

Host Site Handbook



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What is a Host?

The role of the Host is to provide the place (yard, driveway, cleared garage, etc.) to hold the event. The Host usually organizes his/her team members who play the role of Helpers. However, another member may organize the effort. Whether the Host or another member organizes the Rock the Block there are a few responsibilities the Host should oversee. These include:

- Being mindful of ensuring the safety of the children who attend your site. That involves identifying and removing any potentially hazardous objects or materials, being aware of the children's physical and spiritual wellbeing, and creating an environment where they are most receptive to the gospel. Also, confirm everyone has completed and returned a signed background check & a Child/Youth Protection Policy to New Vision's Children's Ministry.
- Providing necessary items to keep children as comfortable as possible (e.g., old sheets or blankets for children to sit on). It's best if the Host is free of responsibilities during the event, particularly when parents are arriving and when they are picking up their children. This allows the Host to greet parents and children without having his or her attention divided.

Step-By-Step to Hosting a Rock the Block:

1. PRAY!

We want to seek the Lord through each and every step of this process!
Pray before committing your time and home to this event!

2. Talk to your group!

3. Sign-Up to be a host!

The link and information can be found at: www.newvisionlife.com/rocktheblock

4. Keep praying!

Pray for the right team and right children to come to this event.

5. Pick the length and dates for your Rock the Block!

You can have your Rock the Block for one, two, OR three days on the dates YOU choose in July!

6. Get your helpers/team to register for your Rock the Block!

7. Pick up your kit and t-shirts!

More info on that below.

8. Divide up roles and responsibilities for your team!

Craft, Rec, Worship, and Snack—who will be doing what roles? Make sure they are prepared with the information on their area!

9. Host will attend a training with Delaney Degelow!

10 Promote your Rock the Block at least a week before it begins in your neighborhood!

Spread the word to your community and get them excited about the event!

11. HAVE THE BEST ROCK THE BLOCK EVER!



Tips for Hosts:

1. Pray and Plan well. Don't forget to seek the Lord in this process and during this event.
2. Create a group message or GroupMe with your team. This will help with clear communication and effective planning.
3. Remember that the gospel is for children—they are at their most teachable and moldable season—and we get to share truth with them! HOW COOL!
4. Don't be afraid to ask questions! Reach out to Delaney (contact info below). No question is too big or too small.
5. Ask about allergies FIRST! Better to be safe than sorry and ask at the beginning of the day about what allergies each child may have.
6. Have a back-up plan in case of weather!

Scheduling your Rock the Block:

We know you have a busy schedule, so thank you for being willing to take the time to invest in your community and help these children grow in their love for Jesus! We have three Rock the Block options: one, two, or three days! We want you to pick the option that best works with your schedule and life. We have content for up to three days, but one day can make just as great of an impact. Work with your team to see which is the most feasible for you, your team, and your community!

10 Rules for Leading Children

- 1. Never physically hit a child.** Never! If you find there is a child in your group whom you are annoyed by and you have trouble dealing with that child, please tell your site host or someone on the Rock the Block lead team. And, ask another team member to deal with that child.
- 2. Always have another adult with you** when there are children present in a ministry event. Never be alone with a child, for any reason. (This also includes taking a child to the restroom)
- 3. Be very careful about touching children.** Appropriate physical contact would include high-fives, fist bumps, side-hugs, etc. Physical contact such as a full embrace, allowing a child to sit on an adult's lap or any contact of that nature is unwise and inappropriate in this context.
- 4. Use positive, clear expectations.** Tell children what **TO** do instead of what **NOT** to do (ex: Tell children “use walking feet” instead of “don't run”). When you see children modeling good behavior, recognize them. This encourages good behavior to continue & other children will catch on.
- 5. Stoop to the child's level or kneel when talking or listening to a child.**
- 6. Avoid using “shhhh” to get children quiet** (or yelling “BE QUIET!!!”). Use other strategies such as clapping hands in a pattern and getting them to repeat, or saying “if you can hear me touch your head.”
- 7. Keep things moving!** Minimize transition times between activities, which is an invitation for kids to misbehave!
- 8. Make teaching times interactive**, engaging, and lively! Be enthusiastic when you are teaching and try to involve the audience as much as possible.
- 9. Keep a positive attitude and a sense of humor.** If you keep a smile on your face, the children will too!
- 10. Keep things fun!!!** If kids are having fun they won't even think about misbehaving!



Kit Pick-up:

The host is responsible for the kit pickup and ensuring that all Helpers for their group have picked up their t-shirt **BEFORE** their event. Kit and T-shirt pickup will be on **SUNDAY JUNE 20 OR JUNE 27**. Hosts and Helpers will pick-up their materials (Hosts: Kit and T-shirts, Helpers: T-shirts) anytime from Sunday Morning from 8-1. This will take place down by 503.

Promotion

“If you build it, they will come” doesn’t apply to your Rock the Block event. Encouraging children to attend will take planning and effort, but it will be worth it.

What’s considered “great” attendance will vary from site-to-site. For some sites, five children will be great; for others fifty will be great. No matter what, if the attendance is poor, opportunities for ministry and relationship are missed, the experience for children who do attend will be less than what it could have been, and your Rock the Block team will be discouraged. That’s not what anyone wants. Follow the steps provided and, of course, feel free to use your own ideas.

1. Prayer: This is placed first because prayer really must precede all our planning and efforts. Pray often as a team and individually for God to bless your efforts and arrange the connections, the invitations and, ultimately, the attendance. Members of the team may consider walking through the neighborhood while praying for the Rock the Block efforts and for those who will be attending.

2. Yard Signs: Two attractive yard signs are provided for each site. Plan to place the signs two weeks before the first day of your event. One sign should be placed outside the Host’s home (or location of the site). The other sign should be placed in a high visibility area, such as the main entrance to the Host’s subdivision. The yard signs are designed with an area to write specific information in **LARGE BOLD** print with the provided Sharpie. The sign outside of the Host’s home, for instance, should have the dates and times of the Rock the Block event. The sign located at the entrance to the subdivision should also include the address of the site. If possible, place the sign in a lighted area for added exposure through the evening hours. Also, while the sign is attractive, it is best to enhance it with balloons or pinwheels or anything else to communicate “fun” (avoid being tacky).

3. Personal Invitation Reminders OR “Door Hangers”: Approximately fifty nicely designed door hangers are provided for each site. Think of these more as personal invitation reminders than “door hangers.”

The best and most effective invitation is one that is personal and face-to-face. After a personal invitation, give the neighbor the door hanger as a personal reminder. If possible, have one or two willing children with each adult when inviting neighbors. Also, it is best to hand the invitations out 4 or 5 days after the yard signs have been posted and about 7 days prior to the first day of the event.

When a neighbor is not home on Tuesday night at 7PM, for instance, try again on Thursday at 5:30PM. Leave the door hanger only as a very last option. To add a personal touch, maybe handwrite something like, “Sorry we didn’t catch you at home.”

In addition to handing these invitations to neighbors, you may want to post the information on your neighborhood social media page if you have one.

4. Getting Children to Return: The most significant factor in determining whether children return will be the first day. If the first day is fun and meaningful, the boys and girls will likely return. If you have great attendance the first day of your event, that’s tremendous. If all the children return the next day, that’s magnificent. If all the children return the next day with friends, that’s even better!



Preparing the Site

One of the great advantages of Rock the Block's neighborhood outreach strategy is that the sites don't require huge or elaborate spaces. Rock the Block sites are commonly homes using space provided in yards, driveways, cleared garages, patios, etc.

Regardless of the space or spaces used, safety of your guests must be a high priority. Look for and relocate any object or material that presents potential danger. Children (even supervised children) have an uncanny ability to locate and get into things we would not normally consider likely or possible. This reality is included to heighten your awareness, not to cause unnecessary alarm.

If a pair of hedge clippers or a gas can, for example, is on the garage bench, take a few moments to remove them. The effort and time it takes to relocate such items is insignificant. Even if children would leave such items alone, parents will surely notice these hazards and potentially cause concern. If an outside space is used, consider the timing of mowing the grass, pet debris, low-hanging rope or branches, insect control, etc.

Teaching Area:

Venture out into your yard the week before and at the same time of your Rock The Block. Take note of the direction of the sun and how it may affect the teaching area. Also, consider how your teaching area is set up. If you're in the middle of the yard, you won't have anywhere to hang posters or pictures, so you'll have to come up with a solution. Also think about how you'll hang posters or pictures if you're somewhere else. Can you tape them to the wall? In addition to these considerations, it is prudent for the team to prepare a "Rainy Day" plan for such things as... a rainy day.

Comfort and Hospitality:

Considering children's comfort and being a good host will have a positive impact on their ability to concentrate on what they are learning or doing. Also, if children remember being comfortable and well taken care of, they will likely want to return. Don't be overly burdened by this. There is only so much that can be done to keep everyone reasonably comfortable. Here are some considerations:

- Supply old blankets, towels, or sleeping bags for children and team members to sit on.
- Have a first aid kit ready with plenty of Band-Aids. (Let parents know ASAP)
- Have some hand sanitizer, tissue, and paper towels on hand.
- Inspect, prepare and spray for ants, mosquitoes and other insects in advance.
- Please **DO NOT** spray children with sun screen or bug spray. Encourage parents to apply anything needed prior to drop-off.
- Consider having oscillating fans to cool things down.
- In all of your preparations, plan for 5 kids, and plan for 35!
- Have plenty of cool drinking water ready and available.
- Have Freezer Pops on hand to offer when things get too hot.
- Have a clean and stocked restroom easily accessible.
- **DO NOT** go in the restroom with a child and never be alone with a child.

Application Activities

Each Bible lesson will be followed by an application activity, these will be in the form of craft and recreation. This activity is meant to reinforce the Bible truth taught that day. Explain the activity with clean and simple instructions (think small bites) before allowing the children to get started on the activity themselves. Offer help while balancing the child's chance to grow and overcome challenges.

Keep it fun!



What to do when a child indicates faith in Jesus Christ

If a child indicates a desire to place his faith in Jesus Christ, encourage the child and tell him this is not only very important, it is also very special and you would like to let his parents be a part of this.

Later, when the parents come to pick up the child, lead them to a quieter place and tell them what their child heard and tell them how their child indicated a desire to express his faith in Jesus as Savior. Discuss this with the parents to discern if they understand.

If the parents understand and are believers, invite them to discuss this with the child, together with you before they leave. Or, encourage them to discuss this further with the child at home. If the parents do not understand, ask the parents for permission to discuss this with their child, together with them present.

Before leading a child to express faith in Jesus Christ, it is important to determine if the child understands the gospel and desires to respond in faith. When asking questions, try to avoid questions that may be answered with a simple “yes” or “no.” For example, “Timothy, do you want to trust Jesus as your Savior?” It is easy for the child to figure out the desired reply is “Yes.” Rather, present your questions like this: “Timothy, you seem to understand what Jesus has done to make forgiveness possible. All who believe and call upon Christ in prayer will be saved. That is God’s promise. Is there anything you would like to tell God or ask God, now?” If the Spirit is calling the child to Himself, the child will express a desire to call upon Christ for salvation.

The next thing for the child to do is express to God his need for forgiveness and his faith in Jesus Christ as the only Provider of that forgiveness. Pure faith and great faith is characteristic of children. They, more than we, find faith easily and model it best. However, finding and ordering the words to express their faith is quite a different matter. If a child is hesitant to pray or is in any way showing uncertainty, this is where our assistance can be very welcome. This special moment requires us to be very discerning and sensitive to the Spirit of God.

To help the child, consider describing what you said to God when you first called upon Jesus for salvation. This can serve as a helpful model for the child. Another way to assist is to guide the child’s prayer in steps. You give the child headings, if you will, and they express the words. In this way you are giving order to their words and making it their own. (Refrain from doing a ‘repeat after me’ type of prayer.) It may be possible the child prefers to pray to God quietly or alone. Encourage him to do so at this time or sometime before he goes to bed that night.

If the child still doesn’t seem to understand or doesn’t want to express his faith, do not force it. You are not a failure if the child does not put his faith in Christ. Let the Holy Spirit do His work. If it is clear the child understands the Gospel and has called upon God for salvation, encourage him! It is important for the child to be sure of his salvation. Some additional questions will be helpful here. Ask questions, such as:

- “What did Jesus just do for you?”
- “If someone were to ask you if your sins are forgiven and if you have eternal life, what would you tell them?”
- “How do you know?”
- Read 1 John 5:13 and have the child replace “You” with his or her personal name.



It is important that the child's faith be rooted in the Scriptures. If time allows, go over a couple of assurance verses with the child: John 3:36a; 5:24; 6:47; 10:27-29; 11:25,26; 20:31. Lastly encourage him to let someone know about his new faith in Christ.

Once a child trusts Christ, it is vital for him to begin learning about God's plan for his new life. This immediate teaching is often called follow-up because it is the second part of the Great Commission -Teaching (Matt 28:19,20). What happens here and who is involved with the child depends on what the child's parents allow.

If follow up in any fashion is possible, it is strongly encouraged. If the parents are believers, offer resources for them to walk through with their child. Please contact the New Vision Children's Ministry staff team for direction related to resources.

Tell one of the Children's Ministry staff team members about the children who have indicated faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. The church has New Believer classes for children quarterly. Also, the most natural and accepted person to follow-up with the child and his or her family is the site Host or one of the site's team members. If this is possible, we strongly encourage it.

Host Questions // Contact:

We know that you will have questions along the way, and want to give you a source to talk to! Delaney Degelow is available for your questions and concerns throughout this journey! You can reach her at: Delaney.degelow@newvisionlife.com.

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Bible Lessons Handbook



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Teaching Children

God desires to use you to impact others for eternity, and your Rock the Block will provide plenty of opportunities to do that. So, by all means, prepare yourself personally to be used by God (2 Tim 2:20-21). Walk closely with Him in prayer. Enjoy Him. Read, even memorize His Word. Live mindful of His presence, and let that be evident in the way you live. Confess and genuinely forsake anything in your life you know is not pleasing to God. And, do these things, not only for the ministry period of Rock the Block, but because this is the purpose for which God saved you. You are free to make the lessons your own. Please don't feel restricted to every word of the Bible lessons.

Prepare your lessons well and you and everyone in your hearing will be glad you did. Before even approaching a lesson, ask God to use the truths of the lesson in your own life. Then, carefully read and re-read the lesson's key Bible passage. Then read multiple times. To provide a fuller understanding of the key passage, read the entire context, which may include the chapter or surrounding chapters. Read the entire lesson plan while underlining main truths. Then re-read the lesson plan making notes about how you will present the material.

As you prepare, try to think like a child. Consider how children will hear and visualize the passages and your words. Anticipate their assumptions and questions based on concrete thinking. For instance, if you read Revelation 21:4, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes ...," when a young child hears these words, she pictures these words in her mind and then wonders, "Does that mean every tear wiped away from every eye of every person in heaven? Wow! That's a lot of tissues." Thinking like a child helps us anticipate thoughts like this so that we can help children have a clearer understanding of what we are teaching.

When preparing the Bible lessons, we tried to break down the truth without dumbing it down. To dumb down a truth the teacher removes, or even distorts, so much of the truth's essence that the truth becomes truth-barren or worse, the teaching becomes heresy. However, to break down the truth, the teacher not only keeps the essence of the truth intact but also carefully sheds light on the truth by explaining it in terms familiar to children.

- **Be animated.**
- **Appeal to children's vivid imaginations.**
- **Be sincere.**
- **Be you.**
- **Have fun!**

When reading Scripture, always do so from an open Bible. This helps children see the Words you are reading are not your own, but God's. Occasionally allow the children to read aloud the lesson's Bible passages. This practice helps children see they don't have to be afraid of the Bible or think the Bible is only for adults.

The lessons have been prepared to offer a very low-prep approach requiring few, if any, items or preparation. Throughout the lessons, however, you may notice optional features included enhancing the experience, but these are not essential.

Please refer to the Rock the Block Site Host Handbook for additional guidance related to teaching, communicating the Gospel to boys and girls, etc. At any time, if you have a question, please feel free to reach out to the Rock The Block Team. We are committed to helping your team have the most beneficial outreach experience possible.



1 Day Option / Day 1 of Multi-Day Event

Text: John 13:31-14:11 NIV - “I am” the way, the truth, and the life.

Bottom Line: Jesus is the only way to God.

Have you ever been through a maze? Maybe it was a maze on a piece of paper and you tried to go through it using a pencil, or maybe you have tried to walk through a life size maze on foot. Was it easy or difficult to find your way through the maze? (*Discuss*)

If you are trying to get somewhere, it is very important to know the way. Especially if it is somewhere you have never been before.

Today, we are going to learn how to get somewhere very important. We are actually going to learn the way to the most important place a person can ever be, and that place is to be with God!

Let’s open the Bible and read **John 13:33,14:1-6**.

Before I read, let’s think about what is going on in the true Bible story. One evening Jesus and His disciples (a disciple is a student) were together in an upstairs room of a house. Jesus knew that His time on earth was coming to an end and He would be leaving earth to go back to heaven very soon. Jesus had some very important things that He wanted to tell His followers before He left. Let’s read and find out what Jesus had to say...

³³ *“My children, I will be with you only a little longer.*

14 Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God. Believe in me also.² There are many rooms in my Father’s house. If this were not true, would I have told you that I am going there? Would I have told you that I would prepare a place for you there?

³ *If I go and do that, I will come back. And I will take you to be with me. Then you will also be where I am.*

⁴ *You know the way to the place where I am going.”⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going. So how can we know the way?”*

⁶ *Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 13:33,14:1-6NIV)*

Jesus told His disciples that He would be leaving them very soon. He said that He was going to prepare a special place for them so they could be with Him again. The disciples wanted to be with Jesus more than anything, but they didn’t know where He was going or how to get there. Jesus responded and told them that they did know the way to the place He was going. The disciples were confused. In verse 5, Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going. So how can we know the way?”, and here is how Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Where was Jesus going? (Jesus was going back to heaven where God was and still is.)

What do you think Jesus meant when He said all these things? (*Discuss*)

Well, let’s take a few minutes and break down what Jesus said:

“I am the way” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that He was “the way”? (*Allow children to respond*)



Jesus told the disciples that He was “the way”. The way to where? (To God). God created us and we were created to be with God, but our sin breaks our relationship with God. There is nothing that we can do to get back to God on our own, so we need help. Jesus is the only way we can get back to and be with God forever.

“I am the truth” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that He was “the truth”? *(Allow children to respond)*

Jesus told his disciples that He was “the truth”. Let’s pause and think about why this is so important. What is a lie? (Something that is not true) Everything that Jesus said is true. He never lied. We can trust Him. Satan, on the other hand, tries to lie to us and get us to not believe and trust God. He tells us lies like we are not good enough, that God doesn’t love us, and that God isn’t real. The biggest lie that Satan wants us to believe is to think that we can be like God. That we don’t need to trust or obey God, but is that true? (No) That is not true at all. Think about this, who created you? (God) Who knows you best? (God) So who should you trust? (God!)

“I am the life” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that He was “the life”? *(Allow children to respond)*

Jesus says He is “life”. This may sound kind of weird, but to really understand what Jesus meant, we need to read Romans 6:23. It says, “When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That’s because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.” You may have also heard that verse sound something like this, “The wages of sin is death.” What this verse is teaching us is that there are consequences for our sins. A sin is anything that we think, say, or do that goes against God. A sin is when we choose our own way instead of God’s way, and sin breaks our relationship with God. Because of our sin, we are spiritually “dead” on the inside and we cannot be with God. We have a HUGE problem and we need help.

Now let’s reread John 14:6 and think about everything we just learned. Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

What Jesus was trying to teach the disciples, and what He wants us to know today, is that God loves us so much and because of that great love He has made a way for us to be back with Him, and that way came through Jesus. When Jesus died on the cross and came back to life, He was making a way for everyone to be back with God and have forever life, meaning that we can be with God forever, on earth and in heaven. We can also know that Jesus and what He says is true. When we are confused by the lies of the world and don’t know what to think or believe, we can always stop and turn to God’s Word, the Bible, to know what is true, right, and good.

Our Bottom Line today is: Jesus is the only way to God. (Have children repeat it after you)

Jesus made a way for us to be back with God, but each one of us must choose in our own heart if we want to put our trust in Jesus and what He did, and if we want to follow Him.

If you are here today and have never trusted in who Jesus is and what He has done, then we would love to talk more about what that means for you. Please let one of the adult leaders here today know that you want to know more about Jesus.

If you are here today and know for sure that you have put your trust in Jesus, then I want you to think about our bottom line: Jesus is the only way to God and what that means to you. Are you choosing to follow Jesus and His way in all you do? Are you looking to what the Bible says is true? Are you living in a way that shows that you are thankful for Him giving you new life?

Let’s say our bottom line one more time together, **Jesus is the only way to God.**

Now let’s pray.



Day 2 of Multi-Day Event

Text: John 10:11-21, Psalm 23 NIV - "I am" the good shepherd.

Bottom Line: Jesus is the good shepherd.

When I say the word sheep, what comes to mind? *(Discuss)*

Maybe you are thinking about what sheep look like, feel like or even smell like? Do you know who takes care of sheep? *(A shepherd)*

Today, we are going to learn about shepherds. Actually, we are going to learn about one shepherd; the greatest shepherd to ever live!

Let's open the Bible and read **John 10:11**.

Before I read, let's think about what is going on in the true Bible story. One day Jesus was talking to a group of people called Pharisees. They were religious leaders at the time and most of them did not like Jesus. Jesus wanted to teach them something very important about who He is, so He used a pretend story called a parable. The story was about shepherds and sheep. Now that may sound funny, but the thing was that everyone knew about shepherds and sheep. They saw them everywhere. Shepherds were not the most popular people, but they had a very important job.

Here is what Jesus said...

"I (Jesus) am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep." (John 10:11 NIV)

We just talked about who a shepherd is. Now, let's think about what a shepherd does. *(Have children raise their hand and list as many things as they can about who a shepherd is and what a shepherd does.)*

A shepherd does many things when it comes to taking care of their sheep. They watch over and protect their sheep if someone or something tries to harm them. They provide for their sheep making sure they have plenty of food and something to drink. They lead their sheep to where they need to go. They know their sheep and their sheep know them. A good shepherd loves and cares for his or her sheep.

Reread John 10:11 one more time, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep."

When Jesus said that He was the good shepherd, what do you think he meant? *(Discuss... leading children to think about how Jesus is the perfect one for us.)*

Who do you think the sheep are in Jesus's story? *(Us. We are the sheep.)*

How do you think Jesus protects and provides for us? *(Discuss)*

Our Bottom Line today is: Jesus is the good shepherd. (Have children repeat it after you)

Jesus also said that, "The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep." What do you think that means? *(Discuss)*



Day 3 of Multi-Day Event

Text: John 8:12-29 NIV - “I am” the Light of the World
Bottom Line: Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

We are going to start out by trying something. I want everyone to close their eyes. Pretend that you are walking through the woods. Now imagine that it is dark and you are trying to walk through the woods. Do you think it would be easy or hard to walk through the woods in the dark? What if you didn't have any source of light?

Have you ever tried to walk around in the dark? Walking in the dark can be hard to see if you do not have some source of light. Today, we are going to learn about how important it is to have light, and we are going to learn about the greatest source of light ever. No, I am not talking about the sun. I am talking about the Son!

Let's open the Bible and read **John 8:12**

Before I read, let's think about what is going on in the true Bible story. One day Jesus was teaching in the Temple courtyard. The Temple was a very important place. It was where people would go to offer sacrifices to God, to pray, and learn more about God. Well, while Jesus was at the Temple, a group of people called the Pharisees went up to talk to Him. The Pharisees did not like Jesus or what He was teaching. So, Jesus took the opportunity to talk to and teach the people around Him who He really was, and still is today. Let's read John 8:12...

¹²Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.” (John 8:12 NIRV)

What do you think Jesus meant when He said these things? *(Allow children to respond)*

Let's take a few minutes and break down what Jesus said so we too can learn about who Jesus really is:

“I (Jesus) am the light of the world” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that He was “the light of the world.” *(Allow children to respond)*

Jesus told the people listening that He was the light of the world. Now this may sound kind of funny, but Jesus was trying to teach them a very important point. Think about what a light does; it helps us see. It shows us things that may be hidden in the darkness, and it shows us which way to go. Jesus can do all those things too! Light is great, and so is Jesus.

“Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness” – What do you think it means to ‘follow’ Jesus? *(Allow children to respond)*

When a person follows someone, they are putting all their trust in that person. They are saying that they are trusting that person and will go where they lead. To follow Jesus means to put all your trust in Him, to put Him in charge of where you are going and what you are doing.

“Anyone who follows me...will never walk in darkness.” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that if a person does decide that they are going to follow Him, they will never walk in darkness? *(Allow children to respond)*

The world can be a dark and scary place, dark because of sin. At times, it can be very hard to see and know what is true and right, but Jesus wants to help us with that. Sometimes you may feel like you are lost, you don't know what to do or where to go. That's okay. You are not alone. Jesus wants to light our path and show us God's truth and love.



There was one more thing that Jesus said, “Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.”

“They will have life” – What do you think Jesus meant when He said that they will have ‘life’? *(Allow children to respond)*

If a person does make the decision in their heart to trust in what Jesus has done, then they will have “life”. The Bible teaches us that the consequence of sin is death, but because of what Jesus did, we can have life if and when we trust in Him.

God created us and loves us. He created us to have a relationship with Him, to love and trust Him, but God doesn’t make us love and trust Him. He gives us the choice, and when we choose our own way instead of God’s way that is called a sin. Sin breaks our relationship with God.

The truth is that all of us have sinned and there is nothing that we can do to fix our sin problem, but God in His great big love made a way for us to be back with Jesus.

God sent Jesus down to earth. He lived like you and I, but He never sinned. Then one day he died on a cross taking the punishment that we deserve. He was what is called a sacrifice. He died in our place. Jesus never sinned, but took the punishment of everyone who did sin. Then some of Jesus’ followers put His body in an empty tomb and they covered the entrance with a huge stone so no one could get in or out. Jesus died on a Friday. Then on Sunday morning, when some ladies went to check on His body, the tomb was empty. Jesus had come back to life. When Jesus died on the cross and came back to life, He was making a way for everyone in the world to be forgiven and rescued from their sins, but each person has to decide in their heart if they want to trust in Jesus and what He did.

This is actually our Bottom Line for today: Jesus came to rescue us from sin. *(Have children repeat it after you)*

Now let’s reread John 8:12 and think about everything we just learned. “He (Jesus) said, “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.”

Sin makes it hard to see what is true. Satan wants us to believe that God isn’t real and that He doesn’t love us. But God, through the Holy Spirit, helps us see the world the way He sees it, to see people the way He sees them, to love people the way God loves them. By trusting in Jesus, a person is brought from the darkness of sin and death, and into the light of forgiveness and life forever.

If you are here today and have never trusted in who Jesus is and what He has done, then we would love to talk more about what that means for you. Please let one of the adult leaders here today know that you want to know more about Jesus. I hope you never forget that Jesus is the light of the world. There is no darkness or bad in Jesus, and if you choose Jesus, you too will have His light in you to guide and help you.

If you are here today and know for sure that you have put your trust in Jesus, then I want you to think about our bottom line: Jesus came to rescue us from sin and what that means to you. Also think about how Jesus is your light. Are you trusting Jesus and choosing to follow him? Are you letting His light shine through you so more people can see and learn about Jesus?

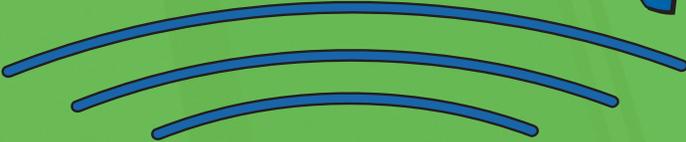
Let’s say our bottom line one more time together, Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

Now let’s pray.





Worship Handbook



 NEW VISION
CHILDREN



WORSHIP

Worship will be an exciting time for these students to listen to worship music that correlates with each day's Bible lesson. Each day's Bible lesson has two songs to go with it. There are also extra music options that can be played during other Rock The Block activities that can fit any day! To access these songs, please visit NewVisionLife.com/RockTheBlock.

We have a Rock The Block theme song! The song, titled "Rock The Block," was written by Daniel Doss and some friends, just for you to play during your Rock The Block! You can access this song within the playlists provided at the link above.

MUSIC FOR EACH DAY

Day One

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

- "Only Jesus" (Austin Stone Worship Kids)
- "Build My Life" (Housefires)

Day Two

I am the Good Shepard

- "Joy" (Lifeway Kids Worship)
- "Better Than The Best Thing" (Amber Sky Records)

Day Three

I am the Light of the world

- "Shine" (North Point Kids)
- "He Has Won" (Elevation Church Kids)

Other music options (extra songs to play, can be used any day)

- "Love Won't Let Me Down" (Hillsong Young & Free)
- "What Great Love" (Lifeway Kids Worship)
- "Who You Say I Am" (Hillsong Kids)
- "Shout Hosanna" (Passion, Kristian Stanfill)
- "At The Top of My Lungs" (Orange Kids Music)
- "Wake" (Hillsong Young & Free)





Rock the Block

Crafts Handbook

 NEW VISION
CHILDREN



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Crafts Handbook

DAY ONE

TRAFFIC LIGHT

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

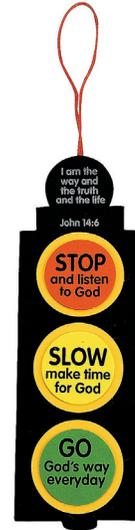
Main Bible Passage: John 14:6

Lesson Objective: To help children remember to stop, slow down, and remember to go God's way.

Gospel Connection: Jesus is the only way to God! He will show us which way to go if we take time to slow down and listen to Him!

Supplies:

- traffic light shape
- light brown circles
- red circles
- yellow circles
- green circles
- sharpies
- labels with verse printed on it
- (for preschool- labels with stop, slow, and go)
- glue sticks
- extra labels
- scissors



Instructions:

1. Give each child their supplies: 3 light brown circles, 1 red circle, 1 yellow circle, 1 green circle, sharpie, label with verse printed on it
2. Encourage the children to use the traffic light outline/stencil to draw their light onto the black construction paper. While one child is working on this, the other children can be writing their words on the circles or gluing the red, yellow, and green circles onto the gold circles.
3. Show children picture of the completed traffic light. Encourage them to glue their circles onto the traffic light cut out.
4. Give each child a label with the verse printed on it to add to the top of the traffic light and instruct children what to write on each circle. (Preschool: the words printed on a label, place correct label on each circle).
6. Put an extra label on the back of the traffic light and write the child's name on it.

Say: Today, we are going to make a traffic light! Traffic lights help us know when to stop and go. Jesus also helps us know when to STOP and listen, when to go SLOW and make time for God, and He reminds us to GO God's way EVERYDAY! When we listen to Jesus, He will help us GO the way God wants us to, and we can learn more about Him every day. Jesus also made a way for us to be rescued from our sins and have a forever relationship with God.

Crafts Handbook

DAY TWO

SHEEP BOOKMARK I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Main Bible Passage: John 10:11, 14-15

Lesson Objective: Reminder that we are like sheep

Gospel Connection: A shepherd's job is to take care of his sheep. Jesus is like a Shepherd and we are like the sheep. Jesus takes care of us, He is our Protector and Provider.

Supplies:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> craft stick | <input type="checkbox"/> googly eyes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cotton pads | <input type="checkbox"/> sharpie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cotton balls | <input type="checkbox"/> glue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sheep legs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sheep face | |



Instructions:

1. Give each child a craft stick, a cotton pad, 2 small google eyes, 2 sheep legs, 1 sheep face, and a cotton ball
2. Glue the sheep legs and sheep face onto their cotton pad.
3. Next glue the 2 googly eyes onto the face and help them pull apart their cotton ball to make the hair.
4. Finally, attach the sheep to the craft stick with glue.
5. Allow them to write the verse with a sharpie and their name on the back

Say: Today we are making a sheep bookmark! This is a reminder that we are like sheep and sheep need someone to protect them and provide food and other things for them. This is the job of a shepherd. Jesus is like OUR shepherd. He takes care of us, guides, us and provided food and other things for us too!

Crafts Handbook

DAY THREE

PAPER LANTERN

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Main Bible Passage: John 8:12

Lesson Objective: Lanterns give light and take away the dark

Gospel Connection: Sin is like darkness and God is the light. God, the light, came to save us from the darkness of sin.

Supplies:

- construction paper
- strips of paper
- scissors
- glue or tape
- crayons
- paint
- cotton balls
- paper plates
- baby wipes
- tea lights
- labels with verse on it



Instructions:

1. Give each child a piece of construction paper and encourage them to decorate it with crayons or paint.
*For the paint put a small amount on the paper plate and let them use cotton ball or their finger to dip in the paint and decorate their paper. (Remember, the less paint the better so it dries faster!)
2. Use baby wipes to clean up any paint that may have gotten on their hands or the craft area.
3. Once the paper seems to be mostly dry, show the children how to fold it in $\frac{1}{2}$ length ways, so it's tall and skinny.
4. Give each child a pair of scissors and show them how to cut slits into the paper (from the folded side to the open side) leaving about 1 inch at the top.
5. Open the paper and take the two ends and tape them together to form the lantern shape.
6. Use a strip of paper to attach to the top as a handle.
7. Attach the verse label onto the lantern and write the child's name on it as well.
8. If the child would like a tea light to take home and sit inside their lantern they can.

Say: Lanterns were used a long time ago instead of flashlights! We use these lights to take away the darkness around us. In the Bible, it teaches us that Jesus is our light and sin is like darkness! Jesus (the Light) can take away the darkness (sin) around us. So, we use these to remind us that Jesus came to rescue us from our sin!



Recreation Handbook



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Games for Day One

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE FIND THE WAY (Blindfold Game)

Main Bible Passage: John 14:6

Gospel Connection: Jesus is the only way to God! He will show us which way to go if we take time to slow down and listen to Him!

Supplies Needed:

- bandana to use as blindfold for each team
- dixie cups

Goal: For a child to get from one end of the playing field to the other by listening to his/her guide's directions.

Instructions: Place several dixie cups on the playing field, with enough space to walk around them. Blindfold one child and let all the others call out directions for him/her to go. They can call out "right, left, forward, backward, sideways," etc. Then play again and allow only one child to call out directions to the child that is blindfolded. You can also play with teams, or in pairs if you have enough blindfolds.

(Preschool Variation: Allow the preschooler to hold hands with someone to guide them when blindfolded since they may not know "right" and "left".)

Application: Ask the children if it was easier to listen when one person was calling out directions or when everyone was calling to them. (It's easier when you only listen to one person.) In this world, there will be many different things fighting for our attention, but always remember that there is only one God and only one way to have a relationship with Him, and that is through Jesus.



Games for Day One

SCAVENGER HUNT (ESCAPE ROOM)

Supplies Needed:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> papers with clues written on it | <input type="checkbox"/> plastic spoon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> popcorn (unopened package) | <input type="checkbox"/> sunscreen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> can coke | <input type="checkbox"/> crayon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> candle | <input type="checkbox"/> drum stick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flashlight | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pencil | |

Goal: Have children complete the scavenger hunt by reading the clues and then finding the items in the same order as they are on the list

Instructions: Place items around the yard for children to find. Give each team a sheet of paper with clues. (Note: the clues are in different order on each sheet so everyone is not looking for same things at same time.) The children will need to use the clues on the paper to figure out what item they are looking for. Once they know what to look for, they will go find the item. The game leader will let them know if they are correct and can move on. They **HAVE** to find the first item before they can move on to the next, like an escape room game. Children can work in pairs or you can divide into two teams. The team to finish first wins! (The instructor will have the answer sheet to all 5 different variations.)

(Preschool variation: Each clue will be in a different color. Encourage them to match the color of the clue to the color of the item. Ex, the clue for the yellow pencil will be yellow. Preschoolers can also have someone else read the clues to them or you can allow the preschooler to find items in any order. If only preschoolers are playing, they can also collect the items and place them in order from smallest to biggest.)

Application: Just like there was only one way out of the scavenger hunt, there is only one way to have a relationship with God, and that is only through trusting in who Jesus is and what He did for us when He died on the cross and came back to life.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Variation 1

Object # 1

This is an object that you will use to finish a math problem.

Object # 2

This is an object that you will need for when you are sick. One of the things that is most eaten during the time of sickness is Chicken Noodle Soup. This object will help you enjoy the soup.

Object # 3

This is a drink that you will get at a ballgame with your hotdog.

Object # 4

This is a must have snack when watching a movie. It makes a lot of noise when you make it.

Object # 5

This is an object that is needed when you can't see in your house when the electricity goes out.

Object # 6

This is an object that helps make your room smell better.

Object # 7

This is an object that helps keep on beat. It is very important to have these if you are going to play this certain instrument.

Object # 8

This is an object that is needed when you go to the beach to help you not get sunburn.

Object # 9

This is an object that you will use to color. It is very handy in coloring books.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Variation 2

Object # 1

This is a drink that you will get at a ballgame with your hotdog.

Object # 2

This is a must have snack when watching a movie. It makes a lot of noise when you make it.

Object # 3

This is an object that you will use to color. It is very handy in coloring books.

Object # 4

This is an object that helps make your room smell better.

Object # 5

This is an object that you will use to finish a math problem.

Object # 6

This is an object that is needed when you go to the beach to help you not get sunburn.

Object # 7

This is an object that you will need for when you are sick. One of the things that is most eaten during the time of sickness is Chicken Noodle Soup. This object will help you enjoy the soup.

Object # 8

This is an object that helps keep on beat. It is very important to have these if you are going to play this certain instrument.

Object # 9

This is an object that is needed when you can't see in your house when the electricity goes out.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Variation 3

Object # 1

This is an object that you will need for when you are sick. One of the things that is most eaten during the time of sickness is Chicken Noodle Soup. This object will help you enjoy the soup.

Object # 2

This is an object that is needed when you go to the beach to help you not get sunburn.

Object # 3

This is an object that helps keep on beat. It is very important to have these if you are going to play this certain instrument.

Object # 4

This is an object that is needed when you can't see in your house when the electricity goes out.

Object # 5

This is an object that helps make your room smell better.

Object # 6

This is an object that you will use to color. It is very handy in coloring books.

Object # 7

This is a must have snack when watching a movie. It makes a lot of noise when you make it.

Object # 8

This is a drink that you will get at a ballgame with your hotdog.

Object # 9

This is an object that you will use to finish a math problem.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Variation 4

Object # 1

This is an object that is needed when you go to the beach to help you not get sunburn.

Object # 2

This is a must have snack when watching a movie. It makes a lot of noise when you make it.

Object # 3

This is an object that is needed when you can't see in your house when the electricity goes out.

Object # 4

This is an object that helps keep on beat. It is very important to have these if you are going to play this certain instrument.

Object # 5

This is an object that you will use to color. It is very handy in coloring books.

Object # 6

This is a drink that you will get at a ballgame with your hotdog.

Object # 7

This is an object that you will use to finish a math problem.

Object # 8

This is an object that helps make your room smell better.

Object # 9

This is an object that you will need for when you are sick. One of the things that is most eaten during the time of sickness is Chicken Noodle Soup. This object will help you enjoy the soup.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Variation 5

Object # 1

This is a must have snack when watching a movie. It makes a lot of noise when you make it.

Object # 2

This is a drink that you will get at a ballgame with your hotdog.

Object # 3

This is an object that helps make your room smell better.

Object # 4

This is an object that you will use to color. It is very handy in coloring books.

Object # 5

This is an object that is needed when you go to the beach to help you not get sunburn.

Object # 6

This is an object that you will use to finish a math problem.

Object # 7

This is an object that helps keep on beat. It is very important to have these if you are going to play this certain instrument.

Object # 8

This is an object that you will need for when you are sick. One of the things that is most eaten during the time of sickness is Chicken Noodle Soup. This object will help you enjoy the soup.

Object # 9

This is an object that is needed when you can't see in your house when the electricity goes out.



Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Preschool Variation 1

Object # 1

Pencil (Yellow)

Object # 2

Plastic spoon (White)

Object # 3

Coca-Cola Can (Red)

Object # 4

Popcorn Bag (Blue)

Object # 5

Flash Light (Black)

Object # 6

Candle (Purple)

Object # 7

Drum Sticks (Brown)

Object # 8

Sunscreen (Orange)

Object # 9

Crayon (Green)

Scavenger Hunt (Escape Room) Clue Sheet

Answers for Variation 1

1. Pencil
2. Plastic Spoon
3. Coke Can
4. Popcorn Bag
5. Flash Light
6. Candle
7. Drum sticks
8. Sun screen
9. Crayon

Answers for Variation 2

1. Coke Can
2. Popcorn
3. Crayon
4. Candle
5. Pencil
6. Sunscreen
7. Plastic Spoon
8. Drum Sticks
9. Flash Light

Answers for Variation 3

1. Plastic Spoon
2. Sunscreen
3. Drum Sticks
4. Flashlights
5. Candle
6. Crayon
7. Popcorn
8. Coke Can
9. Pencil

Answers for Variation 4

1. Sunscreen
2. Popcorn
3. Flash Light
4. Drum Sticks
5. Crayon
6. Coke Can
7. Pencil
8. Candle
9. Plastic Spoon

Answers for Variation 5

1. Popcorn
2. Coke Can
3. Candle
4. Crayon
5. Sunscreen
6. Pencil
7. Drum Sticks
8. Plastic Spoon
9. Flash Light



Games for Day Two

HERD THE SHEEP

Main Bible Passage: John 10:11, 14-15

Gospel Connection: A shepherd's job is to take care of his sheep. Jesus is like a Shepherd and we are like the sheep. Jesus takes care of us, He is our Protector and Provider.

Supplies Needed:

- white plastic balls (sheep)
- pool noodle
- dixie cups

Goal: To herd the sheep (white plastic balls) into the pen using the pool noodles

Instructions: Place dixie cups at each end of the field to mark the goal (the sheep pen). Divide children into 2 teams and have each team stand in a single file line on the opposite ends of the field from each other. The opposite end of the field from where they are standing is that team's goal. Give the first child in each team's line a pool noodle and ball. Instruct the two children with pool noodles to tap the ball (sheep) only using the pool noodle until they pass the cups marking their goal (the sheep pen). Think hockey, but they are not fighting over the same ball, they are racing to see who can get their ball in their goal at the same time.

(Variation: You can divide the playing field in half and designate an end-zone on each end of the field. Place the "sheep" (white balls) in the end-zone on each side. The teams can race against each other to get all the balls from their end to the opposite end. The team who can get all their "sheep" in the other's pen first wins.)

Application: Today you moved the sheep back into their pen, just like a shepherd does! A shepherd provides for and protects his sheep, Jesus is OUR Good Shepherd and provides and protects us too! The greatest thing that Jesus has ever given us is a way to be rescued from our sins.



Games for Day Two

HUNGRY, HUNGRY HIPPO

Supplies Needed:

- dixie cups (pretend to be sheep)
- plastic grocery bags

Goal: To collect the most dixie cups (sheep)

Instructions: Have children stand in a large circle and give them an empty plastic grocery bag. Throw dixie cups (or the sheep) in the middle of the circle. Make sure to spread them out. When you say, “GO” the children will run to the middle of the circle and grab as many sheep as they can. The one to get the most sheep wins!

(Preschool variation: Preschoolers can play with the same rules as above, or you can use a timer to see how many cups they can pick up in 1 or 2 minutes.)

Application: Today you collected all the sheep and made sure they were safe, just like a shepherd does! A shepherd provides for and protects his sheep, Jesus is OUR Good Shepherd and provides and protects us too! The greatest thing that Jesus has ever given us is a way to be rescued from our sins.

Games for Day Three

I Am the Light of the World

WHERE'S THE LIGHT? (Blindfold game)

[Same activity as day one]

Main Bible Passage: John 8:12

Gospel Connection: Sin is like darkness and God is the light. God, the light, came to save us from the darkness of sin.

Supplies Needed:

- bandana to use as blindfold for each team
- dixie cups

Goal: To get child from one end of the playing field to the other by listening to direction.

Instructions: Place several dixie cups on the playing field, with enough space to walk around them. Blindfold one child and let all the others call out directions for him/her to go. They can call out “right, left, forward, backward, sideways”, etc. Then play again and allow only one child to call out directions to the child that’s blindfolded. You can also play with teams, or in pairs if you have enough blindfolds.

(Preschool Variation: Allow the preschooler to hold hands with someone to guide them when blindfolded since they may not know “right” and “left”.)

Application: When you had a blindfold on there was no light. When it is dark and we cannot see where we are going, it makes things a lot harder. Jesus is a different type of light; He is the light of the world! Our sin is like the darkness and Jesus (the Light) came to rescue us from sin and darkness.



Games for Day Three

Red LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

Supplies Needed:

No supplies needed.

Goal: Be the first player to cross the finish line by listening and obeying the colors being called out

Instructions: Game leader stands at the finish line, players line up shoulder to shoulder at the starting line. Game leader calls out either “Red Light” (while facing the players) or “Green Light” (with their backs to the players).

When players hear “Green Light,” they move toward the finish line. When players hear “Red Light,” they must freeze in place. If the game leader catches a player moving after “Red Light” has been called, then that player must return to the starting line and restart.

(Variation: Have the children walk backwards, skip, run, crab walk, etc.)

Application: In this game you had to pay attention to the traffic light colors that were being called. Jesus is a different type of light, He is the light of the world! Our sin is like darkness and Jesus (the Light) came to rescue us from sin and darkness.





Snacks & Allergies Handbook



Snacks/Allergies

Thank you for serving as a Rock the Block site!

Snack

We will provide you with snacks for your Rock the Block group.

Water Bottle

We will also be providing refillable water bottles for each child at your location. These bottles will have a logo on one side and a space on the other side where you can write the child's name (a sharpie will also be provided).

- If your Rock the Block is a one-day event, the child can take his/her water bottle home at the end of that day.
- If you plan to host Rock the Block for two or three days, we suggest that the water bottles be taken up each day and not sent home with the kids until the last day of Rock the Block at your home. This will ensure that the child will have a water bottle each day at RTB and will, hopefully, serve as an extra incentive to come back for the next day (if applicable)!

****Parents should indicate any allergies on the registration form.*

