

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
VBS 2020**

**Rainforest Explorers
Family Guide Book
June 15-19, 2020**



Welcome to Rainforest Explorers VBS!

This is going to be an adventure like none other! When we go on an adventure, it can be scary! Who knows what we will encounter? But, with Jesus by our side, we can be confident! This week in Vacation Bible School, we are going to sing songs, create crafts, and learn about Jesus, and how much He loves us! It will be an exciting adventure! And who knows what it will lead to? Perhaps you will want to share what you learned with family, friends and neighbors! Just know that wherever you go, **Jesus Leads the Way!**

Use this guide book to help you go on your adventure! It will show you what activities are in store for the evening, and give you topics that you can talk about as a family throughout the night.

Now, let's go on our adventure where **Jesus Leads the Way!**

All events presented at: YouTube: Holy Cross Lutheran Church - O'Fallon, MO (LCMS)

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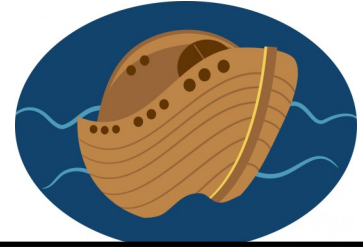
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Monday: God Rescues



How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
Psalm 36:7

1. Opening Devotion with Pastor Meyer
2. Song- Jesus is My Treasure
3. Bible Lesson with Pastor Gimbel
4. Song- Jesus' Love
5. Exploration Station with Ms. Shana
6. Discussion Questions
7. Theme Bible Verse Song- Psalm 36:7
8. Craft Time
9. Song- Beautiful Savior
10. Closing with DCE Meghan
11. Songs- Jesus' Love, Jesus is My Treasure

Discussion Questions

For younger students:

1. Who helped Noah, Noah's family and the animals when the rain came? (*God*)
2. Where did God keep Noah, his family and the animals safe? (*In the ark*)
3. God made a promise to never destroy the world again with a flood. What did he use to show Noah his promise? (*rainbow*)
4. Does God keep his promises? (*Absolutely yes!*)

Discussion Questions

For older students:

1. Why did God decide to send the flood? *(All was corrupt and violent. [Genesis 6:11 and 6:17])*
2. How did God know that Noah and his family were still faithful to Him? *(God can see inside our hearts. [Psalm 44:21])*
3. God saw that Noah and his family were still faithful believers, so what did He ask of Noah? *(To build an ark to His specific design. To bring his family and two of every kind of animal, and food for his family and the animals. [Genesis 6:18-21])*
4. What did God promise Noah before the flood? *(That they would be safe and could survive the flood in the ark.)*
5. How do you think Noah and his family felt during the rain? How would you have felt?
6. When the rain stopped, and the ark came to rest on ground, how did Noah know it was safe to go outside? *(Noah sent a dove out three times. Two times it returned, the second time with an olive branch. Noah then knew the waters were receding. The third time, the dove didn't return, so Noah knew it was safe to leave the ark. [Genesis 8:6-12])*
7. When Noah and his family came off the ark, what did they do to show their thankfulness? *(Built an altar and made sacrifices to God. [Genesis 8:20])*
8. God **always** keeps His promises. What does God do for us that keeps us safe? *(He sent Jesus to die in our place for our sins, so we will be safe in heaven! [John 3:16])*

Pray Together

Dear God, /thank You/ for keeping Noah safe/ and for keeping/ Your promises. /Thank you for helping me/ when I'm not sure what to do/ or where to go./ Please help me to trust You./ In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Craft Time!

Fishing Game

In Your Kit:

- 5 Fish
- Label for each day of VBS Bible Story
- Paper Clips
- Magnet fishing pole

Directions:

1. Decorate 1 side of each fish.
2. Put 1 label on the other side of each fish.
3. Attach a paper clip to each fish.
4. Spread the fish on the floor. Use the magnet fishing pole to catch a fish. Tell your family the Bible point and about the Bible story on the fish you catch.

Discussion Questions

For older students:

1. Who suggested that the disciples go fishing? How did they respond? (*Simon Peter suggested they go fishing, and the other disciples joined him and fished all night.*)
2. Who stood on the beach and called to the disciples? Did they know who it was? (*Jesus called to the disciples from the shore, but they did not recognize him.*)
3. What did Jesus tell them to do? (*Put the net on the other side of the boat.*)
4. What happened when the disciples obeyed Jesus? (*They caught so many fish they couldn't even pull the net back into the boat.*)
5. Jesus provided for his disciples. He helped them to catch fish and gave them breakfast that morning on the beach. Does Jesus give us what we need, too? (*Yes. He provides us with our home and food and family to take care of us.*)
6. Jesus also gives us a treasure in heaven– what is that? (*Jesus died for our sins so that we will get to live with Him in heaven someday.*)
7. Do you suppose that Jesus wanted his disciples to just go back to fishing after He died on the cross?
8. Do you think we should keep what we know about Jesus hidden away, like a buried treasure?

Pray Together

Dear Jesus,/ thank You/ for leading the way./ You give us the treasure/ of life forever with You. Thank You/ for loving and treasuring us./ Help us to share/ the Good News/ with others./ In Your name we pray./ Amen.

Craft Time!



Noah's Ark Rainbow Display Craft

In Your Kit:

- Card Stock Ark, Sun, Dove, Label
- Foam Pool Noodle
- Pipe Cleaners– Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue and Purple
- Toothpicks

Directions:

1. Color the ark, sun and dove as desired. Put paper under so you don't color on the table. Glue or tape them to the end of toothpicks.
2. Bend the pipe cleaners and stick them into the foam. Start with the outside red pipe cleaners and stick each end in one end of the noodle to make an arch. Place the other pipe cleaners right next to the previous pipe cleaners working from the outside in. From underneath, you can bend the pipe cleaners to lock it in place.
3. To finish, glue the Bible phrase on the front of the display and stick the pictures into the foam. Children may want to color part of their noodle with markers to look like dry ground where the ark came to rest.

Tuesday: God Gives the Commandments



You shall be My treasured possession.
Exodus 19:5

1. Opening Devotion with Pastor Meyer
2. Song- Jesus is My Treasure
3. Bible Lesson with Pastor Gimbel
4. Song- God Showed Us the Way
5. Exploration Station with Ms. Shana
6. Discussion Questions
7. Theme Bible Verse Song- Exodus 19:5
8. Craft Time
9. Song- Take My Life and Let It Be
10. Closing with DCE Meghan
11. Songs- God Showed Us the Way, Jesus is My Treasure

Discussion Questions

1. What was the special name for the rules God gave His people? (*Commandments [Exodus 20:1-17]*)
2. How many Commandments did God give His people? (*10*)
3. Can you remember what some of these Commandments are? (*God is the only God, Honor your parents, etc.*)
4. Even if we try really hard, can we perfectly keep these commandments? (*No*)

Friday: Jesus Visits His Disciples



But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.
Matthew 6:20

1. Opening Devotion with Pastor Meyer
2. Song- Jesus is My Treasure
3. Bible Lesson with Pastor Gimbel
4. Song- Go, Go, Go
5. Exploration Station with Ms. Shana
6. Discussion Questions
7. Theme Bible Verse Song- Matthew 6:20
8. Craft Time
9. Song- Hallelujah! Praise Ye the Lord!
10. Closing with DCE Meghan

Discussion Questions

For younger students:

1. This Bible lesson happened after Jesus died on the cross. How do you think Jesus' disciples felt when they missed Jesus?
2. When the disciples joined Jesus on the beach, and saw Him again, how do you think that made them feel?
3. How does it feel to know Jesus loves you?
4. Do you think Jesus would want you to tell others about Him?

Craft Time!



Stained Glass Cross Sun Catcher

In Your Kit:

- Image of a Cross (Preschool image has larger stained glass spaces)
- Stick Frame
- String
- Suction cup

Directions:

1. Color the cross picture. Color each section a different color to make it look like stained glass. Put paper under so you don't color on the table.
2. Hang string on the suction cup in the window to see the sun shine through your stain glass cross. As you look at your cross, remember that Jesus heals us from our sin.

Discussion Questions

(Cont. from previous page)

5. In Exodus 19:5 God says "You shall be my treasured possession." to His people. Do you have something that is a treasured possession? How do you treat it?
6. If we are God's treasured possession, why does He give us the 10 Commandments? *(To keep us safe, to show our love to God and others)*
7. If we can't keep God's commandments perfectly, can anyone? *(Jesus can. [Matthew 5:17, Romans 8:3-4])*
8. If we are unable to keep the Commandments perfectly, does that mean God no longer loves us? *(Not at all! Because Jesus kept the law for us, and died in our place, God sees us as righteous and loves us. [Romans 5:8])*
9. Why do we try and keep God's Commandments? *(Keeping the Commandments... also known as "The Law"... provides us benefits. We are more able to see our own sin [1 Timothy 1:9]. It also helps us to serve our neighbor as God would want us to do. [1 John 4:9, 11]).*

Pray Together

Dear God,/ Thank you for the Ten Commandments./ Please help us/ to obey Your rules./ Thank you for forgiving us/ when we sin./ Thank you for sending Jesus/ to lead us to You./ In His name we pray./ Amen.

Craft Time!



Treasure Chest Prayer Box

In Your Kit:

- Treasure Chest Prayer Box
- Stickers and Jewels
- Index Cards (Preschoolers– picture cards)

Directions:

1. Decorate treasure chest prayer box with stickers and jewels as desired.
2. Elementary students – Think of who you can pray for. Write prayers for those people on the index cards and place in your prayer box.
3. Preschoolers – Color the pictures cards of people you can pray for. Place in your prayer box.
4. Pray for the people in your prayer box.

Discussion Questions

For older students:

1. Can we pray to Jesus for help when we need it? (*Yes*)
2. What causes our troubles and sickness, here on Earth? (*Sin*)
3. What does Jesus promise us about trouble and sickness, here on Earth? (*He is still in control. John 16:33 say "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*)
4. Where will we see no trouble or sickness? (*In heaven. Revelation 21:4 says "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."*)
5. Why will we see no trouble or sickness in heaven? (*Because there is no sin in heaven.*)
6. Why was Jesus surprised in today's Bible lesson? (*One leper came back to thank him.*)
7. What is something God has done for you that you are thankful for?

Pray Together

Dear God,/ thank You/ for showing mercy/ and for healing our hurts./ Thank you/ for forgiving our sins./ Help us always remember/ to thank You./ In Jesus' name we pray./ Amen.

Thursday: Jesus Heals Ten Lepers



But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

2 Corinthians 4:7

1. Opening Devotion with Pastor Meyer
2. Song– Jesus is My Treasure
3. Bible Lesson with Pastor Gimbel
4. Song– Jesus, Jesus
5. Exploration Station with Ms. Shana
6. Discussion Questions
7. Theme Bible Verse Song– 2 Corinthians 4:7
8. Craft Time
9. Song– Child of God
10. Closing with DCE Meghan
11. Songs– Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is My Treasure

Discussion Questions

For younger students:

1. Did the lepers ask Jesus to heal them? *(Yes)*
2. How many lepers did Jesus heal in today's lesson? *(10)*
3. How many lepers came back to tell Jesus "Thank you!" *(1)*
4. Should we tell Jesus "Thank you!" for His gifts to us? *(Yes)*

Wednesday: Jesus Calls His Disciples



You will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.

Matthew 19:21

1. Opening Devotion with Pastor Meyer
2. Song– Jesus is My Treasure
3. Bible Lesson with Pastor Gimbel
4. Song– Come and Follow
5. Exploration Station with Ms. Shana
6. Discussion Questions
7. Theme Bible Verse Song– Matthew 19:21
8. Craft Time
9. Song– Jesus Loves Me
10. Closing with DCE Meghan
11. Songs– Come and Follow, Jesus is My Treasure

Discussion Questions

For younger students:

1. What did Jesus say to Simon Peter and Andrew, when he saw them on the fishing boat? *(Follow Me!)*
2. What did the men do? *(Immediately left their nets and followed him.)*
3. Does Jesus want you to follow Him? *(Yes!)*

Discussion Questions

For older students:

1. How many disciples did Jesus call? *(12)*
2. How many disciples can you name? *(Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (the son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas the son of James and Judas Iscariot [Luke 6:14])*
3. What did Jesus say that Peter, Andrew, James and John would become, if they followed Him? *(Fishers of men)*
4. Fishermen use nets to catch fish. Who does Jesus want to "catch" with His love? *(Jesus wants everyone to follow Him.)*
5. What was Matthew's profession, that he left behind to follow Jesus? *(A tax collector)*
6. Does Jesus only want perfect people to follow Him? *(No)*
7. If we try and follow Jesus, what does He promise us? *(He is always with us! [Matthew 28:20], We will have treasure in heaven [Matthew 19:21])*

Pray Together

Dear Jesus,/ thank You for calling me to be Your child./
Thank you for the Bible./ Thank you for being with me!/ In
Your name I pray./ Amen

Craft Time!



Cross Key Chain

In Your Kit:

- Wooden Cross
- Colors of Faith Bookmark
- Colors of Faith beads
- String
- Key Ring

Directions:

1. Color the wood cross as desired.
2. Loop string through slits on the top of the cross and tie (may need parent help).
3. String beads on the string in the order on the Colors of Faith bookmark – black, red, blue, white, green, yellow.
4. Tie string around the key ring and trim remaining string.
5. Use the beads to share your faith with others.