation and can share His love with others.

**Bible Passage:** Acts 16:16-34

Notes:

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## Session 4: Steep Climb

**Biblical Truth:** We can have self-control and can honor God with our actions.

**Bible Passage:** Acts 21:27-23:11

Notes:

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## Session 5: Barrel Roll

**Biblical Truth:** I can trust God to give me the power to face my fears no matter what comes next.

**Bible Passage:** Acts 27:13-44

Notes:

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(Handout 1)

# Thrill Seekers Rotations

	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5
<b>Missions</b>					
<b>Crafts</b>					
<b>Snacks</b>					
<b>Recreation</b>					

(Handout 2)