



## **Reaching and Teaching Adults in VBS**

### **Purpose Statement**

This 55-minute plan is designed to train and equip churches to develop intentional strategies to reach and teach adults through LifeWay's *Colossal Coaster World VBS*.

### **Resources to Collect, Prepare, & Copy**

#### Resources to Collect

- Adult VBS 2013 Leader Pack
- Collect and flag/identify evangelistic resources from the VBS 2013 Adult Leader Pack, Leader Guide, Learner Guide, Enhanced CD, VBS catalogue, and online helps ([www.lifeway.com/vbs](http://www.lifeway.com/vbs); <http://blog.lifeway.com/vbs/blog>; [facebook.com/lifewayvbs](https://www.facebook.com/lifewayvbs); [twitter.com/lifewayvbs](https://twitter.com/lifewayvbs))

#### Resources to Prepare

- Cut out the Spiritual Conversations While You Wait Call outs and place them around the room.
- Create three areas of the room labeled Before VBS, During VBS, and After VBS.
- List the Prior to VBS, During VBS, and After VBS suggestions on tear sheets. Display the tear sheets near the appropriate signs. Fold the bottom of the tear sheet up to cover the list until you reveal it during the session. Attach a piece of tape at the top to hold the tear sheet covering up.
- Cut apart the Breaking the Chain strips (Adult VBS Leader Pack 2013, Item 16).

#### Resources to Copy

- Reaching and Teaching Adults (Handout 1)
- Spiritual Conversations While You Wait (Adult VBS Leader Pack 2013, Pack Item 12)
- 2 Timothy 1:7 Roller Coaster Cars (CD, Teaching Items)—this is a larger print version
- Copy the Before, During, and After VBS signs
- Breaking the Chain (Adult VBS Leader Pack 2013, Item 16)

### **Focal Wall Description**

Place the “2 Timothy 1:7 Roller Coaster Cars” (CD, Teaching Items) on the focal wall.

### **Room Setup Description**

Place chairs in a semi circle facing the focal wall. Remove unused tables, etc. to allow for adults to move freely through the room.

## **Decoration Suggestions**

Consider using the Adult VBS classroom suggestions found in Day 1 Adult VBS 2013 Leader Guide and Decorating Ideas (CD, Theme Support). Leave space on three walls open for the visuals referenced below. The Souvenir Shop is a great way to display evangelistic resources.

## **Audio Visual Needs**

- CD player
- “The Ride of Your Life” (CD, Music, Media & Graphics)

## **Teaching Steps**

1. Welcome (5 minutes)
  - As adults arrive, play “The Ride of Your Life” (CD, Music, Media & Graphics) and invite them to meet others as they talk about the subjects on the call outs displayed in the room (adapted from Leader Pack Item 12).
  - Direct attention to “Spiritual Conversations While You Wait: (Adult VBS Leader Pack 2013, Pack Item 12). Clarify how this learning activity is one of many learning activities and resources to support churches desire to reach all ages for Jesus Christ.
2. Prior to VBS (15 minutes)
  - Point to the “2 Timothy 1:7 Roller Coaster Cars” (CD, Teaching Items) on the focal wall. Ask volunteers to share which portions of this verse most relate to them today in regard to their wanting to be more intentional about reaching and teaching adults in Adult VBS. Call for responses. Lead in prayer asking God to help all believers claim the promise of power, love, and sound judgment in developing these strategies.
  - Stress the need for churches to be intentional about reaching adults. Point to the three areas of the room labeled Prior to VBS, During VBS, and After VBS.
  - Ask adults to imagine some of them are waiting in line for the park to open. While waiting, they are to think about what their church could do PRIOR to VBS as a part of their intentional strategy for reaching adults.
  - Reveal the Prior to VBS suggestions on the tear sheet. Ask adults to try to decide the order for doing these things. After a minute, call attention to the fact that the group will not likely agree on the order today, but all of these are good things to do and are a great place to start in planning for evangelistic results.
  - Distribute the Reaching and Teaching Adults (Handout 1). Ask adults to fold the handout to only reveal the Before VBS section at this time. Encourage adults to add more ideas to the handout throughout the session.
  - Attach the placards on the wall near the Before VBS area and brainstorm other ideas for an evangelism strategy that involves things to be done prior to VBS.
  - Ask a volunteer enlisted in advance to summarize Tabitha’s story (Adult VBS 2013 Learner Guide, p. 9) Stress the continued efforts of Tabitha’s mother-in-law resulted in Tabitha’s life being changed forever. Encourage adults to including inviting activities as a part of their strategy.
  - Call attention to the other resources displayed in the area that support these efforts prior to VBS.
3. During VBS (15 minutes)
  - Call attention to the area labeled During VBS. Stress as adults are riding the Colossal Coaster during VBS, there are several things they may want to consider as a part of their intentional evangelism strategy.

- Ask two volunteers to reveal the suggestions for evangelism strategies during VBS. Invite others to add other suggestions to these ideas.
  - Ask a volunteer enlisted in advance to summarize Melanie's curbside strategy (Adult VBS 2013 Learner Guide, p. 21). Stress how critical the involvement of adults Sunday School class members is not only during, but prior to and after VBS. Remind adults many people will not lead or teach in VBS, but they love greeting people and inviting them to join them for VBS.
  - Briefly share how young adult Sunday School classes from Panama City Beach First Baptist Church wore tee shirts during the Family Night VBS celebration in order to identify themselves as being involved in a Sunday School class. They could easily identify parents who came to see their children's VBS celebration but were not actively involved in a young adult Sunday School class. This church was intentional about connecting with parents with whom they could start building relationships through Sunday School.
  - Call attention to the resources displayed in this area that support these efforts during VBS. Pay special attention to the Day 3 resources. Remind adults the teaching plans offer a variety of learning approaches and help create relational environments in VBS.
4. After VBS (15 minutes)
- Direct attention to the After VBS area depicted with the tram. Warn adults of the danger of thinking VBS is over when the VBS sessions end and all leave the parking lot after the last session.
  - Ask a volunteer enlisted in advance to summarize Roger's story (Adult VBS 2013 Learner Guide, p. 15) Stress the continued impact of Tabitha's mother-in-law inviting her that modeled an inviting mindset with her daughter-in-law and grandson who keep inviting a neighbor—a neighbor this child knew needed help only God could provide. Inviting doesn't stop after VBS is over.
  - Reveal the After VBS suggestions to help spark other ideas for evangelism strategies following VBS.
  - Ask adults to turn to no more than three other people to brainstorm other ideas. Call for responses and record them on the tear sheet.
  - Call attention to the resources displayed in this area to support these efforts after VBS sessions are over. Encourage adults to use leftover VBS resources and supplies to create follow up packs for kids.
  - If there is time, go into greater detail in sharing the evangelistic emphases and resources provided in the Adult VBS and other Lifeway 2013 VBS resources.
5. Breaking the Chain (5 minutes)
- Distribute the Breaking the Chain strips (Adult VBS Leader Pack 2013, Item 16). Instruct adults to write the name of one person on the "bracelet" that may be living in fear and need to trust God in all aspects of his or her life. If adults do not think of someone, ask them to describe how they will try to build a relationships with someone who may not know Christ and who might be someone they could invite to join them in Adult VBS. Adults may also choose to describe a fear they may have as it relates to developing and carrying out intentional strategies for reaching adults for Christ through Adult VBS.
  - Softly play "I Will Trust in You" (CD, Music, Media & Graphics) as adults prayerfully complete this activity.
  - Close by asking if one person would share how the rest of the group may pray more specifically for him or her related to the fear they wrote down.

- Remind adults only Christ can break the chains of fear and Adult VBS is a great way to invite people of all ages to face our fears by trusting in God. Close in prayer.

Spiritual Conversations While You Wait (Adapted from Leader Pack Item 12)



**Favorite  
book or  
movie**



**Stories in  
the news**



**Hobbies**



**Family**

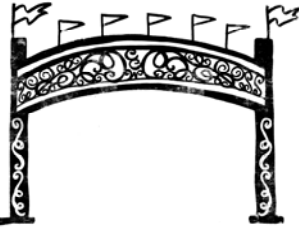


A large, rounded rectangular speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-left. The text inside is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**Rising cost  
of park  
tickets**

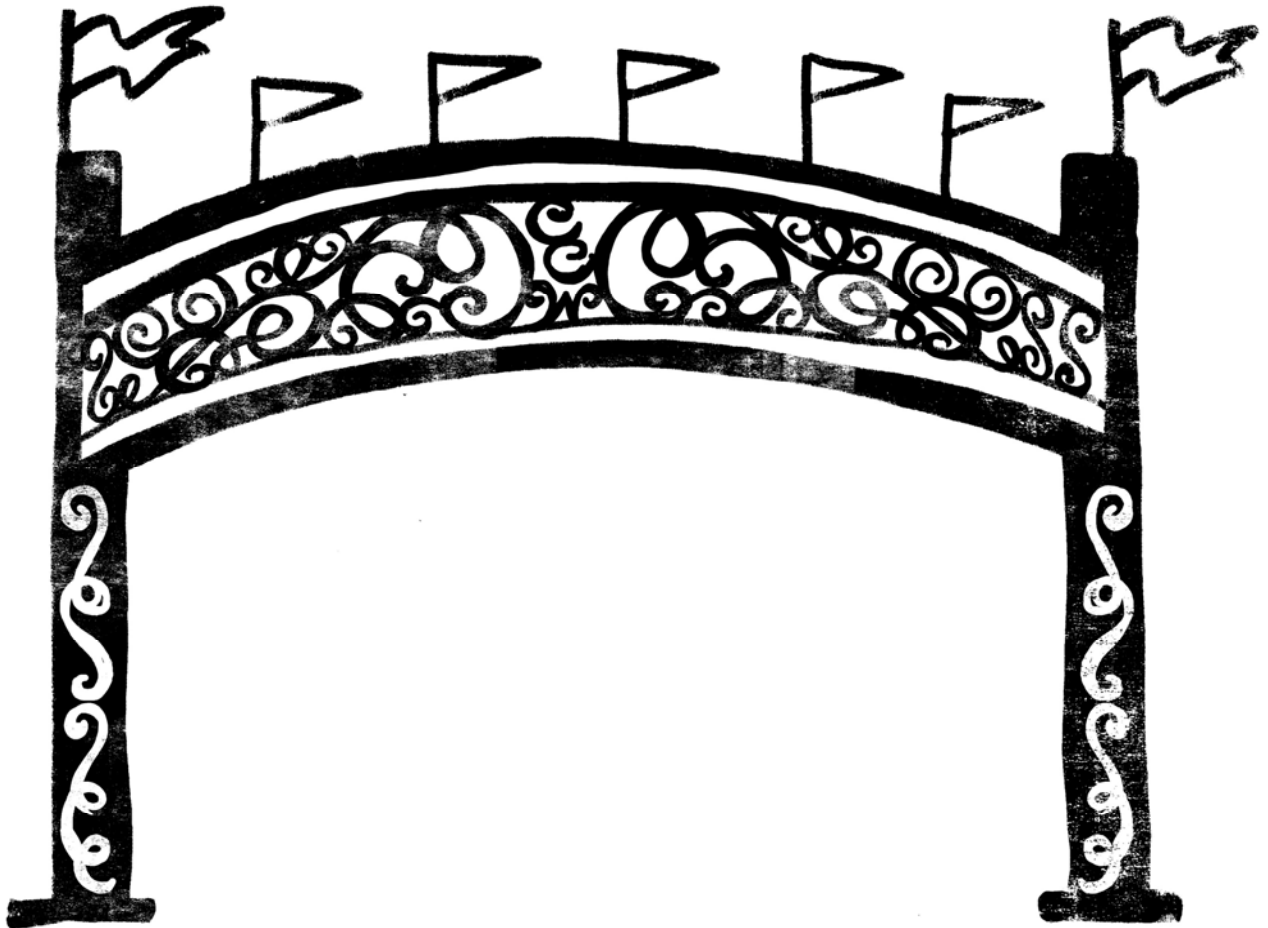
A large, rounded rectangular speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-right. The text inside is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**Television  
shows**

## Reaching and Teaching Adults

<p><b>Before VBS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask each adult Sunday School class to designate one person to serve as a class “VBS ambassador.”</li> <li>• Develop suggestions for adult Sunday School class fellowships that focus on building relationships with lost people.</li> <li>• Develop promotion and follow up plans for all ages (including family members who do not attend VBS).</li> <li>• Coordinate and communicate promotion and follow up between all age group Sunday School classes.</li> <li>• Enlist an Adult VBS team.</li> <li>• Consider providing Adult VBS in a mission setting.</li> <li>• Target unreached adults and families with your promotion strategies.</li> <li>• Calendar a parenting workshop or other study of interest to unreached adults.</li> <li>• Pray for lost people by name.</li> </ul>
<p><b>During VBS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize adult Sunday School class members as greeters and registration helpers during VBS for kids and students.</li> <li>• Consider providing an Adult VBS session for adults who drop off their kids at VBS.</li> <li>• During family night/VBS celebration, determine how you will identify parents who are actively involved in Adult SS classes.</li> <li>• The Adult VBS resources recognize adults learn in a variety of ways.</li> <li>• Utilize the evangelistic references in the teaching plans and other VBS resources.</li> </ul>
<p><b>After VBS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try to connect adults (and entire families) with Sunday School classes or groups as soon as possible.</li> <li>• Follow up with entire families—not just kids.</li> <li>• Utilize left over VBS resources and supplies to develop follow up packets.</li> <li>• Start a new adult SS class targeting parents who attended or whose kids who attended VBS.</li> <li>• Provide a parenting workshop as a follow up for parents of children who attended VBS and/or adults who brought children to or attended VBS.</li> </ul>

# Before VBS



# During VBS



# After VBS

