

Vacation Bible School—at Christmas



Big Idea: Offer VBS during the holiday season

Supplies Needed: inexpensive or donated crafts, Bibles

Length: 1 day or 1 week

Age Level: high school

Many congregations offer dynamic summer outreach programs to children and families. But the Christmas season can also be an effective time for churches to minister to kids in their communities. Christmas is a festive time to help children discover the message of God's great love through a vacation Bible school experience.

Your youth ministry can be the primary source of volunteers for this effort, and if you want to get started, try conducting a one-day Christmastime Vacation Bible School to learn the ropes. Here's how:

- Open with all of the kids for a time of Christmas songs, skits, and festive décor.
- Conduct classes for the children, grouped together by age. Use Christmas-season curriculum that tells the story of Jesus in an age-appropriate way.
- Ask for donated craft materials or visit a dollar store to find a \$5 bag of goodies.
- Play age-appropriate games.
- Close with a big gathering again and sing plenty of Christmas songs.

Once you've gotten comfortable with the one-day experience, your team may be ready to expand its efforts to an entire week. Use these same ideas as guidelines. Develop a theme or set of biblical characters for each day, and be sure to incorporate plenty of creativity and fun as you let younger kids discover the message of Christmas.