Amazon Outreach

2023 VBS Curriculum

Transforming Lives on Two Continents
For the villages will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the Amazon.
Habakkuk 2:14 (AO Version)

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This handbook is designed to give you a starting point for your VBS Ministry. Feel free to make additions or changes. You can easily find coloring pages and games on the internet.
WELCOME TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

1. We have included Lesson Plans, Bible Stories, Verses, Color Sheets, and Crafts for you to use along with some great tips to have a successful VBS. Feel free to find other easy crafts and coloring pages of your own choosing or use what’s provided in AO’s VBS Plan. Keep in mind you may have 60 kids in one village and all age levels.

2. Before the trip prepare three to four Bible stories and Crafts along with a few Object Lessons such as the Wordless Book Story or The Keys to Heaven.

3. As you prepare the crafts to go along with each story, prepare a total of 100-200 each depending on the sizes of your villages.

4. When preparing crafts, group them in bundles of 25 for easy access and counting.

5. Bible verses can be printed on labels to send home with the children every day. You can stick them on their craft or color page.

6. Glue does not dry in the Amazon but glue sticks work fine.

7. As you arrive in the village, inquire about a good spot for your team to have VBS. Most of the time you can find a pavilion (a building with a roof but no walls) or a large shade tree. Pick something well-ventilated and out of the sun!

8. Ask the boat crew for the tarps on the boat to use for sitting.

9. Plan ahead who will tell the story, explain the craft, act out the skit, etc.

10. Carry all your supplies in canvas tote bags or duffle bags. Don’t unpack anything until it is ready to use……, especially the candy!

11. When packing crayons/markers, put them in a large Ziploc bag to carry to the VBS site. You can use Frisbees or baskets as crayon-marker holders and lay them on the floor when children are doing the craft.

12. Start the day with introductions and singing and then move into the day’s VBS.

13. No matter what activities you do ALWAYS INCLUDE THE GOSPEL PRESENTATION IN MORNING AND AFTERNOON VBS!

14. Treats are given at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions of Bible School. Find a controlled way to give the candy to the children. Form a circle or rows which they can't leave until every child has their candy. Good ideas for treats are individually wrapped candy such as Sweet Tarts, Tootsie Rolls, Spree, lollipops, Nerds. Jolly Ranchers tend to melt and turn to syrup.

15. Don’t give prizes or candy to the winning team when playing games. Clap or praise them for a job well done. Stickers are fun!

16. How to cut yarn fast: Cut a piece of heavy cardboard (a box is good) 33 inches long x 16 inches. Wrap yarn loosely around it the long way. When you get quite a lot of yarn on the cardboard, lay it down flat. Hold it carefully and cut at the top and bottom to make 33-inch long strands of yarn.

17. If the team is going to be in the village for only 1 day use the Wordless Book Story for both the morning and afternoon lessons.
TYPICAL VBS SESSIONS

MORNING VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Have the U.S. and Brazilian teams introduce themselves

SINGING: The team participates as translators lead

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Wordless Book, Evangecube, New Creatures

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game or do stretching exercises.

BIBLE STORY: Team member reads the story with a translator. The other team members act out the story wearing costumes (in the VBS closet). They should listen during the English reading and act when the Portuguese is being spoken. After acting out the story, ask for children volunteers to act it out again. Take off costumes and dress the volunteers. The translator can tell the story again without the English reading.

MEMORY VERSE: Show the translator the verse you want and let the translator teach it to the children.

CRAFT: Teach the children about the craft you will teach and then hand out the crafts.

COLOR PAGE: If time permits, let children color a page that coincides with the Bible story.

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can't leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
AFTERNOON VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Review names of the U.S. and Brazilian team

SINGING: Team participates as translators leads

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Review the lesson you gave in the morning

OBJECT LESSON: (This is another way to present the gospel) The Keys to Heaven, The Sin Solution, Candy Cane Demo, Bridge to Heaven

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game, or do stretching exercises.

BIBLE STORY: Team member reads the story with a translator. The other team members act out the story wearing costumes (in the VBS closet). They should listen during the English reading and act when the Portuguese is being spoken. After acting out the story, ask for children volunteers to act it out again. Take off costumes and dress the volunteers. The translator can tell the story again without the English reading.

MEMORY VERSE: Show the translator the verse you want and let the translator teach it to the children.

CRAFT: Teach the children about the craft you will teach and then hand out the crafts.

COLOR PAGE: If time permits, let children color a page that coincides with the Bible story.

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can’t leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
BIBLE STORIES AND CRAFTS

1. Story: Jesus Walks on Water/Craft: Jesus Picture Frame
2. Story: Healing the Deaf Man/Craft: Duck Sack Puppet
3. Story: Jesus Feeds 5,000/Craft: Fish Necklace
4. Story: Fruit of the Spirit/Craft: Fruit of the Spirit Spinner

BIBLE VERSES

1. Creia no Senhor Jesus, e serão salvos, você e os de sua casa. Atos 16:31
2. Porque Deus tanto amou ao mundo que deu o seu Filho Unigênito, para que todo o que nele crer não pereça, mas tenha a vida eterna. João 3:16
3. O meu Deus suprirá todas as necessidades de vocês, de acordo com as suas gloriosas riquezas em Cristo Jesus. Filipenses 4:19
LESSON PLAN #1  JESUS WALKS ON WATER

MORNING VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Have the U.S. and Brazilian teams introduce themselves

SINGING: Team participates as translators leads

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Wordless Book, Evangecube, New Creatures

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game, or do stretching exercise.

BIBLE STORY: Jesus Walks on Water

MEMORY VERSE: Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household. Acts 16:31

(Print out Portuguese verses on labels) Creia no Senhor Jesus, e serão salvos, você e os de sua casa. Atos 16:31

CRAFT: Jesus Picture Frame

COLOR PAGE: Jesus Walks on Water Color Page

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can’t leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
Jesus Walks on Water

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 14:22-33

MEMORY VERSE: Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household. Acts 16:31

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Peter and other disciples

Jesus is the Son of God, and He has all power. When He lived on earth He performed many miracles like healing the sick, raising the dead, and calming the storm. One day He even fed 5,000 people with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 small fish. After that amazing miracle, Jesus sent the crowds away, and He asked His disciples to get into a boat and go ahead of Him to the other side of the lake to wait for Him. Jesus went up to a mountain to pray by himself.

When evening came, the disciples were in the middle of the lake being tossed back and forth by the wind and the big waves. After midnight, Jesus went out to meet the disciples, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw Jesus coming toward them walking on top of the water, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost!” they cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid.”

Then Peter answered Him and said, “Lord, if it is really you, let me come to you on the water.” Jesus said, “Come,” and Peter stepped out of the boat, and he walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the wind, he was afraid, and he began to sink. Peter cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught Peter and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat were amazed and worshiped Jesus saying, “It’s true! You are the Son of God!”

Yes, Jesus truly is the Son of God. He has all power to do miracles, even walk on water, and the best miracle of all is that He can forgive us our sins. The Bible says that we are all sinners but Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins. Jesus wants to save us from our sins just like He saved Peter from drowning in the water, but we have to have faith in Jesus just like Peter did. Put your faith in Jesus as your Savior today. He will forgive your sins, give you eternal life in heaven, and help you every day with all your problems, big or small. Trust in Jesus today!

Jesus loves you and He wants you to have faith in Him!
Jesus Picture Frame

Supplies needed:
1. Copies of Jesus Picture
2. Brightly colored cardstock (8 ½ X 11)
3. Self-Adhesive foam shapes
4. Mailing Address labels
5. Yarn (any color)
6. Memory verse on labels
7. Gallon-sized and snack-sized Ziploc baggies

Prepare ahead:
1. Cut yarn 10” in length
2. Cut mailing labels in 1/3s
3. Make copies of Jesus’ Picture and trim off the sides to make the picture smaller
4. Put an assortment of foam shapes, yarn, 2 cut labels, and memory verse in snack-sized Ziploc baggies
5. Cut cardstock in half and put cardstock in gallon-sized Ziploc baggies (counts of 25 make for easy distribution)

Children’s activity:
1. Give each child a baggie and sheet of colored cardstock
2. Use labels to “tape” yarn to the top, and back corners of colored cardstock
3. Color picture of Jesus
4. Glue Jesus to the colored front of the cardstock
5. Use foam shapes to decorate the frame around the picture of Jesus
6. Adhere memory verse to the back of the frame
LESSON PLAN #2  JESUS HEALS THE DEAF MAN

AFTERNOON VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Review names of the U.S. and Brazilian team

SINGING: Team participates as translators leads

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Review the lesson you gave in the morning

OBJECT LESSON: (This is another way to present the gospel) The Keys to Heaven, The Sin Solution, Candy Cane Demo, Bridge to Heaven

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game, or do stretching exercises.

BIBLE STORY: Jesus Heals the Deaf Man

MEMORY VERSE: For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

(Print out Portuguese verses on labels) Porque Deus tanto amou ao mundo que deu o seu Filho Unigênito, para que todo o que nele crer não pereça, mas tenha a vida eterna. João 3:16

CRAFT: Duck Sack Puppet

COLOR PAGE: Jesus Heals the Deaf Man Color Page

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can’t leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
Jesus Heals The Deaf Man

SCRIPTURE: Mark 7:31-37

MEMORY VERSE: For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

CHARACTERS: Jesus, deaf man, deaf man helpers

Jesus is God's Son and he came to be the Savior of the world. This was God's Plan. Because Jesus was both God and man he never sinned. He was pure and holy. He went about doing good things and teaching people how to please God the Father. Jesus also had the power to perform amazing miracles. Do you know what a miracle is? Something only God or Jesus can do. This reminds me of a Bible story on a miracle Jesus performed. In this story, Jesus healed a deaf man, a man who could not hear, AND this man could barely talk!

This story of how Jesus healed a deaf man is in the Bible. It's in the book of Mark, chapter 7.

One day Jesus was walking in a village by the Sea of Galilee. There was always a crowd of people that followed Jesus wherever he went. And, since He was healing sick people, some friends brought a deaf man to Jesus for healing. They begged Jesus, “Please touch our friend and make him well.”

Jesus loved this man and so He led him away from the crowd. Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears, looked up to Heaven, and said, “Be opened!” Then He did something really strange! He spit on his hands and touched His hands to the man’s mouth. At that point, the most amazing thing happened! The man’s ears were opened and he could hear! For the first time, he could hear people talking and laughing. He could hear birds singing and dogs barking! He could hear the baby chicks peeping, the mamma chickens clucking and walking around to find bugs and worms AND he could hear... the ducks quacking!

The people were so amazed to see this miracle that they couldn't stop talking about it. They said, “Jesus does everything well!! They wanted to follow him more than ever! Jesus loved this deaf man and He loves us too! He wants us to come to Him, to trust Him to help us, and to share His love with our friends!

Most of all, Jesus wants us to love and trust Him as our Savior!
Duck Sack Puppet Craft

**Supplies needed:**
1. Paper bags (brown or white work well)
2. Duck Puppet pattern template
3. Printing Paper
4. Glue sticks
5. Memory verse on labels
6. Snack-sized Ziploc baggies

**Prepare ahead:**
1. Copy the Duck Puppet pattern on paper
2. Cut out Duck Puppet (not necessary to cut exactly along the lines)

**Children's activity:**
1. Give each child a baggie, paper bag, and Duck Puppet cut-out
2. Children will color the Duck’s face and bill
3. Glue Duck Puppet to paper bag
4. Stick the memory verse to the back of the paper bag
5. Child will put their hand into the bag and “talk” for the duck moving the head and mouth with his hand
LESSON PLAN #3 JESUS FEED 5,000

MORNING VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Have the U.S. and Brazilian team introduce themselves

SINGING: The team participates as translators leads

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Wordless Book, Evangecube, New Creatures

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game, or do stretching exercises.

BIBLE STORY: Jesus Feeds the 5,000

MEMORY VERSE: My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

(Print out Portuguese verses on labels) O meu Deus suprirá todas as necessidades de vocês, de acordo com as suas gloriosas riquezas em Cristo Jesus. Filipenses 4:19

CRAFT: Fish Necklace

COLOR PAGE: Jesus Feeds the 5,000 Color Page

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can’t leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
Jesus Feeds 5,000


MEMORY VERSE: My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

CHARACTERS: Jesus, disciples, small boy, crowd

Do you like to eat fish and bread? So did Jesus and His disciples. There’s a story in the Bible about how Jesus fed a crowd of 5,000 people!

One day Jesus was teaching to a great crowd of people and healing the sick on a grassy hillside by the Sea of Galilee. As evening came the disciples said to Jesus, “It’s getting late. We should send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby villages and buy some food.”

Jesus said, “They don’t need to go away. Give them something to eat.” But Phillip, one of His disciples said, “Lord, it would take eight month’s wages to buy enough food for this crowd?” Jesus asked, “How many loaves of bread do you have?”

Another disciple, Andrew, spoke up and said, “Here is a boy who will share his lunch of 5 small barley loaves and 2 small fish. How can this small amount of food feed so many?”

The disciples had seen Jesus turn water into wine, heal the sick and calm a storm. But they did not believe He could feed that many people with only 5 loaves and 2 fish! The crowd was made up of 5,000 men plus women and children!

Jesus told the people to sit down on the grass. He took the boy’s basket of food, gave thanks, and passed the basket to everyone so that they all had as much as they wanted. It was a miracle! Everyone had enough bread and fish to eat! And when the disciples gathered up the leftover food there were 12 baskets full of bread and fish remaining.

These people had a need that day – a need for food. Jesus provided the food they needed. Jesus can do anything!!

The Bible says, “My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:19) It doesn’t say God will provide all you want, but you can trust Jesus to provide what you need!
Fish Necklace Craft

Supplies needed:
1. Chenille stems (various colors)
2. Necklace cord (various colors)
3. Memory verse on labels
4. Sandwich-sized Ziploc baggies

Prepare ahead:
1. Cut Chenille stems in ½ (about 6” each)
2. Cut the Necklace cord into 28” lengths
3. Tie Necklace cords in bunches of 25
4. Put 25 Chenille stems in a sandwich-sized Ziploc baggie with a “bunch” of necklace cords

Children’s activity:
1. Give each child one of each (Chenille stem and necklace cord)
2. Bend the Chenille stem in half, shape it into fish and twist the ends to make the tail
3. Put the yarn through the fish by doubling up the yarn, and loop it back through the yarn so it will hang straight
4. Tie a knot in the ends
5. Hang it around the child’s neck and say, “Jesus te ama!”
LESSON PLAN #4 FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

AFTERNOON VBS:

GAMES: Play games with children as they arrive to attract others to join. (Bubbles, jump rope, frisbees, balls)

INTRODUCTIONS: Review names of the U.S. and Brazilian team

SINGING: The team participates as translators leads

GOSPEL PRESENTATION: Review the lesson you gave in the morning

OBJECT LESSON: (This is another way to present the gospel) The Keys to Heaven, The Sin Solution, Candy Cane Demo, Bridge to Heaven

PRAYER: Lead the children in a prayer to receive Christ

SONG: Get the wiggles out! Sing a song, play a clapping game, or do stretching exercises.

BIBLE STORY: Fruit of the Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such, there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

(Print out Portuguese verses on labels) Mas o fruto do Espírito é amor, alegria, paz, paciência, amabilidade, bondade, fidelidade, mansidão e domínio próprio. Contra essas coisas não há lei. Gálatas 5:22-23

CRAFT: Fruit of the Spirit Spinner

COLOR PAGE: Fruit of the Spirit Color Page

SNACK: Find an organized way to hand out candy. Form a line or a circle and hand out candy to each child. Tell children they can’t leave until everyone receives candy.

GAMES: Play games with the children. Parachute, Duck, Duck, Goose, Frisbees, Soccer, Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Relay Races
Fruit of the Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such, there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

CHARACTERS: 2 Kids

The Bible shows the Good News of Jesus’ love and forgiveness. When we accept the free gift of God’s love, then we will want to live for Him. When a tree has fruit on it, it is a joy to see. Jesus wants us to be like a tree bringing forth good fruit. In Galatians 5:22 there is a list of 9 fruits of the Spirit.

- Love, Joy, and Peace: These words make us think of how much God loves us. He brings great joy and peace into our lives.
- Patience, Kindness, and Goodness: We need patience toward each other and in our everyday activities. Kindness and Goodness are treating others like we want to be treated.
- Faithfulness: This is trusting God at His word and being obedient.
- Gentleness: This is treating others very carefully and not hurting their feelings.
- Self-Control: This is difficult to do on our own. Without God’s help, we will fail, but with God’s help, we can learn to control anger, not say hurtful words, and make good decisions.

In the Bible (Deuteronomy 13:4) it says, “It is the Lord your God you must follow, and Him you must honor.”

If we do this, the fruits of the Spirit will grow in our lives as a witness for others to see.
SUPPLIES: Banana Tree sign
Apple Tree sign
Christian sign

Kid 1: Hey look! It’s a banana tree!

Kid 2: How do you know it’s a banana tree?

Kid 1: Because it has bananas on it. And look, there’s an apple tree!

Kid 2: How do you know it’s an apple tree?

Kid 1: Because it has apples on it. And look, there’s a Christian!

Kid 2: How do you know she’s/he’s a Christian? Maybe she/he’s just saying that! How do you know she’s/he’s a true follower of Jesus Christ?

Kid 1: Because of the fruit growing in her life!
Banana trees have bananas. (points to the banana tree sign)
Apple trees have apples. (points to the apple tree sign)
A Christian has the fruit of the Spirit! (read the Christian sign)

You see, when you trust Jesus as your Savior, Jesus comes to live in your heart and life, and God’s Holy Spirit starts to grow this fruit in your life so you will be more like Jesus.

Kid 2: But how do I get this fruit?

Kid 1: Well, first of all, you have to trust Jesus as your personal Savior and commit your life to Him. Then when you do, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you. He keeps helping you grow to be more like Him and soon other people begin to see the Spirit’s fruit in your life.

Kid 2: Awesome! Now how about a banana? (Takes a banana and puts his arm around kid 1 and they walk off stage peeling the bananas.)
OBJECT LESSONS
THE WORDLESS BOOK STORY

Have you ever seen a book without words or pictures? This book of colored pages tells a wonderful story from the Bible. The story is about the true and living God who made all of the world and everything in it. Each color reminds me of a part of that story. Sometimes I like to peek at the end of a book first to see if it has a sad or happy ending.

Let’s look at the last page first! The gold page tells us that in Heaven the streets are made of gold. God tells us that no one is ever sick there, and no one dies. Heaven is a real place. The most wonderful thing about Heaven is that God and Jesus are there. God loves us so much He wants us to be a part of His family and be with Him in Heaven someday!

What a special place Heaven is! It is perfect because God is perfect, but there is one thing that can never be in Heaven. That one thing is sin. The black page reminds us that anything that does not please God is a sin. Sin is disobeying the rules God has given in the Bible. Sin causes sadness in the world. (Give an example of sin they can relate to and see if they can give some examples.)

The Bible says we have all sinned. (Romans 3:23) “All” means every one of us – you and me. Sin separates us from God. God cannot allow sin where He is. God said sin must be punished. God knew there was nothing we could do to get rid of our sins, but God loved us so much that He made a way for us to be forgiven of ALL our sins.

The red color shows us the way to this forgiveness. God loved us so much He sent His own Son, Jesus, to earth from Heaven. He was born as a tiny baby and He grew up and became a man. Jesus was different from any other person who ever lived on earth. He was perfect. He never did even one thing wrong! But one day men put a crown of thorns on His head and nailed Him to a cross. Nailed to the cross by His hands and His feet, His red blood poured out as He took the punishment for our sins and died on that cross. He was put in a tomb but after 3 days a most wonderful thing happened – God gave Jesus life again! He raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is our living Savior and He wants to save you from your sins.
The **white** color reminds me that I can be made clean from my sins. (John 3:16). Because of the sacrifice Jesus made – I don't have to be separated from God. And neither do you! If you believe in Jesus, He will give you everlasting life so you can live in Heaven. Jesus will forgive your sins and always be with you! Just tell Him you have sinned and that you trust Him to forgive you. You will then have eternal life. God promises, “I will never leave you.” God loves us and wants us to go to Heaven when we die.

The **green** color reminds me of growing. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we need to grow as Christians. 2nd Peter 3:18 says, “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” We grow by reading the Bible and praying. Then we need to love others and tell them about God's love.

*What a great message in a book without words!!*
KEYS TO HEAVEN

The Bible says that Heaven is a wonderful place! The Bible says, in Revelation, that there will be no crying or pain or sadness or sickness or death in Heaven. There will be no sin or trouble there, only peace and good things to enjoy. Heaven will be our heavenly home and the streets will be paved with gold. Best of all, God will be there and we will live with Him forever and ever.

How many of you would like to go to Heaven someday? Me too!! But how do we get in to Heaven? Let’s pretend that this lock represents Heaven and that the gate to Heaven is locked. Let’s find a key that opens the lock on the gate to Heaven.

I need 5 volunteers. (Call kids up and distribute the keys. Ask the kids to try the keys one at a time to see which will open the door to Heaven.)

1. Being good – *Antos de bondade*
2. Going to church – *Vai pra igreja*
3. Giving money to the poor – *Da dineiro a pobre*
4. Read the Bible – *Lei a Biblia*

None of these things open the lock on the gate to Heaven. These are all good things. Jesus wants us to be good and kind. Jesus wants us to go to church and give money to the poor and to be baptized, but none of these things will get us in to Heaven. How can we get to Heaven?

There’s one more key - - let’s try it!

5. Accepting Jesus as your Savior – *Aceitar Jesus como seu Salvador.*

Hurrah! We’ve found the key! The only way to get to Heaven is to trust in Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord. Jesus said in John 14:6, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” That’s the Key to Heaven! Have you trusted in Jesus to forgive you of your sins and come into your heart and life and be your Lord and Savior? If you have, then you are a follower of Jesus – a Christian – and Jesus has promised to give you eternal life with Him in Heaven someday. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Once you have trusted Jesus as your Savior, this is what He wants you to do until the day you go to Heaven (refer to the other keys):

Be good and kind - Go to church - Give to the poor - Read the Bible

I hope each of you will trust Jesus and then live your life to please Him!
THE KEYS TO HEAVEN
(DIRECTIONS)

Items needed:

- Padlock
- 5 rectangle cut cardstock papers (laminated)
- 4 keys that don’t fit the padlock
- 1 key that fits the padlock

On one side of the cardstock words will be written in English and on the other side words will be written in Portuguese. Collect 4 extra keys that don’t open the padlock. Punch a hole in each card and attach a key to each card with yarn or string.

Make sure the key to the padlock is attached to the card that says, “Accept Jesus as your Savior.”

Words written on cards:

- Go to church – *Vai pra igreja*
- Read the Bible – *Lei a Biblia*
- Give money to poor – *Da dinheiro a pobre*
- Do good deeds – *Antos de bondade*
- Accept Jesus as your Savior – *Aceitar Jesus como seu Salvador*
THE SIN SOLUTION

Supplies needed: 2 clear plastic jars – labeled “Homem” (man) and “Deus” (God), a cross made with popsicle sticks and stuck into an upside-down jar with clay inside to make it stick (after you stick the cross in the clay you can wrap the lid and clay in aluminum foil to hold it together), colored iodine, water, and photo fixer. (Note: If photo fixer is unavailable, you may substitute Chlor-out, Oxiclean, or Clorox)

Tell the audience that God created man in His image. God and man were friends and they communicated openly with each other. (As you talk, pour some water back and forth from jar to jar). Then man disobeyed God and sin came into the world. (Drop some iodine into the man’s jar.) This created a problem because God cannot look upon sin and could not allow sin into heaven. Man and God’s relationship was damaged and they found it very difficult to communicate with each other.

(You can ask the question, “Do you think if I poured this dirty water into the clean water, the clean water would stay clean?”) No, of course not! This was how God felt. There was no way man could come into heaven with all that sin. God loves all of us so much He decided to provide a way for us to have our sins forgiven and to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. He sent His son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, without sin, and die on a cross as a sacrifice for all the sins of the world..... your sins as well as my sins. The Bible says if you believe in Jesus and ask for your sins to be forgiven, God will not see your sins anymore but only see Jesus in your life.

(At this moment, take the cross with the photo fixer/Oxy Clean poured into the upside-down lid and lower it into the Man’s jar. The water will become clear and people will be amazed!)

Tell the audience that when Jesus comes into your life that He forgives your sin and purifies your life. Even if you sin more (drop more of the iodine into the man’s jar) the only thing God will see is Jesus in your life. His sacrifice on the cross covers all your sins... past, present, and future!!

I hope each of you will trust Jesus and then live your life to please Him!
BRIDGE SKIT

In the beginning was God. God decided to make the heavens and the earth and it was very good! (Before the skit begins set up two stools or chairs apart from each other marking one as heaven (ceu) and one earth (terra) )

Then God made man so that man could fellowship with God. God and man talked together and walked together. God loved man and man loved God.

Then a sad thing happened that changed the world forever. God told man he could eat any food in the garden he wanted. But God told man not to eat of one special fruit. (Have a banana wrapped in aluminum foil hung from a stick) The man listened to the devil and he ate the fruit God told him not to. Then God appeared and told man he was sinful and disobedient and he must leave the garden God had made for him. When that happened God left man alone on the earth. He said to man that two bad things must take place.

1. Man's nature changed from clean to sinful. (Man takes off white shirt and has a black one underneath) Man could no longer be in God's presence because he was sinful and God was holy.
2. Man's future home was changed from heaven to hell

Man thought he would be happy without God but he was not. He missed God, but he could not fellowship with God because of his sin. He tried to please God by doing good deeds but nothing was good enough to get to heaven. He read his Bible, he shared his fish, he helped his neighbor, and he gave money to the church. (deeds are written on heart-shaped paper and held up by man and as each is read the man drops the heart on the floor),

Read his Bible= Leia a Biblia
He shared his fish = Ele compartilhou seu peixe
He helped his neighbor = Ele ajudou seu proximo
He gave money- Ele deu Dinheiro

God told man his good deeds were like filthy rags and they would never change his sinful nature.

God was sad and man was sad but man could do absolutely nothing to save himself. (Have the man reach out to God but God just shakes his head) so God
gave His son, Jesus, to go to earth to be born of a virgin. He lived a perfect life and God was well pleased. Jesus obeyed his father and allowed man to crucify Him on a cross. (Someone not in the skit helps raise a wide board to Jesus' back and then Jesus and the helper lay the board across the two stools.) He died but then God raised Jesus from the dead and He went up to heaven. (Go and stand by God and have God point to man and Jesus goes and holds out his hand by man and the bridge cross.)

Now man must decide. Will he step out on the cross? Jesus will help him but the man must be willing. As soon as man trusts Jesus as his Savior and takes His hand, Jesus forgives his sin and sees his sin no more. (Man, who is standing on the stool marked Earth, reaches out for Jesus’ hand and when he does, Jesus gives him the white shirt to put back on over the black one)

Along the way, man sometimes slips and makes mistakes but Jesus will help him back up. (Man pretends to slip while walking across the board and Jesus walks beside him and helps steady him). Through Jesus, we have eternal life and after you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior you will always be in Jesus’ hands. We may slip but He will never let go.