

VBS ON SELF-ESTEEM

GARDEN

EXTRAORDINARY

LOVING GOD'S CREATION



LEADER'S MANUAL

Welcome to the Extraordinary Garden VBS!



In this Summer Bible School, children will discover their value in God's eyes. I find this material especially meaningful because, throughout my years of Christian life, I have observed a lack of self-esteem in both children and adults. Childhood is one of the most important times to introduce children to the value that God has already given them.

According to UNICEF, self-esteem plays a crucial role in how children face challenges and overcome adversity in their lives. A child with healthy self-esteem is more likely to develop holistically, approaching life with confidence and self-assurance. Low self-esteem, on the other hand, can increase vulnerability to serious difficulties, including a higher risk of suicide, which is more prevalent during adolescence.

In the upcoming days at VBS, children will enjoy an extraordinary garden—just like each one of their hearts. Through this experience, they will learn that caring for their self-esteem is much like caring for a garden: it needs attention, patience, and nurture in order to grow and flourish.

They will also learn every day about a Biblical character who will be an inspiration and an example of what God can do in their lives despite their doubts, weaknesses, and fears.

I hope this material will minister to the hearts of young and old, teachers and leaders who, even as we walk in the Lord, sometimes forget the value He has given us as His children.

In 2024, I will celebrate ten years as a Christian and six years as the Director of Children's Ministry at my local church. I have come to understand that Children's Ministry goes far beyond Bible School. My husband, Elías, and I love serving children, and after leading several VBS and children's evangelical events, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to write this material. My little daughter, now nine years old, has always been an inspiration to instruct little ones in the Word of God.

We pray that this material will be useful and that seeds will be planted in the hearts of many children, and that entire families will be reached by the Gospel in our city, nation and the world. We pray for you and your team.

**May your dreams grow bigger every day,
because God is with you...**

Yareli Tilan





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We give you permission to make copies of the material for your needs or to bless other ministries.

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OVERVIEW



I AM UNIQUE

God created me as a special being

Memory Verse

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." 2:10 NIV



I AM AUTHENTIC

I can just be myself

Memory Verse

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.." Romans 12:9 (NIV)



I AM CHOSEN

God has called me for a purpose

Memory Verse

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you." John 15:16 (NIV) John 15:16 (NIV)



I AM A CHILD OF FAITH

With FAITH everything is possible

Memory Verse

"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8 (NIV)



I AM EXTRAORDINARY

God values who I am

Memory Verse

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him." 1 John 3:1



OVERVIEW

Biblical Character

Adam and Eve
Genesis 1:26-28

Craft

Flower Pencil



Game

Catch insects in the garden



Biblical Character

David
1 Samuel 24:1-22,
2 Samuel 12:1-14, 7:18-29

Craft

Paper Ladybug



Game

Catch insects with baskets



Biblical Character

Moses Exodus 3

Craft

Remember



Game

Volleyball with cloth



Biblical Character

Joshua 1

Craft

Insect and paper
insect mask



Game

Balloon shooting



Biblical Character

Joseph
Genesis 37 and
45

Craft

Flowerpot



Game

Hit the bug





WHAT I NEED...

Team Work



To conduct a Summer Bible School, it is important to form a team, as you will need teachers for the main classes, classroom teachers, assistants, people to play the characters in the skit, help with refreshments, a song actions group, and those in charge of the registration for the first day. Remember that some members can participate in several activities if they wish, and if the schedule allows, you can also include some children in the gestures group to present the theme song. Invite the entire church to participate; it can be an incredible opportunity to discover skills and talents.

Begin preparing the VBS at least three months in advance to invite members to the team, prepare the training workshop to teach them how to use the materials, rehearse the song, prepare the skits, and publicise the invitation to your community. Remember that if you are the leader, you must delegate responsibilities.

Setting



The ideal place to hold a VBS is a church, but you can also hold one in a home or hall. The place you choose should be decorated to resemble a garden. You can make paper and balloon flowers, crepe paper bushes, foam insects to stick on the wall, and insects with paper cones and paper to hang. If you do not know how to make them, look for tutorials on YouTube and find more ideas for paper flowers and trees online. You can also make an artificial lake with blue paper and place pebbles around it, or you can put paper lotus flowers there.

Remember to decorate the venue very well, as this is where everyone will gather to sing the theme song, present the skit, and give the main lesson. You can have a printed background banner of the garden with the logo and characters, or make a blanket or rug and use paint and foam. The classrooms should also be decorated. Print out large Bloop and Unica characters to be part of the décor in each classroom. Look for a YouTube tutorial on how to print them large using letter-sized paper. You can also decorate the outside of the church or place balloons to grab attention.



Budget



It's good to dream big, but the reality is that a summer Bible school is a resource-intensive event. You need to invest in advertising, decoration, craft materials, student copies, refreshments, and costumes for the skit characters. Talk to your pastor to find out how much funding the church can contribute. Talk to your pastor about whether the team will be provided with money and they will be responsible for purchasing what's needed, or if a list of everything needed will be made, and the congregation will contribute as much as they can. Prepare a budget and consider whether you can hold a five-day VBS program plus a closing ceremony, or if you'll need to scale back.

Advertising



Think about the reach you want to have. By creating digital designs, you can use social media and reach your entire city, or you can simply share a digital flyer with your contacts. If you are going to make flyers, they can be in black and white or colour, depending on your budget, and distribute them in your church area. If you have the resources, you can pay for a radio advert or use advertising carts in your city.

Also, a few days before the start of the VBS, the entire team can hold a parade around the church, carrying the theme song or an audio announcement, with balloons and handing out flyers, and giving out candy to the children. You can bring decorated vehicles, bicycles, or decide to just walk.

The closing



The closing ceremony is an opportunity to welcome the families of the children who attended the EBDV into the church. It provides a moment to share the message of salvation and invite people to accept Jesus. Consider whether the closing ceremony will be held on the final day of the school programme or on an additional day dedicated specifically to this purpose.

If it is held on the last day, you may schedule the parents to attend the closing ceremony later in the day, or invite everyone at the same time so that the children and their families can take part together in the theme song, skit, and main teaching. You should also prepare a study or a salvation message for the adults while the children are in their classrooms. If you choose this option, remember that you will need an additional teacher to lead the adult session on that day.



If you are planning to set aside an extra day for the Closing Ceremony, here is a suggested schedule:

- Theme song (with the actions group and the VBS characters, Bloop and Única)
- Welcome and thank the tutors for bringing the children
- Presentation of the message of salvation and an invitation to accept Jesus
- (Assign adults to speak with those who have accepted Jesus so they can continue ministering to them.)
- Classroom presentations, if the students have prepared an item (song, sketch, poem, etc.)
- Certificate presentation
- Closing prayer

You may also include contests or awards as part of the Closing Ceremony programme.

At the end, refreshments may be provided for everyone, or simply drinks for fellowship, along with an invitation for children to continue attending Sunday School and for adults to attend church. This is also a good time to take souvenir photographs.

The follow-up

The work of the VBS does not end on the closing day. After the programme, you should visit the children and their families to invite them to church and, in doing so, win them for Christ. If your church already has a work plan, continue implementing it without interruption.

If you need some suggestions, here are a few ideas:

Summer School Registration:

On the first day, you can set up a registration table where the parents register their child. This registration also provides important information about the parent in case of an emergency and for future home visits. Include basic details such as the child's name, the parent's name, phone number, and address.

Approaching Parents During the School Programme:

During the summer school programme, you can approach parents when they drop off or pick up their children, to speak with them about the Word of God and minister to them. Use this opportunity to collect their information and arrange visits for a later time. Consider assigning brothers and sisters to this task during the programme, as teachers will be busy with the children.

Follow-up Event:

Before concluding the VBS, organise an event for the following week. This could be something simple, such as a movie afternoon. During the programme and at the closing ceremony, invite the children to attend this event so they return to the church.



LETTER TO THE LEADER OR DIRECTOR

Performing a VBS is a challenge

It is true that running a Summer Bible School is always a challenge, but I encourage you to look ahead. After evaluating everything you have, step out of your comfort zone and run a Summer Bible School with the help of volunteers. You can set a limit on the number of children you will host based on your budget. Be realistic about what you can manage, and always remember to remain calm throughout the entire programme. Do not forget to thank your team and all the members who are willing to help. Involve teenagers and young adults as assistants in the Summer Bible School.

Train your team

You may request training for yourself and your team on how to use this material, or you may study the manual in advance and train your team yourself. Prepare this meeting at least three months ahead so that you do not forget to communicate all the necessary information to your team.

Divide the team into specific areas of responsibility: instructors, gestures, follow-up, registration, assistants, and refreshments. This meeting is also the appropriate time to communicate the course dress code.

Create a detailed schedule that includes:

- Advertising days
- An advertising parade
- Church and classroom decoration day
- Preparation of crafts and visual materials by the teachers
- (It is recommended to schedule a day for teachers to present what they have prepared and for you to provide feedback and make improvements if necessary.)

Working with a schedule allows the entire team to organise themselves more effectively, be better prepared to carry out the VBS, and avoid unnecessary waiting. Remember that this meeting should focus on training, not just sharing information. It can be as engaging and enjoyable as you choose to make it. You may take on the role of the teacher, with team members acting as students in different classrooms. Bring prepared copies and sample student notebooks so the teachers are familiar with all the materials that will be used.

STATIONS



Class in the Garden

Here, a review of the main teaching and visual material will be done, with words appropriate for the age group, and the questions can be discussed. To enrich the teaching, the series of questions can be written on small papers and placed in a basket, and children can take out a piece of paper and answer the question on that paper.

In the Shade

They will answer the activities in the student notebook. While the students are doing the activities, they can review the verse to memorise.



Crafts on the Path

Students will make a craft containing the verse of the day so they can take it home and continue reviewing it.

Play Garden

We play so children can interact, have fun, and form friendships. Remember, in this programme about self-esteem, fun and laughter are paramount. We want children to return home happy every day, remembering how valuable they are..



Picnic in the Garden

We prepare a snack for each day, so that the children can have companionship and get to know each other better,

TIME

Opening in the Garden

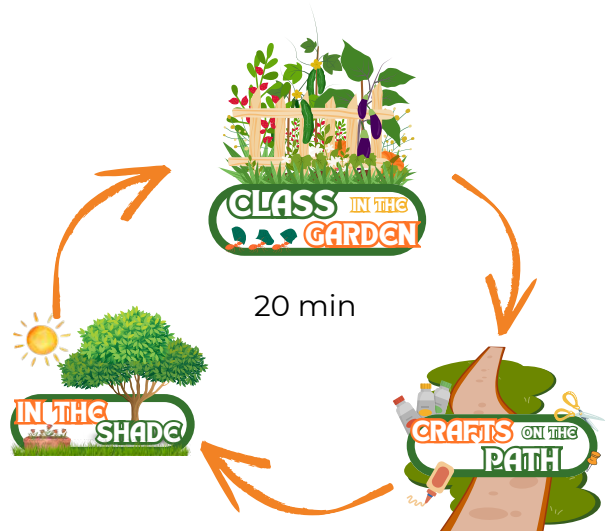
Welcome Song
Main Teaching



Teams

By age (10 min)

Rotation



Play Garden



Picnic



Closing

Rotation

You can use this VBS however you like, but it is written to be used with a three-station rotation programme. This means you divide the children into three groups, and the groups rotate through the three stations provided: "Class in the Garden," "In the Shade," and "Crafts on the Path." Each station lasts 20 to 40 minutes, and each station is repeated three times so that each group goes to each station once a day. The easiest way to divide the children is by age, just like the student sheets:

- Kids (4–6 years)
- Intermediate (7–9 years)
- Pre-adolescent (10–12 years)

Of course, you can make your event schedule however you like!



HOW TO USE THE MATERIAL

The Garden

The Garden will be the church; there, everyone will be gathered to witness:

- **1. WELCOME:** Every day, welcome the children, and from the second day onwards, give a brief reminder of what was learned the previous day.
- **2. THE THEME SONG:** On the first and second days, teach the children the actions. The group in charge of the actions, along with the characters (Bloop and Unique), will present the theme song.
- **3. SKETCH:** You will need to choose whether you will present the skit with puppets or whether volunteers will dress up as the characters. If you are presenting it with puppets, remember to create a puppet stage (it can be made of cardboard, PVC, or some other material with curtains). Rehearse well enough to present the skit without it becoming slow and boring. Use background music.



Unique



Bloop

- **4. MAIN TEACHING:** Avoid extending the teaching too much so as not to bore the children. Each day, present visual material; it can range from a poster about the biblical character to a craft to present the teaching, or a slide with key words and images.



HOW TO USE THE MATERIAL

The classrooms

The groups will be divided by age: Little ones: 4 to 6 years old, Intermediate: 7 to 9 years old and Pre-teens: 10 to 12 years old.

Upon arriving in the classroom, let your students settle in and welcome them. You can do an icebreaker activity on the first day. Then, begin the suggested activities in the following order.

- **5. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:** Discuss the questions with your students and listen to their answers, concluding by giving the ideal answer.
- **6. STUDENT NOTEBOOK:** Give your students their notebooks so they can complete the lesson activity each day. They should write their names on the cover from day 1 to identify their notebook.



- **7. CRAFT:** Always try to bring pre-cut templates for your students and make sure you have all the materials to make it.



- **8. SNACK:** You can take advantage of the time the children spend washing their hands after the craft to have them served a snack and rest for a moment.
- **9. GAME:** To finish, play the suggested game for the day. (If your team is small, you can create five games and rotate them through the groups over the five days. However, the ideal is for each group of teachers to create five games for their classroom.)

EXTRA IDEAS



Fun snacks and bags to carry their supplies are a must!



Decorate some places with this style of ant in their anthills.



Decorate the ceiling with different insects, made of paper or balloons.





Draw a variety of different insects on cardboard so they can take photos.



Decorate with flowers and insects, whether your VBS is in the yard or in the classroom.





I AM UNIQUE

God created me as a special being

Read: Genesis 1:26-28



Sketch

(The sun is shining, and Unique is walking among the leaves of a flower. Suddenly, Bloop appears, running and visibly worried)

Bloop (jumping around): Unique, Unique! I have a huge problem!

Unique (drops the ball of yarn and approaches): Hey, Bloop! What's up? You look like a little tornado.

Bloop: I lost my hat! The coolest hat in the world!

Unique (laughing): But Bloop, isn't it just a hat? Why is it so important?

Bloop (in a dramatic voice): It's not just any hat! It's my explorer hat! Without it, I can't get into mischief or have fun properly.

Unique (curious): Wow, that sounds serious! Let's go find it. Where did you see it last?

Bloop (thinking): I think I left it near the big rock in the garden.

(Unique and Bloop arrive at the large rock. There are many leaves and flowers around.)

Unique (looking around): It must be here! Let's look in the leaves.

(They both begin searching, moving leaves and looking under flowers.)

Bloop (coming out from under a leaf): Nothing here! But look at this flower, it looks like an ant castle.

Unique (smiling): A castle? Of course! But first, we need to find your hat.

(He keeps searching, but they don't find it. Suddenly, Única sees something shiny hidden among the branches.)

Unique: Wait! What's that?

(He approaches and takes out a small hat covered in dirt.)

Unique (holding the hat): Look what I found!

Bloop (jumping for joy): It's my hat! Thanks, Unique! But... wait a minute, why is it covered in dirt?

Unique (mockingly): Maybe I was exploring a little too much. Your hat had an adventure of its own!

Bloop (with a mischievous laugh): That means it needs cleaning before you can use it again.

(Unique takes the hat to a nearby puddle and dips it a little in the water.)

Unique (laughing): Let's leave it sparkling clean!

Bloop: My hat is part of me.



Main Lesson

WHEN GOD CREATED YOU...

He did so with love and care. You are a perfect creation of God, because all of His creation was good. Each one of us is a unique creation, and that uniqueness is what makes us special. As today's story reminds us, God created male and female, and although the world may try to convince us otherwise, His word tells us that only these two sexes exist. Whether you are a boy or a girl, you are a perfect creation. There is nothing wrong with you, and God has created you with a wonderful purpose.

He gave us the breath of life and the ability to relate to the world and to those around us, as well as to live in a close relationship with Him. Just as a garden is made up of many elements—such as grass, flowers, soil, trees, seeds, and insects—that together form something beautiful, so too are you an important part of your family, community, and church. You are unique and special.

At times, you may have felt worthless or incapable, or found yourself in situations where you were made to feel excluded or unimportant. However, as creations of God, we are valuable and deserving of love, respect, and care. We must acknowledge and thank God for life and all its blessings. We must also care for and respect His creation, including our bodies, by eating healthy and exercising, and by taking care of our minds; sharing our feelings

LET'S PRAY:

Dear Father,

Help me to accept and understand that I am a unique creation, and that You made me special. I ask for Your forgiveness for the times I have felt worthless or belittled, or for having hurt others. Help me to love my body, to love myself, and to love others. And if I ever feel unimportant again, help me to remember that I am a unique and valuable creation, made with a wonderful purpose.



Memory Verse

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 NIV



By distancing ourselves from what hurts us or causes emotional harm, and by caring for our spirit we are recognising our need for God and living in a close relationship with Him through prayer, reading His Word, and attending church. In this way we honour the life He has given us. We are beings capable of loving ourselves by showing care and compassion towards who we are, and in doing so, we care for God's wonderful creation.

You are unique and special, created for a wonderful purpose!





Crafts

FLOWER

MATERIAL

- Wooden stick (1 per child)
- Crepe paper (different colors)
- White Glue
- Washable paint or green marker
- 1 cardboard circle
- Biblical Text

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Paint the wooden stick green
2. Glue the cardboard circle to the wooden stick at the top.
3. Fill the cardboard circle with crepe paper balls
4. Paste the biblical text as seen in the image

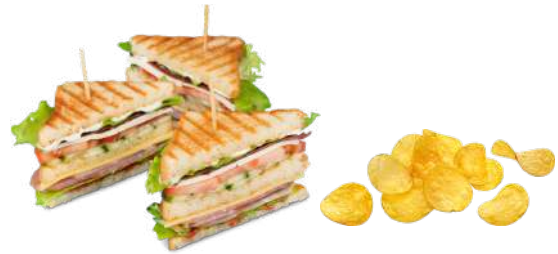


Picnic

Mini sandwiches with French fries

INGREDIENTS

- Sliced bread
- Ham and cheese
- Lettuce or seasonal vegetables
- French fries



Games in the Garden

Catch insects in the garden

You will need to place ladybugs on two poles, butterflies on two poles, and a flower on the centre pole. You will also need bottle rings for the children to use.

The children will be divided into two teams, and the team with the most points will win. Ladybugs are worth two points, butterflies are worth one point, and if a ring lands on the flower, one point will be deducted. You will need someone to keep track of the score, or you may use a whiteboard.





In the Shade

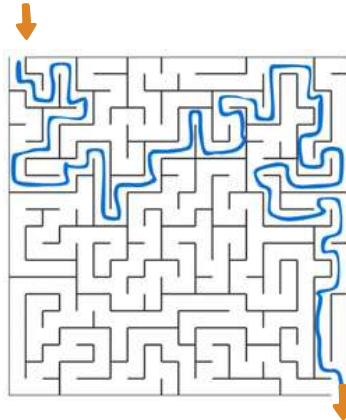
Draw your portrait
here



Easy



Medium and Difficult



Fill in the missing words

Then God said, "Let us make MAN in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the LIVESTOCK and over all the CREATURES that move along the ground." So God created MAN in his own image, in the image of God he created him; MALE and FEMALE he created them.



Class in the Garden

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Do you think the influences of the world make us feel less special?

Although the world imposes standards of popularity, we must remember that we are children of God. If He created us the way we are, it is because we are perfect in His design.

If Jesus lived in our time, do you think He would have a social network? What do you think He would share on it?

Jesus did not care about being like everyone else. He was controversial because He did not remain silent and boldly shared the will of the Heavenly Father, even when others became angry. If Jesus lived in our time, He would not be concerned with fitting in. He would care about pleasing God even on social media.

2 I AM AUTHENTIC

I can just be myself
Read: 1 Samuel 24:1-22, 2 Samuel 12:1-14, 7:18-29



Sketch

Bloop (bewildered and sad): I can't believe it! My entire home is in ruins! That huge bird destroyed our colony!

Unique (concerned): Oh, Bloop, I'm so sorry about what happened. But we can't stay here. We have to find a safe place.

Bloop (nervous): You're right, but there's a bigger problem. That bird is still around!

(Bird sounds are heard.)

Unique (scared): Bloop, be careful! That bird wants to catch us!

(The bird tries to eat them, and they run away)

Bloop (panicking): Quick, Unique! Use your wings to fly, and I'll try to distract him from below!

Unique (determined): Good idea! Let's work as a team!

(Unique flies up, and Bloop starts running in a zigzag pattern, trying to get the Bird's attention.)

Bird (angry): Come back here, you little bugger! Your flying will only slow you down!

Bloop (screaming): You have to be faster, Unique! Use that tree trunk to hide behind!

Unique (confident): Good idea!

(Just as the Bird approaches, Unique hides behind the log. The Bird stops momentarily, confused.)

Bloop (whispering): Now's our chance. Keep flying towards the big bush!

Unique (whispering): What do we do now, Bloop?!

Bloop: If you let me dig a tunnel under the bush, we could come out the other side and confuse him.

Unique: Great! Let's go!

(Bloop begins digging rapidly while Unique stands guard near the bush. The Bird approaches, still searching.)

Bird (frustrated): I'm coming to get you! You can't hide forever!

(Bloop finishes tunnelling and pokes his head out.)

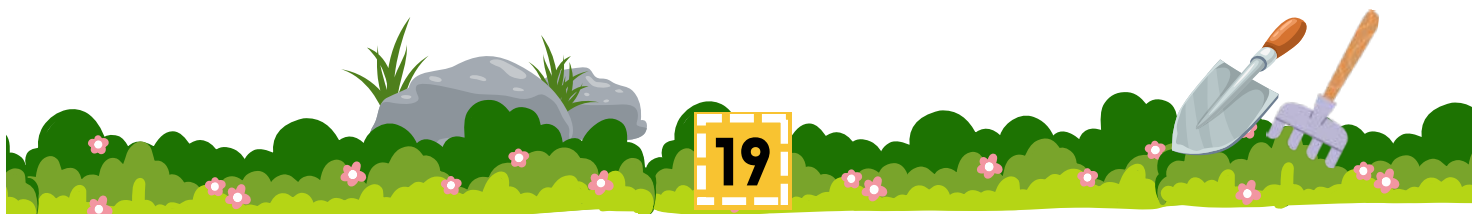
Bloop: Ready! Let's go out this way!

Unique (coming out of the tunnel and laughing): That was too close!

Bloop (with a mischievous smile): And we did it thanks to our skills! You flew, and I dug. What a great team!

Unique (smiling): Yes, and we learned that with teamwork, we can overcome any challenge.

Bloop: I know we have to find a new home, but together we can face anything.



Main Lesson

Imagine you are a gardener, and your heart is a garden. What kind of plants would grow in your garden? Would they be real, healthy plants, or fake, wilted ones?

In life, it is easy to try to appear as someone we are not, to put on a mask in order to impress others. However, God calls us to be authentic, to be ourselves without fear of what others may think. Just as a garden needs to be watered and cared for in order to grow, our hearts need to be nourished through God's Word and prayer so that authenticity can flourish.

A biblical figure who stands out for his authenticity is David, the second king of Israel. David maintained his integrity even in difficult situations. When he had the opportunity to kill Saul, his enemy, he refused, because Saul was God's anointed. He did not follow the advice or pressure of his men, but chose instead to obey God, regardless of what others thought of him.

Despite becoming king, David saw himself as a servant of God and humbled himself before Him, recognising that he deserved nothing and that he was completely dependent on God. David was also a man of integrity in both his words and actions. As today's story reminds us, although he sinned and committed a serious wrong, he ultimately acknowledged his mistake and repented.

David was authentic because he was honest, transparent, upright, humble, and willing to be vulnerable. His authenticity enabled him to be an effective leader for his people to be a remembered man



Memory Verse

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good." Romans 12:9 (NIV)



and a great hero of the Bible and an authentic man. David maintained a close relationship with God, and it was God who helped him remain authentic.

In the same way, God calls us to be authentic, to be ourselves, and to be imitators of the only One who was perfect that is Jesus. We do not need to be, or look like, a friend, singer, or celebrity admired by the world. It is enough to be ourselves, because when we maintain a close relationship with God, we are able to live authentically, and that is pleasing to Him.

Let's Pray:

Lord,

Help me to be truly authentic, to love and accept myself as I am, to be courageous in society, and to go against the currents of this world, knowing that it is enough to be Your follower. Help me to be whole and honest, and to humble myself before You, so that others may come to know You through my life.

In Jesus' name, Amen





Crafts

CATARINA

MATERIAL

- Catarina's printout
- Split pin
- Colors
- Glue

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out the images.
2. Color the head and the dots on its wings black.
3. The body may be red.
4. Insert the split pin into the top center under the head and open the tabs.



Picnic

Cookies and seasonal fruit

INGREDIENTS

- Cookies of the flavor you like
- Grapes or seasonal chopped fruit



Games in the Garden

Catch insects with a basket

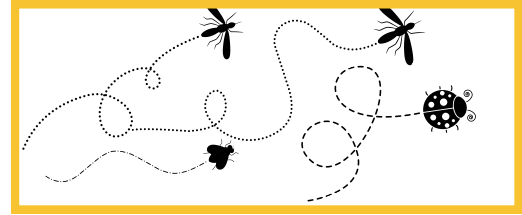
You will need a basket or catching container for each child, along with several inflated balls or balloons (ball-sized) in two different colours. Divide the children into two teams. Two teachers will throw the balls, and the children will try to catch them in their baskets. The children should be spread out so that members of the same team are not all in one section. The team that collects the most balls wins





In the Shade

Easy



Medium and Difficult



Fill in the missing words

Then the men of DAVID said to him, "This is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold, I will deliver your ENEMY into your hand, and you shall do to him as it pleases you.'" So then DAVID arose and quietly cut off the hem of SAUL's robe. After this, David's HEART was troubled because he had cut off the hem of Saul's robe. And he said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing AGAINST my lord, that I should stretch out my hand against him; for he is the ANOINTED of the LORD."



Class in the Garden

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



When David was authentic, was everything going well in his life?

No, many things did not go well in David's life. He experienced persecution from Saul and was surely frightened, fearful, and saddened by the envy he had aroused in him. Even so, David was not afraid to do what was right.

Have you ever tried to be like everyone else out of fear of not fitting in?

Many times, we find ourselves in situations where it seems there is no way out—where we feel pressured to be or do what others do in order to fit in. However, those who truly love you will accept you just as you are.



I AM CHOSEN

God has called me for a purpose

Read: Exodus 3



Sketch

Unique (standing on a leaf, excitedly): Look at this place, Bloop! It's like paradise! I hope today is full of adventures.

Bloop (prostrating himself on the leaf with a mischievous smile): Unique! Guess what! The colony council has decided that I should be the new leader!

Unique (surprised): You? The leader of the colony? That sounds amazing! How do you feel about that?

Bloop (laughing): I feel like I have absolute power! But of course, I also have a lot of responsibilities.

Sole (mockingly): Oh no! A naughty leader like you? Are you sure you're not going to cause mischief instead of ruling?

Bloop (making a dramatic gesture): Of course not! Well... maybe a few pranks. But I'll do it in the name of fun and colony unity!

(He puts on a leaf crown.)

Unique (laughing): Look at that crown! It looks bigger than your head!

Bloop (trying to look serious): At the ant council, I'll have to look my best. (Ironically) Maybe a little bigger.

Unique (whispering): And what will be your first decision, oh great Bloop?

Bloop (thinking): Hmm... we should throw a big garden party. I'm sure everyone will enjoy some fun!

Big Ant (alarmed): A party? Is that really something a leader should do?

Bloop: Of course! Fun is vital for keeping everyone happy—a magical evening of stories and laughter!

Unique (stepping forward): I hope you have a good plan, Bloop! Otherwise, the party could turn into a comical disaster!

Bloop (winking): What's wrong with a little chaos? The best things in life happen in the craziest moments!

Unique: This colony is going to have the biggest garden party in history!

Bloop (playfully): And then I'll begin my term as the mischievous leader! Let's get ready for some fun!



Main Lesson

DO YOU FEEL INADEQUATE... or doubt that you are the right person for a task or challenge?

Moses was a man who felt inadequate and did not believe he was suited to lead the people of Israel. He was aware of his weaknesses; Moses had a stutter and, like all of us, many flaws. Yet God chose him and called him to be His instrument to free His people from slavery in Egypt.

Like Moses, we may sometimes feel inadequate or doubt that we are right for a particular task or challenge. However, God chooses us and calls us to be His instruments in this world. Remember that God has chosen you and called you to be useful in His work. Do not rely on your own abilities or strengths, but on God's grace and power.

Trust that God will equip you and guide you along the path to which you have been called. And if you ever ask yourself what God has chosen you for, you will come to realise throughout your life that it is for many things. Yet now, as a child of God who has accepted Jesus as Saviour, your most important mission is to share the Good News with others, so that they may come to know Jesus just as you have.

God will guide you in this, because all of His children are chosen. Ask God to give you the grace and strength to move forward and to persevere in your calling, just as Moses did.

Let's Pray:

Lord,
Sometimes I do not feel capable of many things,
but I believe in You and trust that You have chosen
me for a purpose. Remove all fear from my life and
help me to be obedient in everything You call me to
do. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Memory Verse

"You did not choose me, but I chose you
and appointed you so that you might go
and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so
that whatever you ask in my name the
Father will give you." John 15:16 (NIV)



Crafts REMEMBER

MATERIAL

- Magnifying glass printout
- Clear cellophane paper or clear plastic

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out the magnifying glass mold, color it.
2. Glue the plastic between both molds and glue.

Now let's look for insects!!

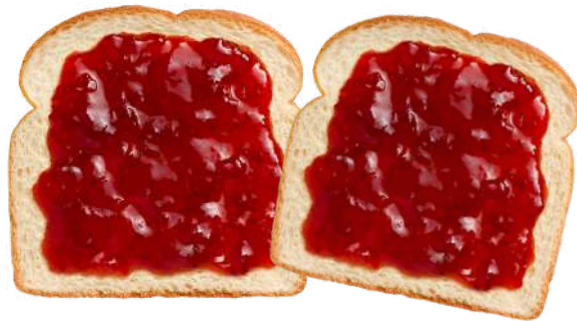


Picnic

Toasted bread with jam

INGREDIENTS

- Toast
- Fruit jam



Games in the Garden

Volleyball Screen

You will need 2 large fabrics and
2 plastic balls

Form two teams.

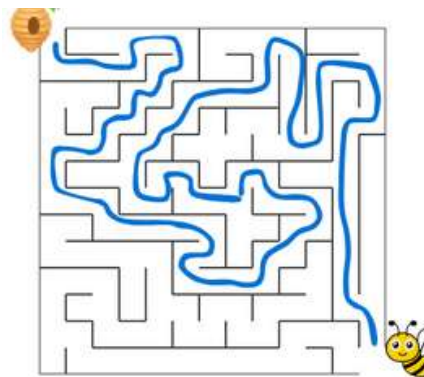
Each team must hold their cloth by the edges and throw the ball
from one cloth to the other.





In the Shade

Easy



Medium and Difficult



Class in the Garden

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Is it right to feel inferior?

The Bible teaches that we should have a humble perspective, recognising our limitations and weaknesses, but we should not feel inferior (Galatians 3:28; 1 Corinthians 6:20).

If I feel inferior, am I humble?

No. Feeling inferior can lead to insecurity, lack of confidence, constant comparisons, unhealthy competition, and low self-esteem. True humility is different. It is the acknowledgement of our limitations that draws us closer to God and helps us rely on His strength, cultivate gratitude, and show love to others (James 4:10; 2 Corinthians 12:9).



I AM A CHILD OF FAITH

With FAITH everything is possible

Read: Joshua 1



Sketch

(The setting is a messy garden, with remnants of a party: small pieces of leaves, flower candy, and some fallen balloons. Unique is sitting on a leaf, looking a little worried.)

The One and Only (sighing): Well, Bloop, it seems your reign hasn't gotten off to a very good start...

Bloop (appearing dishevelled, giving up): You're right, The One and Only. After the big party, there isn't a single ant in sight working! All I know is that everyone went dancing instead of building!

Unique (smiling): You always knew how to throw a good party, but... isn't that all there is to being a king?

Bloop (thoughtful): Hmm... maybe... I should do something different? I know! I'm going to propose a prank competition!

Sole (cautiously): Bloop! That sounds... a little risky. I don't think a prank contest is what the colony needs right now.

Bloop (shouting): Attention, colony! I'm your king, and I've decided that what we need is mischief! Let's start King Bloop's Prank Competition! More fun means more togetherness! Come on, get excited!

Unique (screaming): Bloop! Your competition has unleashed a real disaster!

Bloop (screaming): I know! But it's so funny! ...Wait, some ants are making mud in our colony? They're sliding in the mud!

Unique: Bloop, your kingdom has become a total mess!

Bloop (thinking): I think... maybe I went too far with the prank idea.

Sole (nodding): Yes, Bloop. While fun is great, it's important to find a balance. Mischief is fine, but not at the expense of teamwork!

Bloop (with a mischievous grin): Okay, how about we turn this into a lesson? I'm still king, so next time I'll make it a "work-and-play" day.

Unique (laughing): Work-and-play day? That sounds so much better!

Bloop: I'm not a perfect king, but I promise to do better!



Main Lesson

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT HOW PLANTS GROW AND GROW STRONG?

Plants need water, sunshine, and nutrients to develop. In the same way, our faith needs nourishment to grow and strengthen.

Joshua, Moses' successor, was reminded in Joshua 1:8 that he needed to feed on God's Word in order to lead Israel. God's Word is the spiritual food that gives us strength and direction, while prayer is the irrigation that makes this seed germinate in our hearts.

Like Joshua, we need to meditate on God's Word day and night so that we can face life's challenges with faith and courage. Joshua did not only receive God's Word; he also put it into practice. Through his obedience, he conquered the entire region, and his faith was strengthened.

If we want to grow in our faith like Joshua, we must feed on God's Word and nourish ourselves with prayer. Then we can confidently say: "I am a child of faith, growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

May the Word of God be our guide, and may prayer be our strength. May we be like Joshua, leading with faith and courage, for the glory of our God.

Let's Pray:

Lord,

We ask that You help us to feed on Your Word and nourish us through prayer. May we grow in our faith and be a light in the world.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8 (NIV)



Crafts

LADYBUG MASK

MATERIAL

- Mask template
- Colours
- Straight or curly pieces of paper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out the mask and color it, glue on the paper pieces
Your mask will be ready.



Picnic

Jellies with fruit

INGREDIENTS

- Jelly
- Fruit pieces with the flavor of gelatin



Games in the Garden

Balloon Target Shooting

3 toy darts are needed

A row of red balloons with black dots representing ladybugs will be placed in the center.

The rest of the balloons can be colored.

All children will be entitled to 3 shots without popping the red balloons.

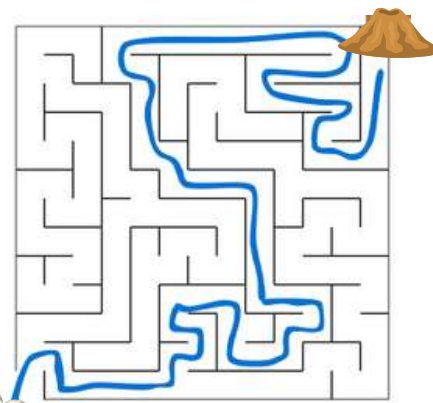
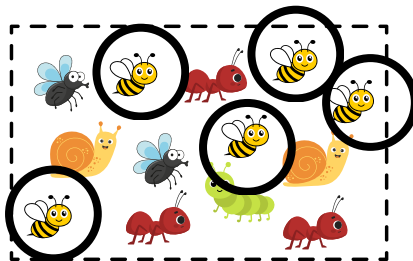
The winner is the one who bursts 3 with their 3 shots without bursting the red ones.



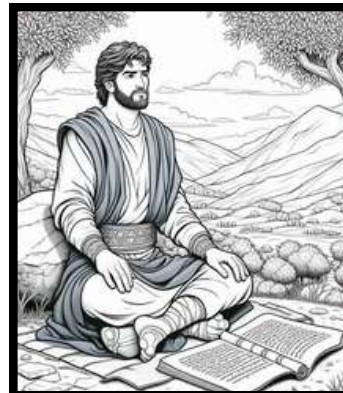
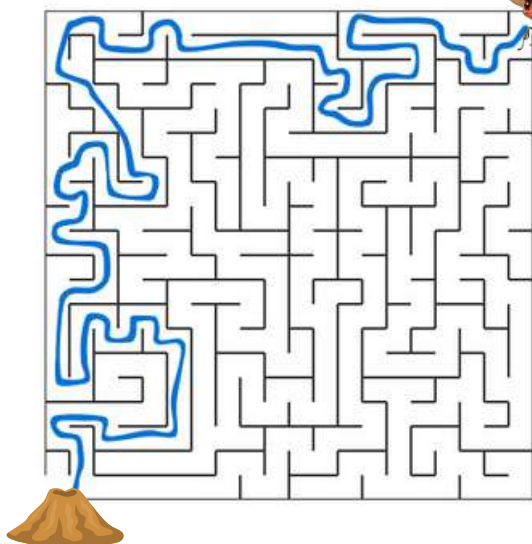


In the Shade

Easy

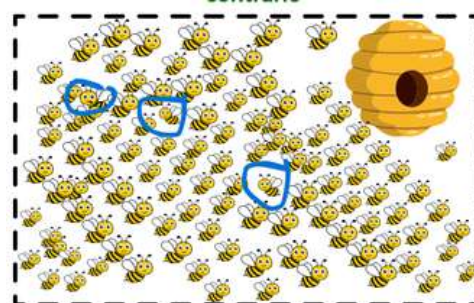


Medium and Difficult



Class in the Garden

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



If I don't have faith, is it enough to ask God for it?

The Bible teaches that faith is a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8-9) and that we can ask Him to give it to us (Matthew 7:7-8). Faith is not something we can generate through our own strength or effort, but rather a gift from God. Seek communion with God through prayer and reading the Word.

Why is the Word of God and prayer important for growing in our faith, like a plant in a garden?

The Word of God is like food that gives us strength and direction, and prayer is like water that makes our faith germinate, helping us face challenges with courage, like Joshua.



I AM EXTRAORDINARY

God values who I am

Read: Genesis 37 and 45



Sketch

Bloop: My first week as a leader was a disaster! (laughs) But now I know how to do it better.

Unique (intrigued): Really? And what did you learn from failure?

Bloop: Three days ago, I organised bedtimes and learned that ants don't get along very well when they all sleep at the same time. (scratches head) So much chaos! But now I have a foolproof plan: organising a leaf race!

Bloop: I've decided to hold a leaf race! Whoever wins will be in charge of bringing in the day's food!

Bloop (without listening): And whoever doesn't want to participate will have to... clean the anthill!

Unique: Bloop! Maybe you should listen to your ants more. Not everyone wants to run.

Bloop (shrugging): But that's the fun of it! The important thing is that everyone feels part of something. Plus, everyone laughs! That's what matters!

Ants (smiling): Bloop, you should be our king more often!

Bloop (proudly): I knew it! Sometimes you have to fail to learn how to have fun!

Unique: I can't believe you managed to make your colony have fun and work at the same time. Maybe being a leader isn't just about giving orders.

Bloop (smiling): Exactly. Being a good leader is about making everyone feel good! See? I learned something after all.

Unique (teasing): Who would have thought it? You're wiser than you look, Bloop.

Bloop (winking): Just a little naughty!



Main Lesson

JOSEPH FACED YEARS OF SLAVERY AND IMPRISONMENT.

However, each challenge brought him closer to his divine purpose, and he eventually became Egypt's second-in-command, responsible for saving many people from starvation. Despite these hardships, Joseph maintained his faith in God, which enabled him not only to survive, but to thrive in the midst of trials.

In a garden where many different flowers grow, one stands out: the lotus flower. Born in murky, muddy waters, it rises to the surface and blooms in all its splendour. This process reminds us that, even in adverse circumstances, we can overcome challenges and shine brightly. Like the lotus flower, our true beauty and potential can emerge from difficult times. Our trials can become the means through which God transforms us and makes us extraordinary.

Like Joseph, never stop dreaming and trusting that God has a plan for you. Remember that difficulties are temporary, and that God can use every situation for your good. Just as Joseph helped his family and many others in Egypt, look for ways to help those around you. Your extraordinary impact begins within you.



Memory Verse

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.” 1 John 3:1



Want to be extraordinary? Start by:

1. Seek God and his purpose for your life.
2. Develop your skills and talents.
3. Serve others with passion and dedication.
4. Persevere in the midst of challenges.
5. Be authentic and true to your values.

Let's Pray:

Let us pray that God grants us the strength of Joseph and the serenity of the lotus flower, so that we may flourish in our lives, despite any challenges we face. Amen.





Crafts

CATARINAS BOAT

MATERIAL

- Box printout
- Green tissue paper
- Skewer or thin sticks
- 2 Catarina printouts

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out the box picture, colour and assemble as shown in the image.
2. Color the 2 ladybugs and glue the stick to the tip, these will go inside our box.
3. Fill the container with tissue paper, you can also put your pencils or markers inside.



Picnic

Mini pancake skewer

INGREDIENTS

- Pan cakes Mini
- Fruits
- Spread, Jam or Whipped Cream



Games in the Garden

Feeding Garden Bugs

A target is needed for balls decorated with insects, with the holes being their mouths.

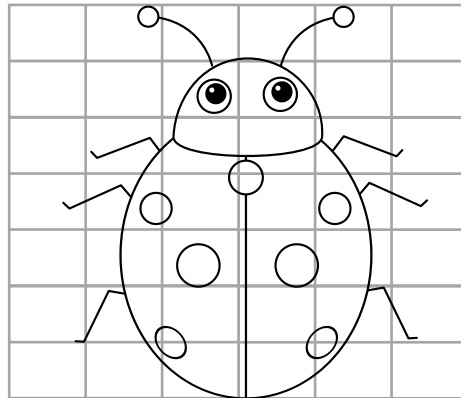
The children will try to put the balls in the insects' mouths, pretending to feed them.



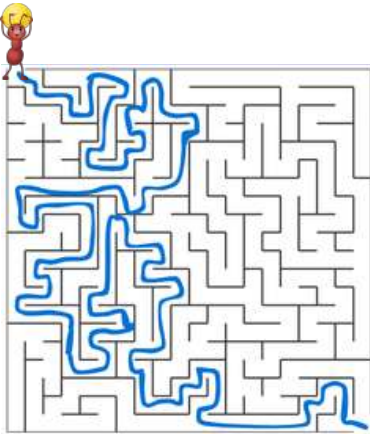


In the Shade

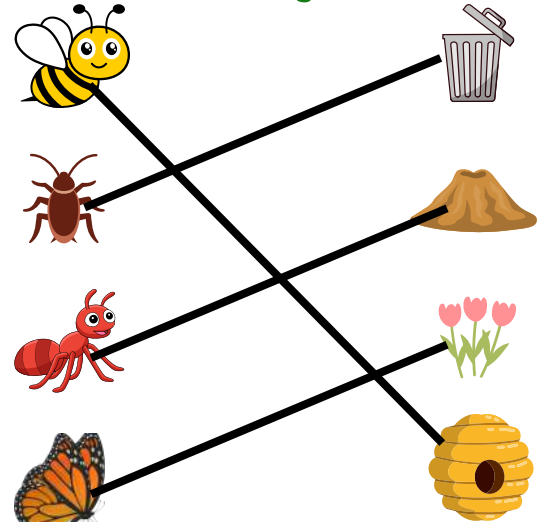
Easy



Medium and Difficult

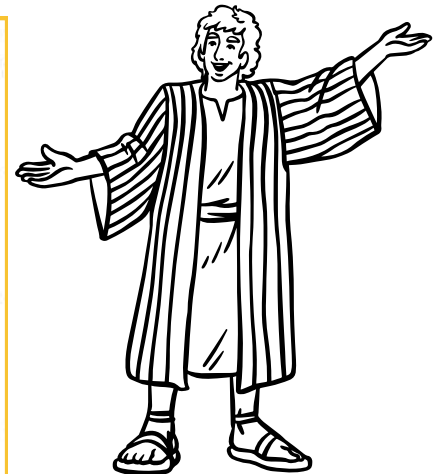


Match the insects to where they belong



True ✓ or False ✗

- ✓ Joseph had problems, but he never stopped trusting in God.
- ✗ The lotus flower grows in dirty water and becomes ugly.
- ✓ Joseph helped many people because he used his gifts.
- ✗ Being special means never having problems.
- ✓ We can shine like the lotus flower even when we have difficulties.



Class in the Garden

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What if I don't feel extraordinary?

God says you are, because He is your Creator (Genesis 1:27). God loves you just as you are. Your identity is found in Christ, your worth comes from being a child of God, your strength is revealed in weakness, and your purpose is found in God's plan.

What does the world call extraordinary today?

To the world, being extraordinary often means professional success and achievements, wealth, fame, physical beauty, recognition, success in sports, travel, and similar accomplishments. However, it is important to remember that God's definition is very different. Unlike the world, God values the heart, faithfulness, obedience, love, and humility above all else.

HERE YOU WILL FIND TOOLS FOR:

Sowing faith and trust in the hearts of children.

Help them overcome fears and doubts with the love of God.

Inspiring entire families to grow in the gospel.



Master Gardener

