

Schedule:

First Night Sunday

- 6:00 pm Sign In
6:15 Offering/Singing
6:30 Message
7:00 Group 1 Game Time
Group 2 Verse Time
7:30 Group 2 Game Time
Group 1 Verse Time
8:00 Assemble for Dismissal

Monday-Thursday

- 6:45 pm Sign In
7:00 Offering/Singing
7:15 Message
7:45 Group 1 Game Time
Group 2 Verse Time
8:15 Group 1 Verse Time
Group 2 Game Time
8:45 Assemble for Dismissal

This schedule is designed for 1st grades and up. It is suggested that if a K3-5 age class is desired that they participate through the Message time then break off to their own class for their own verse, games, crafts, etc.

Teachers and helpers will be needed for this class.

Hold Fast Ministries



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Hold Fast Ministries

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Hold Fast the Truth Vacation Bible School



Teaching the Truth
of God's Word
to Youth through a
Summer Program

A Ministry of Oakside Baptist Church
LaGrange, GA

Holding Fast the Truth of God's Word

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. Titus 1:9

Hold Fast the Truth Vacation Bible School is designed to reach and teach children and families in your community. Using the traditional idea of a Vacation Bible School it is an excellent tool to utilize as an outreach to reach those who might not normally attend your church.

In years gone by Vacation Bible School was greatly used to take time during the summer to teach Bible lessons and skills to the children of our churches and surrounding community. For many churches, this would be done during the day from the morning to early afternoon. Schedules usually consisted of Bible classroom time, arts and crafts time, game time, snack time and music time. Teachers and workers were assigned an area of responsibility and the children would move around to the different stations. Large numbers of workers were needed along with a number of willing and qualified teachers for each class. After some time, due to many different reasons, many churches moved VBS to the evenings. Many of the same activities were brought to the evening schedule. Evening programs would normally be two hours to three hours; a day's worth of activities was now being squeezed into a few hours at night.

The purpose of this VBS plan is to assure a quality program and to have the most impact in outreach to



the community. The program we suggest is not perfect, nor the only way, but is set up to make your VBS exciting and far-reaching. The program is best described as **revival services for youth with**

a **VBS name**. In this material you are given a sample schedule and ideas for set up. The VBS program can run Sunday night through Thursday night or Monday night through Friday night.

The church needs to decide on a **theme for the week** (hillbilly, sports, western, etc.). A good cost effective theme should utilize what the church already has in theme supplies or what could be obtained through donations by church members or local businesses. You will want to have all the VBS attendees placed on one of **two teams**. For the most simplistic theme for competition pick two colors, for example, red and blue. You will want to decorate the facilities to get your church excited about the upcoming event. The key is to have *enough* visible items, but try not to go to great expense. A **Bible theme or subject** should also be decided on. The week could be a total theme dealing with salvation verses, the "Be" attitudes, armor of God, Psalm 1, etc. This Bible theme would be used in the messages as well as Bible memory.

Preparation for the week should be to get volunteers to help during the week. With this program, you will not need to recruit teachers or craft time workers. All you will need is people who want to love children. You will need someone who is comfortable in running a simple game time. All other jobs are simple. You will need a number of people to help register each child as they come in. You will need a number of people who will listen to memory verses. You will also need a few church members to deal with a small **snack** to be given as the children dismiss. All others need to be available to love on kids and provide "crowd control". It would be good to have as many adults from the church as possible to be there during the week whether they have ever worked with children before or not.

Registration is designed to keep track of all children

who come by getting important information for follow up at the end of the week. Points will be taken at this time for the team competition. Make sure everyone who attends checks in.

Offering is important to teach children to give cheerfully. A good way of taking offering is to make a scale to find out which team brought the most money by weight. This allows everyone to be involved by bringing pennies or other coins. Get the children excited about giving, make it exciting.

Singing is a vital part of any service. Music should be exciting and interactive. You want the children to want to sing and to sing out loud. Songs should all be doctrinally correct and have a strong Biblical message. Use songs that they know, but this is also a good time to teach new songs.

Preaching time is just that - preaching. This time should never simply be a Bible story. Preaching to children is important. Never mistake having to bring the Bible down to a child's level; the Bible is already on a child's level.



Verse time is set aside to allow each child to learn the theme verse for the night. Also during this time word puzzles, word searches, and other age appropriate games and puzzles can be produced and handed out to reinforce the message and Bible verse.

Game time should be a time of competition between the teams using simple games. Utilize the sports equipment and facilities the church has. Keep all games simple so that all will be able to participate.