



# Bible Adventures



STATION LEADER MANUAL



# **BIBLE ADVENTURES**

LEADER MANUAL



LOVELAND, COLORADO  
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**Group**



## Group resources really work!

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's:



### Relational

Person-to-person interaction enhances spiritual growth and builds Christian friendships.

### Experiential

What we experience through action and discussion sticks with us up to 9 times longer than what we simply hear or read.

### Applicable

The aim of ministry is to equip people to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

### Lifelong

Experiences transform the heart, moving faith beyond the walls of church and into everyday life for years to come.

## Bible Adventures Leader Manual

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**Thanks to the herd who rounded up this VBS!** Laura Baldwin-Stout, Jody Brolsma, Stephen Caine, Shelly Dillon, Jan Kershner, Lyndsay Gerwing, Laycie McClain, Mike Porter, Joani Schultz, Rodney Stewart, and Gabriele Woolever.

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# Saddle Up for a Wild Weekend!

At Yee-Haw VBS, kids kick up their heels as they stampe through the wild frontier and celebrate the greatest truth of all—that God is good! They'll round up a whole herd of friends and discover that Jesus is God's greatest gift.

- \* **Everyone's on the move.** Check out the sample schedule on page 4 to get an idea of the flow of each day's activities and how Bible Adventures fits in.
- \* **Everyone's in a Crew.** At Yee-Haw VBS, kids travel in small, mixed-age groups called Crews. Each Crew has up to five elementary-age kids and one adult or teenage leader. Mixed-age Crews are a fresh, incredible way to reach kids! You'll see older kids help younger ones with challenging tasks. Younger kids seek to emulate the older, "cool" kids in their Crews. And discipline problems are almost nonexistent.

You'll have one-third of the total number of Crews report to each Bible Adventures session. For example, if your VBS has nine Crews, you'd be working with three Crews (approximately 15 kids and three adult or teen leaders) during each session.

- \* **Everyone's learning one key truth.** Every activity at Yee-Haw VBS reinforces one simple Bible truth called a Bible Point. It's important to use the Bible Point as it's written since it's integrated into the experiences and activities throughout the entire VBS. Yee-Haw is intentionally designed so that some stations focus more on the key Bible verse (John 3:16) and some focus on the Bible story passage. However, every station connects to the Bible Point, so kids come away with an easy-to-apply scriptural truth.

Kids will be listening for the Bible Point, which is **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS**. After they hear the Point, kids will shout "Yee-haw!" Each time kids shout the response, they'll raise a fist in celebration.

## A Weekend of Western Wow

- \* **Prepare your heart.** Pray for the kids who will come to Yee-Haw, for the parents who will be reached, and for the other volunteers on your team. Ask God to guide and encourage your VBS Director through this exciting event.
- \* **Prepare your supplies.** Work with the Yee-Haw Director to collect necessary supplies. You may want to list the supplies in your church bulletin and ask church members to lend or donate items such as plastic greenery, boxes, blankets, fake rocks, and a free-standing cross.

### HAVE YOU HERD?

During Yee-Haw, you'll use an attention-getter to get everyone focused on you for more fun. A Buckaroo Bell (available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier) or other attention-getter saves time and is *heaps* better than lots of shushing or shouting.



Buckaroo Bell



"Yee-haw!"



- \* **Prepare your lessons.** This is the easy part! Each lesson has been tested with real kids by real volunteers, so you *know* it works. You don't have to memorize the script, but be familiar enough that you aren't just reading it. Use emotion, energy, and excitement as you lead kids through these incredible and true Bible stories.
- \* **Prepare your wardrobe.** Ask the Yee-Haw Director what you should wear. Staff T-shirts (available from Group Publishing or your Group VSB supplier) will quickly and easily identify you as a staff member.
- \* **Prepare your room.** Determine where you'll meet, keeping in mind that you'll need to accommodate one-third of the kids (and Crew Leaders) at one time. For Day 1, you'll give kids insight into God's amazing love as he sends his Son to earth. Create a simple stable with a cardboard-box manger, and you have a whole new—and easy—environment. On Day 2, use a wooden cross to help you lead kids through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Simple yet super impactful and memorable for kids. Creating settings to help immerse kids in the Bible stories results in real and lasting Bible learning!

### Sample Yee-Haw Schedule

6:00–8:30 p.m.

Time	GROUP A CREWS <u>1-3</u>	GROUP B CREWS <u>4-6</u>	GROUP C CREWS <u>7-9</u>	Ponderosa Preschool
6:00-6:30	Moo-sic & More			
Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.				
6:35-7:00	Bible Adventures	Projects-With- a-Purpose®	Saddle-Up Sports	Ponderosa Preschool
Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.				
7:05-7:30	Projects-With- a-Purpose®	Saddle-Up Sports	Bible Adventures	Ponderosa Preschool
Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.				
7:35-8:00	Saddle-Up Sports	Bible Adventures	Projects-With- a-Purpose®	Ponderosa Preschool
Allow 5 minutes to travel to your next station.				
8:05-8:30	Closing Corral			

# Day 1

**Bible Point:** God gives good gifts.

**Bible Story:** God sends Jesus to earth. (Luke 2:1-20)

**Bible Verse:** “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

## Consider This...

- ✧ There are dozens of prophecies in the Old Testament surrounding the birth of the Messiah, and Jesus fulfills every one!
  - Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem fulfills Micah 5:2: “But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.”
  - Jesus’ virgin birth was foretold in Isaiah 7:14: “The Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel.”
- ✧ After Jesus’ birth, Mary wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger. Mangers held food for animals, giving them sustenance and life. Jesus called himself the Bread of Life, and he is what gives us strength, nourishment, and everlasting life.
- ✧ The shepherds were the first people to hear the good news of Jesus’ birth. Shepherds were among the lowest of the low in their society and considered unclean. Because the angel told these men about Jesus’ birth first, God showed that his love and the gift of Jesus are for everyone.

## Why It Matters...

Kids love receiving gifts—especially at Christmastime! Yet presents like bicycles and toys break. Kids outgrow new clothes, just as they grow from wanting skates to wanting smartphones. But God’s gift of Jesus is the *perfect* gift—one size fits all! As you share the Christmas story in today’s lesson, you’ll have the opportunity to help kids discover that Jesus is God’s most precious gift...for *all* of us, every day! Use today’s experiences to help kids understand *why* Jesus is a good gift, one that will be with them for eternity!

# Day 1

## Day 1 Supplies

- Buckaroo Bell\*
- Bible
- Big Blue Sky Fabric Wall Hanging\*
- large slabs of foam painted to look like stone (optional)
- cardboard box for a manger
- burlap to place in box
- hay or straw to fill box
- small, soft blankets (1 per Crew per rotation)
- accent pillows (1 per Crew per rotation)
- plates of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies (1 per Crew per rotation)
- aluminum foil
- plates or baskets of brown, yucky bananas (1 per Crew per rotation)
- rope lights (optional)
- music and sound effects downloaded from [group.com/vbsTools](http://group.com/vbsTools) onto a laptop or a CD
- CD player (if using a CD)

\*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

## Before Kids Arrive

Hang the Big Blue Sky Fabric Wall Hanging on the walls. (You'll leave it up for both days.) Build a stable in a corner of your room. We leaned three slabs of painted foam together to form three sides of a rectangle and then laid another slab on top for a roof. (You could also use plastic or heavy cardboard.) Create a manger by placing burlap so it spills out of a cardboard box. Then fill the box with hay or straw.

If you can't dim the lights in your room, place rope lights around the perimeter of the room. You'll want it to seem like night but will need a little light.

Ask a helper to bake a batch of ready-to-bake chocolate chip cookies. Place cookies on paper plates, and cover them with foil so they stay warm. You'll need one plate of cookies for each Crew per rotation. (Kids won't get to eat them.)

Place the yucky bananas on plates or in baskets. Again, you'll need one plate of bananas per Crew at each rotation. (Kids *really* won't want to eat these!)

Download "Reflective Music," "Town Sounds," "Away in a Manger," and "The Hallelujah Chorus" from [group.com/vbsTools](http://group.com/vbsTools).



### FIELD TEST FINDING

For the stable walls and roof, we used 2" insulating foam sheets, available at building supply stores. We cut them to the desired size to fit our area. Then we painted them gray to look like stone. Really, they've been one of the best investments we ever made! Now it takes no time to create a building or tomb. Or we just lean them against the walls for Bible-times atmosphere. So easy and effective!



### FIELD TEST FINDING

We considered using packaged cookies but were so glad we didn't! The smell of yummy, warm cookies turned out to be important for the Bible experience. Ask a volunteer to bake a batch of ready-to-bake cookies just before VBS starts today. It's so worth it!

## Welcome

Greet kids outside the door with a warm welcome. Invite kids into the room, and have them sit in their Crew circles.

Say: **I'm so glad to see you! Thank you for coming to Bible Adventures! Today we're discovering that GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS. (Yee-haw!) You know, today's totally true Bible story is all about God's greatest gift.**

God made people, and he loved all the people he made. But there was a problem. People didn't understand the gift of God's love. They just didn't get it. But God had a plan—a plan to help people know how much he loves them. Remember, **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS (Yee-haw!)**, and God's love is an awesome gift!

## Surrounded by Comfort

Play "Reflective Music" softly in the background.

Say: **God decided to show people his love. He decided to send his only Son, Jesus, down to earth. That way people could see and hear about God's love firsthand. What an amazing gift! But here's the catch: Things in heaven are perfect and wonderful, and Jesus would have to leave heaven to come down here. Hmm...that's a lot to give up.**

**When I think of heaven, I think of goodness and comfort. Think of something that's comforting to you. To me, a nice, soft, warm blanket is so comforting.** Hold a soft blanket up to your face. Then give each Crew a soft blanket to pass around and touch. **I love soft blankets. They make me feel so warm and safe.**

**And pillows. Pillows are so soft and comfy.** Give each Crew an accent pillow.

**And I love nice, beautiful music like we hear playing right now.** Pause as you listen. **Nice music is so pleasant to hear, isn't it? It's so comforting. GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS! (Yee-haw!) Gifts like warmth and comfort and nice music.**

**Oh, and yummy food. Yummy food just makes my tummy feel so good!** Hold up an uncovered plate of cookies, and smell the aroma. **Fresh chocolate chip cookies! That has to be one of the best things in the world! What do you think?** Give each Crew a plate of cookies, but tell them not to eat any.

**Our world is filled with such good things, like soft blankets and nice music and yummy food. It would be so hard for me to give up any of those wonderful, comforting things. I would not want to do it.**



### FIELD TEST FINDING

We were amazed by how kids (and Crew Leaders) reacted to the blankets. They instantly covered their legs and snuggled together. Every single Crew! Who knew blankets were such powerful bonding tools?



## Giving Up Heaven

Say: **But Jesus was willing to give up all the good things in heaven to come down and live with people like us. He was willing to give up all his glory as God's Son to come to earth and be born as a baby. And not a baby born as a king in a palace—which Jesus would have deserved—but a baby born to poor, young parents named Mary and Joseph.**

You know, before Jesus was born, his parents had to travel to a town called Bethlehem. The government told everyone to go back to their hometowns to be counted in a census. It wasn't a great time for Mary and Joseph to be traveling, since Mary was almost ready to have her baby, but they had to do it. And it was a long, difficult journey for Mary and Joseph. It must have been so uncomfortable!

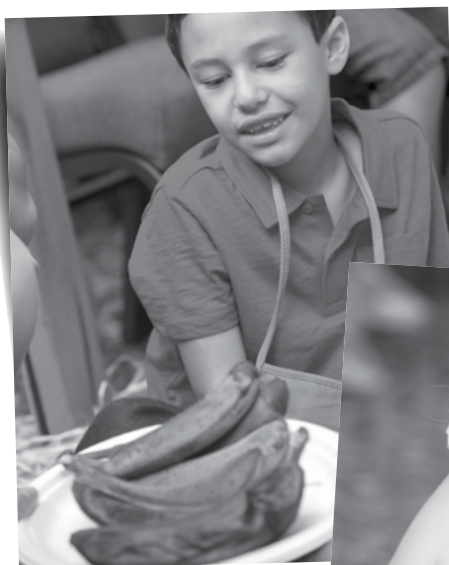
Let's see what that must have been like. I'm afraid I need you to give up your blanket and pillow. Take away the blanket and pillow from each Crew. Ask:

☀️ **If you were tired and cold, what would you say if someone wanted you to give up your only blanket?**

Say: **You probably wouldn't want to give up your blanket. I know I wouldn't! It was almost time for Jesus to be born, and Mary and Joseph were still on the road. There were no restaurants along the way back then, of course. There were no McDonald's restaurants or drive-thrus. So what would they eat? Just what they could carry, I guess. And how long would *that* food stay good on a long trip? I guess you'll have to give up those cookies.**

Take away the plates of cookies, and give each Crew a plate of yucky bananas. Ask:

☀️ **What's the matter? You don't want to give up those yummy cookies? Don't you like the bananas? What's wrong with them?**



## A Lowly Manger

Say: **When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, it was crowded with all the people who had come for the census.** Turn off the reflective music and play the “Town Sounds” segment, turning up the volume a bit. **It was loud and crowded, and Mary and Joseph were all alone.** Have kids spread out so each person is sitting as alone as possible. Turn down the sound effects, and dim the lights. Ask:

❓ **What’s it like to be sitting alone? How do you feel?**

Say: **It was night—and it was time for Jesus to be born. But Mary and Joseph couldn’t find any place to stay. Everywhere they tried, the innkeepers said, “Go away! We have no room! Go away!”**

**They had no choice. They ended up in a cold, damp, smelly stable.** Point to the stable you created. **There was no clean bed for Mary. There was no warm crib for her baby. All they had was old, smelly hay.** Invite kids to come to the manger and feel the hay. **Feel how sharp and prickly this is. I wouldn’t want to sleep on this! I wouldn’t want to lay a newborn baby in this! But this is where Jesus was born. The king of heaven, born in a lowly stable.** Have everyone return to their Crews.



## Surprising Songs

Say: **I want to play a song that you’ve probably heard before, but it may have more meaning to you now. Close your eyes, and listen to the words. Think about how much God loves us—he loves us enough to give us the gift of his Son.**

Play “Away in a Manger.” After the song, softly tell kids to keep their eyes closed. **Jesus gave up all the good things in heaven to come down and live among us.**

While kids’ eyes are still closed, play “The Hallelujah Chorus” with the volume way up. Excitedly say over the music: **That night, shepherds out in the fields heard an incredible sound! The sky was suddenly filled with angels singing “hallelujah” and proclaiming the birth of Jesus, the Messiah! The greatest gift of all time! What a sight that must have been!**



### FIELD TEST FINDING

Everyone—kids and adults—were so surprised by “The Hallelujah Chorus”! It was fun to watch them “get it,” experiencing what the shepherds might have felt like. The more you can engage kids’ emotions, the more they’ll remember the important Bible truths you’re teaching.

Say: **The shepherds couldn't wait to see the baby the angels were singing about. They ran to the stable to look!** Turn the music down and then off. Ask:

❓ **Why do you think God let Jesus leave heaven and be born in a lowly stable? Why would he do that?**

Let Crews talk for a few moments, and then ask for one or two kids to share.

Say: **God loves us, and GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS. (Yee-haw!) And Jesus is the best gift of all time! God knew the only way to show people his love was to send Jesus to earth. And Jesus was willing to give up heaven to show us God's love.**

**I can't wait to tell you more about Jesus and God's good gifts, so I hope you can come back tomorrow!**

Dismiss Crews to their next destination. Give high-fives and repeat the Point as kids leave.



## Day 2

**Bible Point:** God gives good gifts.

**Bible Story:** Jesus dies and comes back to life. (John 16–21)

**Bible Verse:** “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

### Consider This...

- ✧ There’s interesting symbolism to Jesus carrying his own cross outside the city. In Genesis 22, Isaac carried the wood that Abraham would use to sacrifice Isaac...until God provided the ram as a sacrifice. And Leviticus 16 commands the priests to take the sin offering outside the camp or city. Jesus—the Lamb of God—became *our* sin offering!
- ✧ Roman soldiers usually crucified only non-citizens, lower-class citizens, or those accused of high treason or desertion (in wartime). The accused died a shameful, disgraceful, and agonizing death.
- ✧ Continuing the shame and disgrace of crucifixion, soldiers usually tossed the body of the crucified person into a pit. And Jesus, being penniless, didn’t have the money to pay for a formal burial. Yet Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus—both members of the Sanhedrin—stepped in. They took Jesus’ body and prepared it for burial themselves.
- ✧ Scholars estimate that a typical stone that was rolled over the opening of a tomb cave weighed anywhere from 1 to 3 tons!
- ✧ Although we usually think of angels with halos and wings, most times angels appear in the Bible, people describe them as looking like men. When Mary saw two angels near the tomb, she didn’t even realize they were angels!

### Why It Matters...

On the surface, it may seem odd that we call Good Friday “good.” Yet without Jesus’ death, there would be no payment for sin. And there wouldn’t have been the triumphant, joyful resurrection!

Kids—and adults—find it hard to imagine *anything* good in the midst of sad times. What good can come from a loved one dying? How can a child find any good in a bully? And what’s so good about being left out or alone? God never promises that this life will be pain-free. But he *does* promise to be near when we’re hurting. What a beautiful gift! And, more important, God gave the gift of hope and joy to come. Use today’s experiences to help kids explore the eternal gift of life God gave us through Jesus.

## Day 2 Supplies

- free-standing wooden cross
- small plastic wading pool
- circle of chipboard or other wood to fit inside the pool (optional)
- brown sheet or fabric
- small, smooth stones (1 per person per rotation, plus several extra for you)
- baskets (1 per Crew per rotation)
- bucket of heavy stones
- Stone Wall Plastic Backdrop\*
- cardboard boxes wrapped in Stone Wall Plastic Backdrop
- foam slabs painted to look like stone
- plastic greenery
- white cloth
- large lantern-type flashlight
- red washable markers (1 per Crew per rotation)
- white rope lights

\*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

## Getting Ready

- \* Cut a piece of chipboard into a circle that will fit inside your small wading pool. This step is optional, but we found that having wood under the cross instead of the pool's plastic greatly changed the sound when a stone was dropped in.
- \* Place the wading pool near a corner of your room. Cover the pool with a brown sheet or piece of fabric. Then stand the cross on top of the sheet or fabric.
- \* In an adjacent corner, build a simple tomb using foam slabs painted to look like stone and cardboard boxes wrapped in Stone Wall Plastic Backdrop. Place a lantern flashlight out of sight in the tomb and turn it on. Place the white cloth inside the tomb, and cover the entrance with a foam slab or box. Add plastic greenery around the tomb.
- \* Partially fill a bucket with heavy stones. Place the bucket near and slightly behind the cross.
- \* Place small, smooth stones in a basket for each Crew in your first rotation. You'll need a stone for each person. Place a few small stones near the wading pool for you.
- \* Place white rope lights around the perimeter of the room, and dim or turn off the overhead lights.

## Introduce the Bible Story

Greet Crews outside your Bible Adventures room. Wait until all Crews have arrived; then say: **Welcome to Bible Adventures! I'm so glad you're here for today's Bible story! Today's Bible story is the most important news you'll ever hear in your life, so I hope you listen carefully. I don't want you to miss any of it.**

Lead kids into your room, and have them sit quietly in Crew circles.

**Yesterday we learned how Jesus was born in a lowly stable. But today we're going to jump ahead to when Jesus was grown up and was teaching people about God's gifts of love and forgiveness. Remember, we're learning that **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS.** (Yee-haw!)**

**Jesus is God, and he came to show us God's love. Jesus had been traveling all around, teaching people about God. But his time on earth was almost over, and he knew it.**

**On his last night, Jesus had a special dinner with his best friends, the disciples. Jesus knew that one of those friends would betray him. Ask:**

- \* **What does it mean to betray someone?** Take a few responses.

Say: To betray someone means to turn your back on that person in a time of need. It can also mean to turn that person over to an enemy. Jesus knew one of his friends would betray him, and he knew it would happen soon.

After dinner, Jesus and a few of his friends went to a quiet garden so Jesus could pray to his Father. Jesus already knew it would be in that very garden that he'd be betrayed, but he went anyway. Ask:

❓ If you knew that something really bad was going to happen to you at a certain place, would you still go there? What would you do? Take a few responses.

Say: Jesus went to the garden, even though he knew something terrible would happen to him there.

## Discuss Sad Times

Say: Jesus knew that after he was betrayed, he would be arrested. He knew that after he was arrested, he'd be beaten and mocked. And he knew that after all that, he'd be crucified—nailed to a cross to die.

Jesus' friends and family watched it happen. Can you imagine? They were so upset and sad! They couldn't believe what was happening. Ask:

❓ When is a time you were really sad? What happened to make you sad? For me... [give a personal example].

Give kids time to talk. Then give a one-minute warning to wrap up discussions.

Say: It sounds like we've all gone through sad times. But we're learning that **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS**. (Yee-haw!) And some of those gifts are comfort and love when we're sad.

Jesus knew we'd be sad sometimes. Listen to what he told his disciples not long before he was arrested.

Jesus said, "Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

Wow—Jesus has overcome the world! What does that mean? It means that Jesus was willing to go through terrible hardship and pain for us. He was willing to die to take the punishment for our sins—the wrong things we do.



## Compare Stones and Sin



Give each Crew a basket of stones, and have each person take one stone. Say: **Let's think about sin for a minute. Hold your stone tightly in one fist, and don't let it go, okay? Now everyone stand up.** Have Crews stand near you, facing you and the cross. Pick up a stone for yourself and hold it up for everyone to see.

**You know, this stone kind of reminds me of sin. Stones are usually dirty, aren't they? That's like sin—sin makes our hearts dirty. And if our hearts are dirty, we can't be close to God. Sin separates us from God. Take a step back, away from the cross.** Pause as Crews step back.

**Another thing about a stone is that it's hard. Is anyone's stone soft? No? That's like sin, too. Sin can make our hearts hard. It can make us turn away from God. Take a step back, away from the cross.** Pause as Crews step back.

Weigh the stone in your hand. **This one stone isn't too heavy, is it? After all, it represents just one sin. But imagine if you had to carry around a stone for every wrong thing you do.** Pick up another stone. **A stone every time you disobey your parents.** Pick up another stone. **A stone every time you're not nice to your brother.** Pick up another stone. **A stone every time you think a mean thought.**

Point to the bucket of stones. **What if you had to carry the weight of every sin, every day of your life?** Try to pick up the bucket of stones with one hand. Make it seem as though the bucket is really heavy. **Imagine how heavy that would get. It would be unbearable! But Jesus made a way for us to be forgiven for all our sins.** Point to the cross. **When Jesus died on the cross, he took the punishment for our sins. We don't have to carry them anymore. Jesus overcame the world!**

## Give Sins to Jesus

Have Crews remain standing. Say: **Let's give our sins to Jesus right now. Hold your stone and close your eyes. Think about how heavy your sins would be without Jesus. I'll call Crews up to the cross one at a time. When it's your turn, gently drop your stone at the foot of the cross, and whisper, "God gives good gifts." Like this.**

Demonstrate by gently dropping a stone at the foot of the cross and whispering, "God gives good gifts."



Say: **Did you hear that sound when I dropped my stone? Drop another stone. It sounds like a nail being hammered into wood—like nails being hammered into a cross.**

**After you give your sin to Jesus, sit quietly with your Crew. Close your eyes and listen to the sound of other people giving their sins to Jesus.**

Play “Silent Night” (track 3) softly in the background. Invite each Crew in turn to the cross, and have kids gently drop their stones at the foot of the cross as they whisper, “God gives good gifts.” Then have Crews sit. When everyone has had a turn at the cross, turn off the music.

## Draw Crosses

Say: **Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to be nailed to a cross so he could carry our heavy sins. What amazing love! I want you to have a reminder of that love.** Give each Crew Leader a red marker. Explain that Crew Leaders will draw a cross on the back of each child’s hand. Then they’ll look the child in the eyes and say, “[Child’s name], Jesus loves you and died for your sins.” Say that a child can draw a cross on the Crew Leader’s hand, too.

Play “Silent Night” (track 3) softly in the background. When everyone has a cross, collect the markers and continue.



## Jesus Is Alive!

Say: **What a sad, sad day it was when Jesus died. But we know that **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS.** (Yee-haw!) He gives us the gifts of forgiveness and love. And God was very good that sad day because the story wasn’t over! In fact, some people call the day Jesus died Good Friday. Have you ever heard that term at church? I wonder if it’s called Good Friday because the sadness when Jesus died led to something amazingly good!** Walk over to the tomb.

**Three days after Jesus was buried, a few of his friends went to his tomb and were amazed!**

Remove the door of the tomb so light is visible.

**There was an angel in the tomb who said, “Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead!” Jesus was alive! That tomb made of stones couldn’t hold Jesus. Come, look!** Invite Crews to join you in looking inside the empty tomb.



Say: **God gives us the good gift of being able to live with Jesus forever! Let's shout the good news! Let's shout today's Point. Ready? 1, 2, 3.** Have your helper turn on the lights, and lead kids in shouting today's Point. **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS! (Yee-haw!)** That was okay, but I think we can shout louder. 1, 2, 3. **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS! (Yee-haw!)**

Yay, that was better! Because of Jesus, we can remember that **GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS! (Yee-haw!)** God gives us the gifts of love and forgiveness and life with him forever! God gives us a reason to celebrate every day!

Loudly play "Joy to the World!" (track 1), and invite kids to sing and do the song motions. Thank kids for coming to Bible Adventures.

When you hear your Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination.



# Bible Adventures

## Get ready for a stampede of smiles!

We're so glad you joined the herd! You're in for an incredible time as you lead elementary kids in Bible Adventures that help everyone build a friendship with Jesus. Kids have a blast exploring the Bible with all five senses, making God's Word unforgettable and applicable.

This manual includes tons of Bible fun, setup instructions, and insider tips.



Celebrate God's good gift of being able to live with Jesus forever!



Explore what brings us comfort, and discover that Jesus left heaven to show us God's love.



Give sins to Jesus, and learn of his amazing love and forgiveness.

Questions?



[group.com/YeeHaw](http://group.com/YeeHaw)



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