



## **VBS 2013 Grades 1-2 Base Conference**

### **Purpose Statement:**

This two-hour, interactive conference plan is designed to equip, guide, and encourage Bible study leaders to use LifeWay's *Colossal Coaster World VBS, Grades 1-2 Bible Study* curriculum resources. Conferees will experience some of the activities suggested in the curriculum in order to discover ways to engage kids fully in Bible learning.

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

#### Resources to Collect

- Bible
- *Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Guide*. (One copy for the conference leader and individual copies for each conferee. If it is not possible to provide Leader Guides for each conferee, make copies of “Day at a Glance,” pages 40-41 in the Leader Guide.)
- *Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Pack*. (One copy.)
- *Grades 1—2 Daily Park Guide*. (One copy for the conference leader and extra copies for conferees.)
- Cardboard
- Spray adhesive or glue stick
- Painters tape
- Packing tape and 2 yardsticks (optional)
- Flashlight, blindfold, several envelopes, yarn, scissors, and hole punch
- 1-inch-by-2 5/8-inch address labels
- Mini, nugget-shaped, chocolate candy bars (2 per conferee)
- *Giant Game Floor Mat*
- Rhythm instruments, toy microphones, and simple costume items (optional)
- Jumbo craft sticks (13 for each conferee), markers, and rubber bands

#### Resources to Prepare

- Laminate focal wall items from the *Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Pack* (pack items 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 17, 19, and 22).
- Laminate and cut out pack items 10 and 12.
- Using glue or spray adhesive, mount the “Paul Cardboard Cutout” (pack items 4a-b) on cardboard. (You may choose to use 3 sections of cardboard, connected with packing tape, so that “Paul” can be folded and transported. If you do that, you will need to mount

2 yardsticks to the back of “Paul” when you are ready to use the Cardboard Cutout in the conference session.)

- Small group instruction cards for step 4.b. (*Day 1: Go through the session on pages 8-13 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for Bible study; Day 2: Go through the session on pages 14-19 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for opening Bible study and 15 minutes for closing Bible study; Day 3: Go through the session on pages 20-25 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 45 minutes for Bible study; Day 4: Go through the session on pages 26-31 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 20 minutes for opening Bible study and 10 minutes for closing Bible study; Day 5: Go through the session on pages 32-37 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you were allotted 40 minutes for opening Bible study and 20 minutes for closing Bible study.*)
- Bible Study CD item: “Story Parts.” (See Leader Guide, page 10, “Learn It #4 Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Phrase Cards.” (See Leader Guide, page 21, “Get Started #2 Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Candy Label Template.” (See Leader Guide, page 23, “Pray It #1 Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Jerusalem Places.” (See Leader Guide, page 27, “Learn It #3 Prep.”)
- Step stool (optional)
- Bible Study CD item: “Bumper Car Bible Verse, HCSB (or KJV).” (See Leader Guide, page 28, “Learn It #5 Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Roller Coaster Rock.” (See Leader Guide, page 30, “Application Activity, Roller Coaster Rock Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Verses for Songs.” (See Leader Guide, page 36, “Application Activity, and Colossal Coaster World Singers Prep.”)
- Bible Study CD item: “Paul’s Letters Poster.” (See Leader Guide, page 37, “Bible Skills Activity, Shipwreck Planks Prep.”)

#### Resources to Copy

- Handout 1: “Park Planning Guide”
- “Day at a Glance,” Leader Guide, pages 40-41 (optional)

#### **Focal Wall Description**

Using painters tape, attractively arrange the following items from the *Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Pack* to model a focal wall for an actual Bible study room:

- “Colossal Coaster World Banner” (pack item 2)
- All five of the “Colossal Coaster World Banner Add-ons” (pack item 3)
- “Bible Verse Poster,” HCSB or KJV (pack item 8)
- All five Bible story pictures (pack items 7, 11, 17, 19, and 22)
- “Paul’s Travels Map” with “Paul’s Travels Map Add-ons” (pack items 5 and 6)

#### **Room Setup Description**

- Arrange chairs in a semi-circle, facing the focal wall. (If space is limited, create two rows of chairs in semi-circle formation.)
- Place a display table near the focal wall to display curriculum materials and various Colossal Coaster World VBS accessories.

### **Decoration Suggestions**

Decorations for Bible Study at Coaster Alley can be simple, elaborate, or anywhere in between. Using ideas from “Fun Options for Other Areas of the Room,” *Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Guide*, page 7, decorate the conference room as if you were decorating it for your own first and second graders at your church.

### **Audio Visual Needs**

- CD player or MP3 player with speakers

### **Teaching Steps**

1. Colossal Coaster World Parking Lot (Before the Session Begins)
  - a. Play the song “Colossal Coaster World” (VBS 2013 Music for Kids CD) in the background.
  - b. Greet conferees as they arrive.
2. Park Entrance (Welcome): Play “Colossal Coaster Dare” Game (5 minutes)
  - a. Play this game as you would “Simon Says.”
  - b. Conferees line up against a wall opposite you.
  - c. Give commands for the conferees to follow. If you begin the command with the words “dare to,” conferees should follow the command. If you do not say, “dare to,” conferees should stand still. Anyone who follows the command when you do not say, “dare to,” must go back to the wall and start over. Make the game fun by being as silly as you feel comfortable. (Examples: *Dare to throw your hands in the air; dare to hop backwards two times; spin to the left three times; dare to look scared; make a silent scream; etc.*)
  - d. After playing for about three or four minutes, remind conferees that this year’s VBS, *Colossal Coaster World*, is about facing our fears and trusting God. Each day, kids will be challenged with a dare to do just that.
  - e. Read the VBS Scripture, 2 Timothy 1:7, and pray, asking God to help us trust Him as we face our fears.
3. Park Orientation (Overview): “A Day in the Week of Colossal Coaster World” (25 minutes)
  - a. Emphasize that the Bible Study Leader Guide is designed to be easy to use, and that many of the teaching resources can be found in the Leader Pack and *Daily Park Guide*.”
  - b. Mention that spending a few minutes each day preparing to teach, during the two or three weeks preceding VBS, will help ensure a smooth week of VBS and give teachers more time to develop relationships with kids and families.
  - c. Begin to walk through the Leader Guide. (Use copies of “Day at a Glance” for conferees that do not have Leader Guides.)
  - d. Talk about the importance of knowing how to talk to kids about becoming a Christian, and point out the guidance provided on the inside of the front cover of the Leader Guide.
  - e. Using information from page 3 of the Leader Guide, give a brief overview of the VBS theme, Scripture, motto, and Bible content.
    - i. Point out that there is only one Bible verse for kids to memorize, 2 Timothy 1:7.
    - ii. Talk about the unique opportunity to share the gospel with kids by studying the life and ministry of Paul each day.
    - iii. Mention that each session title is stated as a dare for kids to face their fears and trust God in specific situations.

- f. Explain that there are two very important daily elements related to Bible study, the “Colossal Coaster Challenge,” and the “Christ Connection.”
  - i. “Each day includes a time to help kids make the ‘so what’ connection to that day’s Bible truth. The ‘Colossal Challenge’ is designed to help kids apply what they learned each day to their lives outside of VBS.” (*Grades 1—2 Bible Study Leader Guide*, page 4)
  - ii. The “Christ Connection” is a daily reminder that the entire Bible points to the redeeming work of God through Christ.
- g. Starting on page 8 of the Leader Guide, walk through a session.
  - i. Point out the margin notes that help teachers see at a glance what they need to gather and prepare for the day.
    - 1. Remind conferees of the importance of personal spiritual preparation. Encourage them to read the Bible story in their own Bibles, read “Today’s Purpose,” and read or listen to the “Leader Devotions” (Leader Guide, pages 42-44).
    - 2. As a group, listen to the day one “Leader Devotion” (Bible Study CD: Track 5).
    - 3. Lead the conferees to pray silently, offering themselves to God for Him to use them to do whatever God wants them to do.
  - ii. Ask conferees to locate the “Colossal Challenge” for day one (designated with the icon of an electrical plug). Call on someone to read it out loud. Ask the group how they might be able to discern whether or not kids make a personal connection to the Bible content each day.
  - iii. Point out that the Bible study session has five segments: Get Started, Learn It, Live It, Pray It, and Departure.
  - iv. Note that additional activities are provided for schedules that call for more than 30 minutes of Bible study time. Every session includes two application activities, one review activity, and one Bible skills activity. Each of these additional activities takes about 10 minutes to execute, and can be lengthened or shortened as needed.
- 4. Planning for a Fun Day at the Park (35 minutes)
  - a. Using information from “Park Options” on page 4 of the Leader Guide, talk about the variety of Bible study schedule options, even if everyone in the conference already knows that their church has allocated 30 minutes for the Bible study session.
  - b. Guide conferees to form 5 groups. Assign each group one of the daily Bible study sessions, with these instructions:
    - i. Day 1: Go through the session on pages 8-13 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for Bible study.
    - ii. Day 2: Go through the session on pages 14-19 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for opening Bible study and 15 minutes for closing Bible study.
    - iii. Day 3: Go through the session on pages 20-25 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 45 minutes for Bible study.
    - iv. Day 4: Go through the session on pages 26-31 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 20 minutes for opening Bible study and 10 minutes for closing Bible study.

- v. Day 5: Go through the session on pages 32-37 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you were allotted 40 minutes for opening Bible study and 20 minutes for closing Bible study.
  - c. Allow each small group two to three minutes to report.
  - d. Remind conferees that the purpose of VBS is to introduce kids and their families to Jesus. Many children become Christians during this most evangelistic week of the year. Others hear about Jesus for the first time. And for others, VBS is their family's first introduction to Jesus and to your church. Therefore, the Bible content that teachers present and the relationships they build with kids and families are the most important parts of VBS for Bible study leaders.
  - e. Ask conferees to complete the "Park Planning Guide" (Handout 1), individually or in small groups.
  - f. Guide conferees to discuss their answers. Be prepared to answer questions related to specific Bible content and application.
5. Riding the Rides (50 minutes)
- a. Announce that since conferees have planned their day at the park, they will now get to ride the rides! (Note: Lead conferees to actively participate in the following Bible-learning activities that are suggested in the Leader Guide. Demonstrate that Bible learning can be both fun and purposeful at the same time. The more you can involve the conferees in doing the activities, the more they will understand why kids need to be active participants in learning Bible truth. Do whatever it takes to get conferees out of their chairs and into the fun!)
  - b. Ride the "Obedience Coaster."
    - i. Tell the Bible story "Paul Obeyed," following "Learn It," steps 1-3, on pages 9-10 of the Leader Guide.
    - ii. Recruit volunteers to act out assigned parts as instructed in "Learn It," step 4, on page 10 of the Leader Guide.
  - c. Ride the "Bold Coaster."
    - i. Following the instructions for "Get Started," step 2, on page 15 of the Leader Guide, guide conferees to listen to "Park Sounds" (Bible Study CD: Track 3) and do the actions listed in the margin.
    - ii. Review the Day 2 Bible story by leading conferees to do the activity described in "Learn It," step 6, on page 16 of the Leader Guide.
    - iii. Distribute a *Grades 1—2 Daily Park Guide* to each conferee, or to groups of conferees if you don't have enough Park Guides for everyone. Following the instructions for "Live It," step 2, on page 17 of the Leader Guide, guide conferees to complete the activity on page 4 of the Park Guide.
  - d. Ride the "ABCs Coaster."
    - i. Lead conferees to play "Voices in the Crowd," by following the instructions for "Get Started," step 2, on page 21 of the leader guide.
    - ii. Mention to conferees that, while this next activity is designed for kids, as adults they can use a candy bar as a tool to tell someone they know about Jesus, too.
    - iii. Guide conferees to prepare two candy bars as instructed in "Pray It," step 1, on page 23 of the leader guide.
    - iv. Lead conferees in a prayer, asking God to help them use the candy bar to share God's love with someone.
  - e. Ride the "Stand Strong Coaster."

- i. Enlist two volunteers to help tell the Bible story “Paul Responded Wisely,” following the instructions for “Learn It,” steps 2-3, on page 27 of the Leader Guide. Tell the Bible story.
    - ii. Using the *Giant Game Floor Mat*, invite two conferees to play the bumper cars game described in “Learn It,” step 5, on page 28 of the Leader Guide. (If you do not have a Giant Game Floor Mat, tape the Bible study CD item “Bumper Car Bible Verse, HCSB (or KJV)” to the floor.
    - iii. Remind conferees that they can extend Bible study with the Application Activities. Lead conferees to play “Roller Coaster Rock,” on page 30 of the Leader Guide.
  - f. Ride the “Coaster of Trust.”
    - i. Instruct conferees to form four groups and do the Application Activity “Colossal Coaster World Singers” on page 36 of the Leader Guide. (Note: Make this activity lively and fun. The optional props listed under “Colossal Coaster World Singers Prep” add to the fun, but are not necessary.)
    - ii. Mention that each day can be extended or supplemented with a Review Activity and/or Bible Skills Activity. The last activity from the Leader Guide that you will facilitate in this conference is the Bible Skills Activity “Shipwreck Planks,” on page 37 of the Leader Guide. Proceed to lead conferees to participate in the activity, reminding them that teaching kids Bible skills can leave a lasting impact.
6. Park Closing (5 minutes)
  - a. State, “We have had fun getting just a glimpse of how kids can learn how to face their fears and trust God, as they spend time at Colossal Coaster World.”
  - b. Say, “One of things that we as VBS leaders may be fearful about is following up with families after VBS is over.” Remind conferees that without a plan, we probably won’t contact unchurched families after VBS. Encourage conferees to work with their church’s VBS Director to develop a strategy and plan for connecting with unchurched families and parents who are not Christians.
  - c. State: “While teaching VBS and following up with families may not be comfortable for us. God will give us a spirit of power. Let’s say the VBS Scripture together before we leave to remind us that God does not want us to be fearful.”
  - d. Using the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8) that is on the focal wall, lead conferees to recite the verse in unison.
  - e. Pray, asking God to remove any fears we may have related to VBS and to give us power, love, and a sound mind.



# Park Planning Guide

Match the session title, Bible story reference, Christ Connection, and Colossal Coaster Challenge for each day of VBS. Using the following key, place a shape by each element of the session: ☺ = Day 1; + = Day 2; △ = Day 3; □ = Day 4; ◇ = Day 5. (Day 1 is shown as an example.)

Day	Session	Bible Story	Christ Connection	Challenge
☺Day 1	Dare to Believe	Acts 21:27—23:11	Although Paul and other Jewish leaders originally tried to stop people from telling the good news about Jesus, the gospel continued to spread to more and more people. Soon, Paul would be used by God to reach people all over the world to proclaim Jesus as God's plan for salvation.	Kids can understand that God gives them power to face their fears no matter what happens.
+Day 2	Dare to Trust	Acts 27	☺Before Paul's conversion, he was a person who captured believers in Jesus and took them to jail. After his conversion, he began to preach the gospel wherever he went. God had a plan for Paul's life to carry His Son's name to people who had not heard about Jesus and the sacrifice He made for their lives.	Kids can name ways that they might respond wisely in fearful situations.
△Day 3	☺Dare to Change	Acts 9:20-30	Paul was willing to be used by the Lord even as a prisoner on a ship during a storm. He encouraged the ship's crew and promised them that God would protect them. Paul trusted God because God has fulfilled His promises, including the promise of sending His Son to be our Savior.	Kids can do an act of love for someone else.
□Day 4	Dare to Speak Up	☺Acts 9:1-18	Paul and Silas told the jailer and his family about Jesus. The jailer's family believed in Jesus and were baptized. The jailer and his family understood Paul's message that forgiveness of sins is only through Jesus.	☺Kids can identify a fear and ask God to help them not be afraid of it.
◇Day 5	Dare to Stand Strong	Acts 16:16-34	Paul did not avoid confronting people he knew would challenge that God wanted everyone—including Gentiles—to be saved. Paul testified that Jesus is Savior and Lord in every situation he faced in his life.	Kids can speak boldly about God with a person they choose.



# Park Planning Guide

## (answers)

Match the session title, Bible story reference, Christ Connection, and Colossal Coaster Challenge for each day of VBS. Using the following key, place a shape by each element of the session: ☺ = Day 1; + = Day 2; △ = Day 3; □ = Day 4; ◇ = Day 5. (Day 1 is shown as an example.)

Day	Session	Bible Story	Christ Connection	Challenge
☺Day 1	△Dare to Believe	□Acts 21:27—23:11	+Although Paul and other Jewish leaders originally tried to stop people from telling the good news about Jesus, the gospel continued to spread to more and more people. Soon, Paul would be used by God to reach people all over the world to proclaim Jesus as God's plan for salvation.	◇Kids can understand that God gives them power to face their fears no matter what happens.
+Day 2	◇Dare to Trust	◇Acts 27	☺Before Paul's conversion, he was a person who captured believers in Jesus and took them to jail. After his conversion, he began to preach the gospel wherever he went. God had a plan for Paul's life to carry His Son's name to people who had not heard about Jesus and the sacrifice He made for their lives.	□Kids can name ways that they might respond wisely in fearful situations.
△Day 3	☺Dare to Change	+Acts 9:20-30	◇Paul was willing to be used by the Lord even as a prisoner on a ship during a storm. He encouraged the ship's crew and promised them that God would protect them. Paul trusted God because God has fulfilled His promises, including the promise of sending His Son to be our Savior.	△Kids can do an act of love for someone else.
□Day 4	+Dare to Speak Up	☺Acts 9:1-18	△Paul and Silas told the jailer and his family about Jesus. The jailer's family believed in Jesus and were baptized. The jailer and his family understood Paul's message that forgiveness of sins is only through Jesus.	☺Kids can identify a fear and ask God to help them not be afraid of it.
◇Day 5	□Dare to Stand Strong	△Acts 16:16-34	□Paul did not avoid confronting people he knew would challenge that God wanted everyone—including Gentiles—to be saved. Paul testified that Jesus is Savior and Lord in every situation he faced in his life.	+Kids can speak boldly about God with a person they choose.



Day 1

Go through the session on pages 8-13 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for Bible study.



Day 2

Go through the session on pages 14-19 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 30 minutes for opening Bible study and 15 minutes for closing Bible study.



Day 3

Go through the session on pages 20-25 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 45 minutes for Bible study.



Day 4

Go through the session on pages 26-31 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you are allotted 20 minutes for opening Bible study and 10 minutes for closing Bible study.



## Day 5

Go through the session on pages 32-37 of the Leader Guide and mark the activities you would choose if you were allotted 40 minutes for opening Bible study and 20 minutes for closing Bible study.