

KIDVID™ CINEMA

Elementary Station Leader Manual



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—Learner-to-learner interaction enhances learning and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential—What learners experience through discussion and action sticks with them up to 9 times longer than what they simply hear or read.

Applicable—The aim of Christian education is to equip learners to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Learner-based—Learners understand and retain more when the learning process takes into consideration how they learn best.

Kidvid™ Cinema

LEADER MANUAL

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Visit our websites:

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group.com/RockyRailway

Thanks to this VBS Crew for keeping everything on track: Laura Baldwin-Stout, Jody Broksma, Stephen Caine, Lyndsay Gerwing, Mikal Keefer, Jan Kershner, Laycie McClain, Michael Paustian, Mike Porter, Joani Schultz, Patty Smith, Elisa Snell, Rodney Stewart, Jennifer Sundin, and Gabriele Woolever.

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WELCOME TO KIDVID™ CINEMA

You may be used to children's videos and programs that focus simply on keeping kids entertained. Well, get ready for something better—something amazing! At KidVid Cinema, children will watch the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD, where they “meet” five *real* kids who are trusting Jesus' power through life's ups and downs.

DAY 1: Dominic relies on Jesus' power to take a tough karate test...after failing many times.

DAY 2: Analiz uses her music to bring Jesus' hope to her sick grandmother and so many others!

DAY 3: Lauren helps in a community food program, trusting Jesus' power to help her boldly step out, serve, and share Jesus' love.

DAY 4: Isaac was sad when his brother, Joel, died. Today Isaac finds Jesus' strength through dance, and he dances to celebrate Joel's life forever in heaven!

DAY 5: Renee and Alina became friends when they helped in a cool church ministry. They love spending time together and growing in friendship with Jesus and each other!

Each year, our field test staff watches kids absorb these stories with rapt attention. And in follow-up discussions, it became evident that kids have a *lot* to say about things like helping, sickness, shining Jesus' love, and being good friends.

These real-life stories will connect with children of all ages, engaging them in faith conversations, transforming hearts, and helping them discover what it means to trust Jesus' power every day.

STAY ON TRACK

You may worry about how kids will process the Day 4 story, which touches on death. However, we've worked with child psychologists and experts to ensure that the topic is handled gently and appropriately. Isaac's story focuses on the hope of heaven and an amazing eternal life with Jesus, more than the sadness of loss. What a hope-filled way to let children talk about a hard topic and have a safe place to share their thoughts with a loving adult.



BEFORE YOU GET ROLLING...

FIELD TEST FINDING

We've discovered that if the room is crowded and noisy, kids have a hard time focusing on the important life-application discussions.

FIELD TEST FINDING

It's amazing how adding simple decorations to a room can spark kids' imaginations and help them feel special and valued!

- ▶ **Work with your VBS Director to select a room for KidVid Cinema.** Choose a room that can be partially darkened to watch the video. Be sure your room is large enough to have at least 5 feet between each Crew. The extra space allows for more "private" Crew discussions. Having Crews sit on Crew blankets helps kids know where to sit and minimizes confusion when kids arrive.
- ▶ **Make your cinema spectacular!** Create a fun atmosphere where kids feel like they're in a train observation car at night! First, remove chairs so everyone can sit on the floor. Then cover walls with Weathered Wood Plastic Backdrop. Paint cardboard window frames black, and back them with Starry Night Plastic Backdrop to hang on the walls. For extra fun, place battery-powered white lights behind the frames. For complete decorating ideas, view the Decorating Walk-Through Video.
- ▶ **Find out how many Crews you'll have at each KidVid Cinema session.** At Rocky Railway VBS, kids join small mixed-age groups, called Crews, with up to five kids plus a Crew Leader. The total number of Crews at VBS is divided into four larger groups that rotate through the stations together, so you can expect one-fourth of the Crews to report for each session of KidVid Cinema. For example, if there is a total of 20 Crews, five of them will come to each session.
- ▶ **Set up the TV and DVD player.** Use a large-screen TV, if possible. Set up your equipment near an electrical outlet so kids don't trip over the cords. If you must stretch cords across the room, tape them to the floor with duct tape or electrical tape. Practice connecting the TV and DVD player, and then try playing, stopping, and moving between chapters of the DVD.



- ▶ **Preview each day's KidVid Stories DVD segment.** Knowing what happens in the day's story will give you a heads-up as to how discussions might go. Be sure to read the corresponding discussion questions in this manual ahead of time. Each day's video segment is approximately five minutes long.
- ▶ **Call on kids by roles.** Each day at Rocky Railway VBS, kids choose important Crew roles for the day. Each station will call on a different role to make sure all kids get to shine! At KidVid Cinema, you'll always call on the Guide.
- ▶ **Repeat the Bible Point often.** It's important to say the Bible Point *just as it's written*. Repeating the Bible Point will help children remember it and apply it to their lives. Kids will be listening for you to say the Bible Point so they can shout "Trust Jesus!" (See the photo.)



"Trust Jesus!"

BIBLE POINT

Day 1

Jesus' power helps us do hard things.

Bible Story: Ananias helps Saul. (Acts 9:1-19)

Bible Verse: "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."
(Philippians 4:13)

Consider This...

- ▶ The Bible makes it evident that God often asks his followers to do hard things. Noah built an ark. Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son. Mary bore the Son of God. Ananias had the terrifying job of reaching out to Saul.
- ▶ To understand the difficulty of Ananias' job, it's important to realize just how much Saul hated the early church. He approved the stoning of Stephen, arrested Christians in Jerusalem, and set his sights on imprisoning Christians living in Damascus. Christians ran away from Saul—not toward him!
- ▶ Ananias' name means "protected by the Lord." It's likely that his parents didn't know the importance of such protection during this important, history-altering mission.
- ▶ In Acts 9:15, God doesn't ease Ananias' misgivings with words of comfort or empowerment. He simply shares his life-changing plan for Saul and urges Ananias to go.
- ▶ Because of his selection and obedience, Ananias got to be the first person to welcome Saul as a Christian. In spite of any misgivings or fear, Ananias warmly greeted Saul with the phrase "Brother Saul."



Why It Matters...

Jesus still asks his followers to do hard things. The kids at your VBS know it's hard to forgive when someone hurts their feelings. They've experienced the difficulty of splitting time between parents' homes after a divorce. Kids can tell you how tough it is to make new friends, do what's unpopular, learn a new skill in school, and reach out in friendship to someone who's lonely. That's why today's activities will encourage kids with the truth that Jesus' power can fortify them through life's challenges. Just as Ananias drew strength from God's reassurance and plan, kids will come away with renewed inspiration that *they* can trust in Jesus' power to tackle the hard things they face.

DAY 1

BIBLE POINT: Jesus' power helps us do hard things.

BIBLE STORY: Ananias helps Saul.
(Acts 9:1-19)

BIBLE VERSE: "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."
(Philippians 4:13)

SING & PLAY EXPRESS

- ▶ Learn the Day 1 Bible Point and verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Ramsey.
- ▶ Sing Rocky Railway VBS songs.
- ▶ Meet Cam Track, an engineer who needs some power to get his train back on track.



BIBLE ADVENTURES

Encourage Ananias to do the hard thing God has asked of him, and experience a trust fall to feel what it means to trust Jesus.



CHEW CHEW SNACKS

Chew Chew Track



KIDVID™ CINEMA

Dominic relies on Jesus' power to take a tough karate test... after failing many times.



IMAGINATION STATION

Try to keep their Off-Rail Rollers on track, and remember that Jesus' power helps them do hard things.

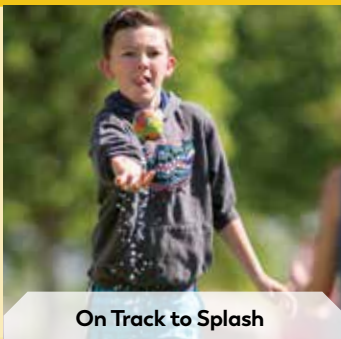


ROCKY WRAP-UP

- ▶ See who is starring in today's Spotlight VBS.
- ▶ Get a little help learning a tough "train track trick," then have a surprise visit from Ananias.
- ▶ Receive a ram-bunctious Bible Memory Buddy.



LOCO MOTION GAMES



On Track to Splash



Runaway Train



Hold the Track Line

▶ At Rocky Railway VBS, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.

DAY 1

SUPPLIES

Every Day You'll Need...

- ▶ KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD*
- ▶ TV and DVD player
- ▶ Bibles (2 per Crew per rotation, plus 1 for you)
- ▶ arrow sticky notes (2 per Crew per rotation)
- ▶ Crew blankets (1 per Crew per rotation)
- ▶ Train Whistle* or another attention-getting device
- ▶ Bible Verse Posters* and Bible Point Posters* (optional)
- ▶ Sing & Play Express Music CD* and CD player (optional)

For Decorating:

- ▶ Weathered Wood Plastic Backdrop*
- ▶ Starry Night Plastic Backdrop*
- ▶ cardboard
- ▶ black paint
- ▶ scissors or craft knife
- ▶ sturdy tape
- ▶ battery-powered white lights (optional)

Day 1 Supplies

- ▶ Watch for God Wristbands* (1 per person, plus 1 for you)
- ▶ baskets (1 per Crew per rotation)
- ▶ Day 1 Bible Memory Buddy*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

Before Kids Steam Your Way

- ▶ Cue the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD to the Day 1 segment (length: 3:09).
- ▶ Hang the Day 1 Bible Verse Poster and Bible Point Poster.
- ▶ Spread out Crew blankets on the floor about 5 feet apart.
- ▶ Place an arrow sticky note at Philippians 4:13 in each Bible.
- ▶ Prepare a basket of Watch for God Wristbands for each Crew per rotation.
- ▶ Wear a Watch for God Wristband—you'll set a great example for kids.
- ▶ To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Express Music CD as Crews arrive and leave.



Welcome Crews

As kids arrive, welcome them to KidVid Cinema. Encourage Crews to sit on the Crew blankets in knee-to-knee Crew circles. Knee-to-knee Crew circles ensure that kids are sitting close enough together to hear each other during discussions. When everyone is seated, introduce yourself.

Say: **Welcome to KidVid Cinema! I'm so glad you're here. We're going to have an awesome week together! We'll get a chance to dive into God's amazing book, the Bible. And we'll watch videos about real kids telling their real stories about the amazing power of Jesus!**

STAY ON TRACK

Attention-getting signals let kids know to stop what they're doing and look at you. You can use the Train Whistle (available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier) or another noisemaker of your choice. The first time Crews come to your station, introduce and rehearse your attention-getting signal. Once kids are familiar with the signal, you'll be able to quickly regain their attention.



Watch for God

Say: Do you know what our room looks like? It looks like an observation car on a train! How cool! Have your assistant turn out the lights and point out the windows and the stars in the Starry Night Plastic Backdrop. Turn the lights back on.

I love looking at the stars and the night sky! They remind me of how amazing God is! That's one of the things we're discovering here at Rocky Railway VBS. We're discovering that we can observe God and what he's doing all around us. If we learn to look, we can see evidence of God's love everywhere. Your Crew Leaders and I want to give you something to help you watch for God every day!

This wristband says "Watch for God" (hold up your arm, showing your Watch for God Wristband), and it can remind you to watch for what God is doing all around you, all the time! When we see God at work, we call that a God Sighting®. Share your own God Sighting, such as someone who showed God's love to you that day or something beautiful you saw in nature.

Your Watch for God Wristband can remind you to keep your eyes open and watch for God right here in [name of your community].

You can wear this band on your wrist, on your arm, or even on your ankle—wherever you'll see it and remember to watch for God. I hope you'll wear it every day at Rocky Railway VBS... and even after VBS!

Give Guides enough wristbands for everyone in their Crews, and have them give the wristbands to their Crew Leaders. Pause as Crew Leaders distribute the wristbands. Then have kids put on their wristbands.

Say: God's love and power is all around you! Your wristband can remind you to watch for God every day!

Watch the KidVid™ Stories DVD

Say: I'm excited to discover more about Jesus' power this week! And I'm also excited to watch our KidVid videos! You know, it's pretty cool—when we watch these videos, we actually are watching for God. The kids in the videos are real kids, just like you! And Jesus' power helps them, just like Jesus' power can help you!

Today we're discovering that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.** (Trust Jesus!) In today's video, we'll meet a friend named Dominic who loves to do karate. Does everyone know what karate is?



FIELD TEST FINDING

Kids will follow your lead when you share a heartfelt true story from your own experience. Your sharing will help kids feel comfortable opening up to their Crew Leaders throughout the week.



KIDVID DAY 1



It's a sport that focuses on self-control while it strengthens your body and mind. It involves special kicks and movements that may seem hard to do. As you watch today's video, be on the lookout for hard things Dominic has to learn.



DVD
DAY
1

Turn off the lights, and play the Day 1 segment of the KidVid Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD. When the segment ends, turn on the lights.

After each of the following questions, give Crews time to talk. Then ask a few willing kids to share their thoughts with the large group.

What a cool video! Dominic sure has some hard things to do to succeed at karate.

Ask:

- ?** Dominic loves karate, even though it's hard. What's something in your life that you like to do even though doing it can be hard? Share your own example first, such as earning a degree or practicing the piano to play at church.

Now it's your turn. Crew Leaders, you can share first. Then make sure everyone in your Crew gets a chance to share.

Allow time for Crew Leaders, then kids, to share within their Crews. (Having Crew Leaders share first gives kids "think time" and helps them process the question and connect it to real life.) When you see that kids have each had a turn to share, sound your Train Whistle.

Thanks for sharing your stories! I love that we get a chance to talk here in KidVid Cinema—that we get a chance to get to know each other. And it sure sounds like we all have hard things to do.

Ask:

- ?** How did Jesus help Dominic do the hard things we saw in the video?

Jesus is always with us, and he knows about every hard thing we face.

Dominic works hard because he loves to do karate. Some parts of practicing aren't very fun, but Dominic knows that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.** (Trust Jesus!)

Sometimes we miss out on something fun because we're afraid to try it. We're afraid it's too hard or that we'll fail. And other times we may be in a situation that we don't want to face at all—a situation that's just plain hard, like when parents go through a divorce.

STAY ON TRACK

Repeat kids' answers for the whole group so everyone can hear them. Kids are often soft-spoken, especially at the start of VBS. Repeating their answers will let everyone hear their words of wisdom!



But I know a verse in the Bible that can help no matter what kind of hard thing we're facing. This verse has helped me many times in my life, and I can't wait to share it with you!

Explore the Bible Verse

Hold up your Bible. Say: **Let's dig into today's verse. And remember, later you'll get a cool Bible Memory Buddy to take home, and the verse will be printed right on it!** Hold up a Day 1 Bible Memory Buddy. Give two Bibles to each Crew, marked to today's Bible verse of Philippians 4:13. Say: **Let's listen to what the Bible says.** Have the Guide in each Crew read the verse aloud while the other kids follow along.

After kids read in their Crews, point to today's Bible Verse Poster. Say: **Philippians 4:13 says, "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."**

"Christ" is another name for "Jesus." What a great verse for today, when we're discovering that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS! (Trust Jesus!) This verse tells me that no matter what hard things I have to do or get through, I can do it because Jesus will give me his strength and power!**

You know, I remember seeing an Olympic gold-medalist diver for the United States who said something to herself before every dive. A TV person asked her what she was saying, and she said she was reciting this verse! Pretty cool!

If a gold medalist can use this verse when she has something hard to do, so can we! Think about this.

When we love to do something, it's worth it to us to get through the hard parts, isn't it? Let me ask you this:

Ask:

? **Is there something you'd like to try but you haven't done it because it seems too hard? Think about that for a minute. For me...**

Share a personal example, then instruct Crews as follows.

We're going to do something now in your Crews. I just asked you to think about something you'd like to try but you haven't because it seemed too hard. Crew Leaders, go to each person in your Crew and give five seconds to share the thing that person would like to do but hasn't because it seemed too hard. After kids have shared, look them in the eye and use their names in the verse we learned today—for example, "Jimmy, you can do everything through Christ, who gives you strength."



STAY ON TRACK

If you have a Guide who's a young reader or unable to read, give him or her another job and choose a different child to read aloud. But do make sure a child in each Crew actually reads aloud straight from the Bible.

FIELD TEST FINDING

Our amazing KidVid Cinema Leader used small arrow-style sticky notes to point directly at the day's verse, instead of just marking the page. So helpful for kids!

When every child has been affirmed, continue.

Say: Thanks for sharing. I can see this verse encouraging us in lots of different situations! But even though we all face different situations and have different hard things to do, Jesus' power never changes. Jesus is with us all the time, and his strength and power are always there for us!

I don't know about you, but I think that's an amazing promise! Let's thank Jesus right now.

Closing Prayer

Say: We're going to make this verse our closing prayer today.

Pray: Dear Lord, we believe your promises, and we believe we can do everything through Christ, who gives us strength. Thank you! In Jesus' name, amen.

Thank kids for coming to KidVid Cinema, and encourage them to come back so they can watch more real stories about real kids! When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination, and give them high-fives as they leave.



BIBLE POINT

Day 2

Jesus' power gives us hope.

Bible Story: Paul encourages others in a storm and shipwreck. (Acts 27)

Bible Verse: “So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the Lord!” (Psalm 31:24)

Consider This...

- ▶ After Paul became a follower of Jesus, he fervently shared the news of Jesus everywhere he went. In Jerusalem, Paul encountered a group of men who opposed his teachings. These men began a riot, accusing Paul of spreading false doctrine and of defiling the Temple. Guards arrested Paul and threw him in prison. The following years included trials, death threats, secret transfers to other prisons, and finally a trip to Rome where Paul could plead his case before Caesar.
- ▶ In Acts 27:9, Paul notes the sailing season in connection with Jewish observances. Sailors typically only sailed from Pentecost (May–June) through Tabernacles (after the Day of Atonement in late September or early October). Roman sailors resisted sailing in November, as it typically proved dangerous.
- ▶ The sailors battled the fierce storm for at least three days, using every trick they knew to secure the ship and survive hurricane-force winds and waves. Finally, the weary seamen lost hope of ever being saved. At this low point, Paul shares the hopeful news given by God.
- ▶ God’s message of hope, conveyed through Paul, rang true for the soldiers, the sailors, and the prisoners. God’s angel assured Paul that “none of you will lose your lives” (Acts 27:22). However, after the shipwreck, the soldiers planned to kill the prisoners so they wouldn’t escape. (Roman law mandated that a soldier who lost a prisoner had to take that prisoner’s place!) “But the commanding officer wanted to spare Paul, so he didn’t let them carry out their plan” (Acts 27:43). And, just as the angel said, not even a *prisoner* died.



Why It Matters...

In many ways, Paul was powerless in the stormy sea. He didn't have experience as a sailor. Guards held him prisoner. And, of course, he couldn't stop the crashing waves and howling winds. But Paul *did* have Jesus' power on his side!

In the same way, the kids at your VBS may feel powerless through life's storms. The world can seem turbulent, dark, and confusing. Bad news crashes over us. Fear blows relentlessly, leaving kids feeling hopeless. Yet God promises to strengthen us with *his* power! And we can trust that God's promises are true. Like Paul, we have Jesus' power on our side. Today, celebrate that truth and give kids the hope of victory and comfort during life's uncertainties.

DAY 2

BIBLE POINT: Jesus' power gives us hope.

BIBLE STORY: Paul encourages others in a storm and shipwreck. (Acts 27)

BIBLE VERSE: "So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the Lord!" (Psalm 31:24)

SING & PLAY EXPRESS

- ▶ Learn the Day 2 Bible Point and verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Ava.
- ▶ Sing Rocky Railway songs.
- ▶ Share God Sightings, and add a Track Sticker to a special poster.
- ▶ Hear how Cam is discouraged and hopeless about delivering the trainload of treats.



BIBLE ADVENTURES

Join a ship's crew, and find hope amid a windy, wavy, wild storm with prisoner Paul.



CHEW CHEW SNACKS

Bagel Tunnel



KIDVID™ CINEMA

Analiz uses her music to bring Jesus' hope to her sick grandmother and so many others!



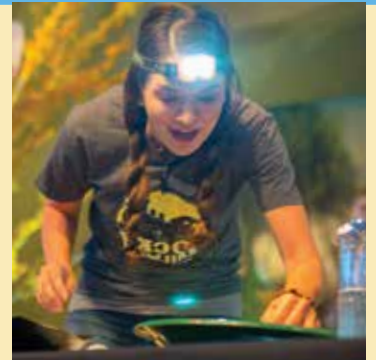
IMAGINATION STATION

Play with cool Hope 'n' Hovers to remind them that Jesus' power gives them hope.



ROCKY WRAP-UP

- ▶ Watch for familiar faces in today's Spotlight VBS.
- ▶ Search for hidden "gold," even when it seems hopeless to find it. Then celebrate when they find it!
- ▶ Receive a winged and wonderful Bible Memory Buddy.



LOCO MOTION GAMES



Walking Lightly



H.O.P.E. Ball



Tunnel Run

At **Rocky Railway VBS**, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.

DAY 2

Before Kids Steam Your Way

- ▶ Cue the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD to the Day 2 segment (length: 3:54).
- ▶ Hang the Day 2 Bible Verse Poster and Bible Point Poster.
- ▶ Spread out Crew blankets on the floor about 5 feet apart.
- ▶ Place an arrow sticky note at Psalm 31:24 in each Bible.
- ▶ Wear your Watch for God Wristband.
- ▶ To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Express Music CD as Crews arrive and leave.

Welcome Crews

As kids arrive, welcome them to KidVid Cinema. Encourage Crews to sit on the Crew blankets in knee-to-knee Crew circles. Say: **Welcome back to KidVid Cinema! I'm excited to see you, and I'm excited to watch another story about a real kid just like you!**

Watch the KidVid™ Stories DVD

Say: **Today you'll get to see a video about a girl named Analiz who plays a really surprising instrument. Ask:**

- ❓ **Does anyone in your house play an instrument? Tell about that.**
- ❓ **If you could play absolutely any instrument in the world, what would it be? Think of an answer, but don't say anything yet.**

Have everyone hop up. Say: **When I count to three, silently play that instrument—you know, like air guitar. See if your Crew Leader can guess what you're playing. Ready? 1, 2, 3!**

Give kids about a minute to play their silent instruments as Crew Leaders try to guess the instruments. Then have everyone sit.

You guys could all be rock stars! I'm impressed! There's a lot of musical talent in this room, which is perfect, since today's video is about a girl who has musical talent.

Today we're discovering that **JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE.** (*Trust Jesus!*) I'm curious to see what the story of Analiz has to do with hope. Let's watch and find out!

DAY 2 SUPPLIES

- ▶ Watch for God Wristbands* (a few extras for newcomers)
- ▶ Day 2 Bible Memory Buddy*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier





Turn off the lights, and play the Day 2 segment of the KidVid Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD.

When the segment ends, turn off the DVD and turn on the lights. Say: **Wow! I love this story! You know, music is an amazing thing. It can make us happy when we're feeling sad, it can calm us down when we're upset, and it can literally change how we think and feel.**

Jesus' power helped Analiz use her musical talent to bring hope to her grandmother. It's so amazing to me how Jesus puts people in our lives to comfort us and give us hope.

Ask:

- ① **Who in your life brings you comfort and hope? What do they do?**
- ② **What's a talent you have—something you're good at—that could bring comfort and hope to someone?**

FIELD TEST FINDING

During our field test, some children knew and sang along to the music Analiz played. So sweet.

Maybe you play an instrument like Analiz. Or maybe you're a good reader and could read a book to someone. Or maybe you're a good listener. Talk in your Crew about how you could use a talent you have to bring comfort and hope to someone. Crew Leaders, share first, then quickly go around your Crew circle and give each Crew member about five seconds to answer the question.

Encourage Crew Leaders to make sure the answers are moving quickly. If necessary, you can be the timer for Crews. When you see conversations winding down, sound your Train Whistle.

Thanks for sharing. I was listening in, and I heard so many great ways you could bring hope to others. And it's all possible because of Jesus! **JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE. (Trust Jesus!) I love that you're willing to use the talents God gave you to bring hope to others. Way to go!**

Today's Bible verse can help when we want to bring hope to someone. And it can help us when we're the ones who need hope. I'll show you what I mean.

Explore the Bible Verse

Hold up your Bible. Say: **Today's verse is a really powerful one! And remember, later you'll get a fun Bible Memory Buddy to take home. Your Buddy can help you remember this important verse!** Hold up a Day 2 Bible Memory Buddy. Give two Bibles to each Crew, marked to today's Bible verse of Psalm 31:24. Say: **Let's listen to what the Bible says.** Have the Guide in each Crew read the verse aloud while the other kids follow along.



After kids read in their Crews, point to today's Bible Verse Poster. Say: **Psalm 31:24 says, "So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the Lord." What a great verse! Jesus' power will help us be strong and courageous. But let me ask you...**

Ask:

? **What do you think it means to put your hope in the Lord?** Have kids call out answers.

To me, putting my hope in the Lord means trusting him completely. I know that whatever situation I'm in, Jesus is there with me. No matter what I'm going through, I know I can count on him to help me.

Ask:

? **When is a time you need to put your hope in the Lord—a time you need Jesus to give you strength and courage? Maybe you get scared during storms. Or maybe you're facing a bully in your neighborhood. For me...**

Share a personal example of a time you need Jesus to give you strength and courage. Then give kids plenty of time to talk. Give a 30-second warning before you sound the Train Whistle to wind up conversations.

Say: I appreciate you sharing your stories. It helps me to know that I'm not the only one who needs strength and courage from Jesus! We all need Jesus!

So I want to ask you a favor. If you or someone you love is feeling at all hopeless, please find time today to talk to your Crew Leader about it. Or hang back after KidVid and talk to me.

All the leaders here at Rocky Railway have been through rocky times of our own. And we've all learned that Jesus is our true hope. We want you to have hope in Jesus too!

I love that Jesus' power can give us strength and courage to bring hope to someone else, just like Analiz brought hope to her grandmother. And Jesus' power can help us when we're the ones who need hope. Remember, **JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE! (Trust Jesus!) Let's thank Jesus for his power and hope.**



STAY ON TRACK

If you have a Guide who's a young reader or unable to read, give him or her another job and choose a different child to read aloud. But do make sure a child in each Crew actually reads aloud straight from the Bible.

FIELD TEST FINDING

Crew Leaders offered listening ears and Jesus' love—especially after hearing kids' hearts.

Closing Prayer

Have kids hold hands in their Crews.

Pray: Dear Lord, please give us the strength and courage to bring hope to others. And thank you for letting us put our hope in you. Thank you for always loving us. Thank you for giving us hope when we need it. Please help us always put our hope in you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Thank kids for coming to KidVid Cinema, and encourage them to come back so they can watch more real stories about real kids! When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination, and give them high-fives as they leave.



BIBLE POINT

Day 3

Jesus' power helps us be bold.

Bible Story: Peter and John teach about Jesus. (Acts 3:1–4:31)

Bible Verse: “He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.”
(Isaiah 40:29)

Consider This...

- ▶ In the name of Jesus, Peter and John healed a lame man at the Temple gate. The man celebrated the miracle so loudly that a crowd gathered. Peter, making the most of this instant audience, stood up and boldly shared the good news of Jesus.
- ▶ The priests who heard Peter's message were most likely Sadducees. Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection, nor did they believe in the existence of angels or spirits. These leaders also maintained loyalty to the Roman government and sought to maintain the status quo.
- ▶ At the time, most Jews could read and write, but few—if any—received rabbinical training. Such an education would have made them skilled at lengthy theological discussions. So when Peter and John boldly preached before the Sanhedrin (a crowd of highly trained priests), the judges marveled at their ability and noted that they must have been with Jesus.
- ▶ After Peter and John's release from prison, the church gathered around them for prayer and praise. It's interesting to note that they *don't* pray for the persecution to stop but that God would give them the boldness to continue sharing the news of Jesus *in spite of* their suffering.



Why It Matters...

Like Peter and John, most kids at your VBS are ordinary and “untrained.” Speaking out about their faith can be intimidating, especially in the face of a culture that often feels “anti-Christian.” Many kids feel shy about praying before a restaurant meal, inviting a friend to church, or even mentioning Jesus in regular conversation. Other kids may feel unsure when it comes to showing Jesus' love, playing with a new friend, or reaching out to someone who's lonely. Today, give kids the chance to practice speaking about Jesus with ease and confidence. Provide opportunities for kids to daringly step out of their comfort zones. Bolster their bravery and cultivate a courageous faith, encouraging kids to rely on Jesus' power to help them be bold.

DAY 3

BIBLE POINT: Jesus' power helps us be bold.

BIBLE STORY: Peter and John teach about Jesus. (Acts 3:1-4:31)

BIBLE VERSE: "He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless." (Isaiah 40:29)

SING & PLAY EXPRESS

- ▶ Learn the Day 3 Bible Point and verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Sierra.
- ▶ Sing Rocky Railway songs.
- ▶ Share God Sightings, and add a Track Sticker to the poster.
- ▶ Encourage Cam to boldly take his train down a steep track.



BIBLE ADVENTURES

Celebrate with a healed man, then discover how Peter and John boldly shared Jesus...even if it meant a stay in jail!



CHEW CHEW SNACKS

Coal Crunch



KIDVID™ CINEMA

Lauren helps in a community food program, trusting Jesus' power to help her boldly step out, serve, and share Jesus' love.



IMAGINATION STATION

Watch as their Bold Blasters fly higher than expected, and know that Jesus' power helps them be bolder than they thought possible.

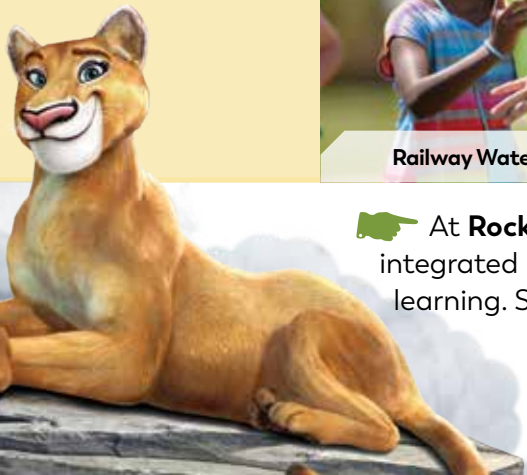


ROCKY WRAP-UP

- ▶ Who's in the spotlight today in Spotlight VBS?
- ▶ Take on a bold bridge-building challenge!
- ▶ Receive a purr-fect Bible Memory Buddy.



LOCO MOTION GAMES



Railway Waterway



Bold Bops



Alpaca My Bags

At **Rocky Railway VBS**, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.



Before Kids Steam Your Way

- ▶ Cue the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD to the Day 3 segment (length: 3:40).
- ▶ Hang the Day 3 Bible Verse Poster and Bible Point Poster.
- ▶ Spread out Crew blankets on the floor about 5 feet apart.
- ▶ Place an arrow sticky note at Isaiah 40:29 in each Bible.
- ▶ Wear your Watch for God Wristband.
- ▶ To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Express Music CD as Crews arrive and leave.

Welcome Crews

As kids arrive, welcome them to KidVid Cinema. Encourage Crews to sit on the Crew blankets in knee-to-knee Crew circles. Say: **Welcome back to KidVid Cinema! I'm really glad to see you! Today we'll watch another story about a real kid just like you!**

But before we get started, I want to know how your week is going! When I count to three, shout out your favorite part of Rocky Railway VBS so far. Ready? 1, 2, 3! Pause.

Wow! It sounds like you're having fun! So am I! I love getting to know all of you, and I love getting to meet our new friends from the videos.

Create Cheers

Say: **Before we meet today's new friend, how about we create some cheers for the rest of the week? In your Crew, come up with a quick cheer that includes your Crew number. For example, you might cheer:**

13, 13 is our name!

VBS is our game!

Or you might make up something like this:

Our Crew is number 8!

Rocky Railway is so great!

I'll give you a minute or two to create your cheer. Then you can perform it for everyone. Ready? Get started!

Allow about two minutes for Crews to create their cheers. First have all the Crews do their cheers at the same time as a whisper.

DAY 3 SUPPLIES

- ▶ Watch for God Wristbands* (a few extras for newcomers)
- ▶ Day 3 Bible Memory Buddy*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

Say: Those were some fun cheers, but they weren't very bold, were they? Let's see if we can make those cheers bolder.

Have each Crew stand one at a time, and this time have Crews *shout* their cheers. After everyone has shouted a cheer, continue.

Now those were some bold cheers! What creative Crews we have here at Rocky Railway! I'm glad that today we're discovering that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD. (Trust Jesus!) Let's watch today's video to see what being bold can look like.**

Watch the KidVid™ Stories DVD

Say: Today you'll get to meet Lauren, who trusts Jesus to help her boldly share his love. Let's see how she does it!



Turn off the lights, and play the Day 3 segment of the KidVid Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD.

When the segment ends, turn off the DVD and turn on the lights. **Say:** I really liked Lauren's story, didn't you? I thought she was really brave and bold for such a young girl. Sometimes stepping out and boldly showing Jesus' love can make us feel nervous. I think serving food in a community kitchen like Lauren does might make me a little nervous.

Ask:

? What would be some great things about serving in a community kitchen?

Meeting new people from the community who don't have enough to eat and learning new responsibilities might be a little scary. But being able to help people who are less fortunate would be great.

Lauren wanted to help, but it meant she had to be bold and brave.

I'll be honest with you. I'm kind of a quiet, shy person, so it's not easy for me to step out of my comfort zone and try new things.

Ask:

? Do you ever feel like that? Have you ever wanted to help someone, but something kept you from doing it?

Maybe you wanted to tell someone at school about Jesus, but you were too shy. Or maybe you wanted to offer to pray for someone, but you were afraid the person might make fun of you. Talk in your Crew about what might keep you from being bold and serving others.



Allow time for kids to share. Encourage Crew Leaders to make sure everyone in the Crew gets a chance to talk. When you see conversations winding down, sound your Train Whistle.

Thanks for sharing. Sometimes we may feel weak or powerless to help others. But **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD. (Trust Jesus!) Hold up your Bible. The Bible reminds us that Jesus gives us his power. There's a verse that's so perfect for today's video!**

Explore the Bible Verse

Say: Today's verse comes from Isaiah 40:29. Remember, you'll get a fun Bible Memory Buddy later to remind you of this verse. Hold up a Day 3 Bible Memory Buddy. Give two Bibles to each Crew, marked to today's Bible verse of Isaiah 40:29. **Let's listen to what the Bible says.** Have the Guide in each Crew read the verse aloud while the other kids follow along.

Jesus' power can give us boldness that we wouldn't have on our own. Just look at Lauren! Jesus' power helped her meet new people, serve them, and talk to them. And now Lauren is giving power and strength to hungry people! That's so cool!

So let's take this verse to heart today. Let's think of a really bold way you could serve others and show your faith in Jesus. Your idea might be something you can do right now, like bringing money for Operation Kid-to-Kid to help buy alpacas for families in Ecuador. Or it might be something you can work toward in the future. Maybe you'll decide to serve in a community kitchen in your own town, like Lauren. Or maybe you'll study to become a missionary doctor when you grow up.

Think of a way you could boldly serve Jesus and help others. Remember, think bold!

Give kids time to talk in their Crews. Then ask for a few reports.

Wow! What bold ideas! I can't wait to see how Jesus' power helps you be bold, right now and in the future! Let's ask for his help right now. Would you pray with me?

Closing Prayer

Pray: Dear Lord, please give us power and strength to serve and show our faith in you. Thank you for helping us boldly live out our faith. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Thank kids for coming to KidVid Cinema, and encourage them to come back so they can watch more real stories about real kids! When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination, and give them high-fives as they leave.



STAY ON TRACK

If you have a Guide who's a young reader or unable to read, give him or her another job and choose a different child to read aloud. But do make sure a child in each Crew actually reads aloud straight from the Bible.

BIBLE POINT

Day 4

Jesus' power lets us live forever.

Bible Story: Jesus' death and resurrection. (Matthew 26:17–28:10)

Bible Verse: “The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you.”
(Romans 8:11)

Consider This...

- ▶ The Passover meal shared between Jesus and his disciples commemorated God's miraculous provision for his people centuries earlier. In this traditional celebration, Jews remembered the sacrificial lamb, whose blood (marked on their doorposts in Egypt) saved them. How appropriate that Jesus—*our* sacrificial lamb—completes his work on earth with such a symbolic event.
- ▶ In Jesus' culture—and in some Middle Eastern cultures today—eating together equaled friendship. Scholars equate sharing a meal with trust and intimacy, adding weight to Jesus' comment to Judas: “One of you who has just eaten from this bowl with me will betray me” (Matthew 26:23).
- ▶ The Roman government had deprived the Sanhedrin of the right to carry out most capital punishments. Therefore, even though the chief priests and elders found Jesus guilty, they had to turn him over to Pilate for execution.
- ▶ At Jesus' death, Matthew 27:51 records that “the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.” There were actually two curtains in the Temple. One divided the Most Holy Place from the Holy Place; the other separated the Holy Place from the court. Matthew doesn't specify *which* curtain tore, but a rending of either one would symbolize changes between God, ritual law, and humanity.
- ▶ Even Jesus' followers found his resurrection hard to believe! Matthew 28:17 tells us, “but some of them doubted!” Yet Jesus eased their doubts by appearing to them repeatedly over 40 days (Acts 1:3; 10:40-41).



Why It Matters...

Death is an uncomfortable—and even scary—topic for children *and* adults. Even though we don't like to talk or think about it, it's likely that most kids will experience the death of a pet, friend, or relative. That's why it's critical that we help children understand the hope we have through Jesus. Even though death may mean the end of *this* life, kids can celebrate the astonishing promise of eternal life with Jesus. Use today's lesson to help children understand their need for Jesus. Guide them as they discover that through Jesus' miraculous power, we can live forever in heaven.

DAY 4

BIBLE POINT: Jesus' power lets us live forever.

BIBLE STORY: Jesus' death and resurrection.
(Matthew 26:17-28:10)

BIBLE VERSE: "The Spirit of God, who raised
Jesus from the dead, lives in you."
(Romans 8:11)

SING & PLAY EXPRESS

- ▶ Learn the Day 4 Bible Point and verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Finn.
- ▶ Sing Rocky Railway songs.
- ▶ Tell about God Sightings, and add another Track Sticker to the poster.
- ▶ Learn how Cam's train ran out of fuel, and discover that our lives can be "powered up" forever because of Jesus.



BIBLE ADVENTURES

Use Velcro and hearts to explore God's plan for a forever friendship with us, then experience Jesus' sacrificial, loving forgiveness.



CHEW CHEW SNACKS

Crunchy Crossbuck



KIDVID™ CINEMA

Isaac was sad when his brother, Joel, died. Today Isaac finds Jesus' strength through dance, and he dances to celebrate Joel's life forever in heaven!



IMAGINATION STATION

Decorate and play with Perpetual Papers, and be reassured that Jesus' love for them will never end.



ROCKY WRAP-UP

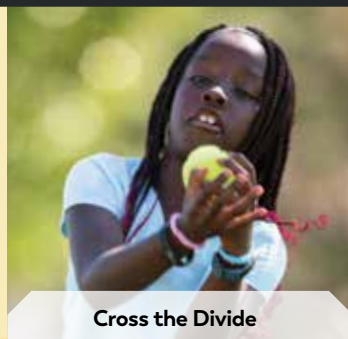
- ▶ Enjoy today's Spotlight VBS.
- ▶ Participate in a moving drama, as Jesus makes a way for us to live with him forever.
- ▶ Receive a finn-tastic Bible Memory Buddy.



LOCO MOTION GAMES



Mumble Hum Message



Cross the Divide



Celebrate the Victory

▶ At Rocky Railway VBS, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.



DAY 4

DAY 4 SUPPLIES

- ▶ Watch for God Wristbands* (a few extras for newcomers)
- ▶ Day 4 Bible Memory Buddy*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

Before Kids Steam Your Way

- ▶ Cue the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD to the Day 4 segment (length: 4:18).
- ▶ Hang the Day 4 Bible Verse Poster and Bible Point Poster.
- ▶ Spread out Crew blankets on the floor about 5 feet apart.
- ▶ Place an arrow sticky note at Romans 8:11 in each Bible.
- ▶ Wear a Watch for God Wristband.
- ▶ To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Express Music CD as Crews arrive and leave.

Welcome Crews

As kids arrive, welcome them to KidVid Cinema. Encourage Crews to sit on the Crew blankets in knee-to-knee Crew circles. Say: **Welcome! I'm so glad to see you here at KidVid Cinema! Today we'll watch a special story about another real kid just like you! I want to tell you upfront that it's a story with some sadness in it. But it's also a story of incredible hope.**

First let's review what we're discovering today about Jesus' power. JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER. (Trust Jesus!)

Explore the Bible Verse

Say: **Today's verse comes from Romans 8:11. You'll find the verse written on your Bible Memory Buddy today, so you'll always be able to remember it.** Hold up today's Bible Memory Buddy for kids to see. Then give two Bibles to each Crew, marked to today's Bible verse of Romans 8:11. Say: **Let's listen to what the Bible says.** Have someone in each Crew read the verse aloud while the other kids follow along.

All week at Rocky Railway, we've been learning about Jesus' power. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you! That's incredible news! That means you can live knowing that when you believe in Jesus, you can live with him forever in heaven. Forever!



Watch the KidVid™ Stories DVD

Say: **Today you'll meet a boy named Isaac, who had a sad thing happen in his family. Isaac's brother, Joel, died from a disease called cancer. That doesn't happen very often, especially to kids—it's not something you need to be afraid of or worry about.**

Joel was a friend of Jesus. Isaac and his family are glad to know that now Joel's in a wonderful place called heaven, to live forever with Jesus!

Let's watch and see how Isaac is excited to see his brother in heaven someday.



Turn off the lights, and play the Day 4 segment of the KidVid Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD.

When the segment ends, turn off the DVD and turn on the lights.

Thanks for watching this video with me today. I think it's normal to feel a little sad after watching a video about a boy who died. But there's also a lot of hope in this story. Joel loved Jesus, and he's in heaven with Jesus right now! Joel's not sick anymore, and he doesn't have to deal with treatments for his cancer.

Ask:

? Do you know anyone who has died? Or has anyone in your family known someone who died?

In my life...

Share about someone you know who has died. Then let kids have plenty of time to talk in their Crews. Ask Crew Leaders to share first. Encourage Crew Leaders to make sure everyone in the Crew gets a chance to talk. When you see conversations winding down, sound your Train Whistle.

Thank you for sharing your stories. I love how we can be open with each other here at KidVid Cinema. It's sad when someone we love or know dies. But the good news—the wonderful news—is that death isn't the end! JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER. (Trust Jesus!)

Let me ask you...

Ask:

? What does the word *forever* mean to you? Let kids call out answers.



FIELD TEST FINDING

The room softened to a near whisper—a sacred, quiet sharing time as kids told their heartfelt stories.

Because of Jesus, Isaac's brother, Joel, is living with Jesus right now! And we can do the same someday! It's okay to be sad when someone dies, but it's so great that the sadness won't last forever. But life with Jesus *will* last forever!

Ask:

? What do you think heaven will be like? Talk in your Crew about that.

Give kids time to talk, then ask for a few reports.

I love what Isaac said about heaven: that he'll be able to give his brother a "grand old hug." And that we'll all know Jesus and praise and worship him together. That sounds awesome to me!

I'm so, so thankful to know that JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER! (Trust Jesus!) Let's close by thanking Jesus right now with a prayer and a "grand old Crew hug."

Have Crews each stand in a circle and put their arms on the shoulders of the people next to them.

FIELD TEST FINDING

We heard one child say with positive joy, "I'll see Joel in heaven!"

Closing Prayer

Pray: **Dear Lord, thank you so much for your love and power! Thank you for making it possible for us to live with you forever. Thank you that we'll get to hug our loved ones in heaven and praise you together. We love you so much! In Jesus' name, amen.**

Say: **Okay, now give your Crew a grand old hug!**

Thank kids for coming to KidVid Cinema, and encourage them to come back so they can watch more real stories about real kids! When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination, and give them high-fives as they leave.



BIBLE POINT

Day 5

Jesus' power helps us be good friends.

Bible Story: The church is united. (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35)

Bible Verse: “Love each other in the same way I have loved you.”
(John 15:12)

Consider This...

- ▶ The book of Psalms mentions prayer more than 60 times—more than any other section of Scripture. The book of Acts comes in second, recording the importance and occurrence of prayer about 34 times. Clearly, the early church relied on prayer for hope, communion, healing, provision, and unity. Communication with God became a critical part of their community.
- ▶ Scholars believe that the early church probably met in Solomon's Colonnade, a porch along the inner side of the Temple wall.
- ▶ Many of the first Christians came from Jewish backgrounds, meaning they probably already followed God's command to give to the poor (Deuteronomy 15:4-8). Uniting and caring for others may have been a natural connection with their faith family.
- ▶ Acts 4:33 records the great power with which the apostles testified about Jesus' resurrection. It's likely this refers to a boldness given by the Holy Spirit but might also indicate that their life of unity and joy became a powerful witness to those around them.
- ▶ While Acts shines a light on the rapid growth of the early church (Acts 2:47; 4:4; 6:7; 9:31; 21:20), in a city of around 200,000 people, they still represented a minority of the population. This small band of believers needed to stick together and support each other!



Why It Matters...

Are the kids at your VBS like or unlike the early Christians? Why? Do they have a heart to serve, share, and bear one another's heartaches? What would happen if kids today had the same spirit of that first faith family? What would the church of tomorrow look like? You have the opportunity to send kids off with a passion for sharing Jesus' love in powerful and practical ways! With Jesus' power, we can transform tomorrow's faith community into an environment of belonging, sharing, caring, and community. Today, help kids discover how Jesus' power can help them be faithful friends who truly care for each other.

DAY 5

BIBLE POINT: Jesus' power helps us be good friends.

BIBLE STORY: The church is united.
(Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35)

BIBLE VERSE: "Love each other in the same way I have loved you." (John 15:12)

SING & PLAY EXPRESS

- ▶ Learn the Day 5 Bible Point and verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Lawrence Elk.
- ▶ Sing Rocky Railway songs.
- ▶ Discuss God Sightings, and add a Track Sticker to the poster.
- ▶ Hear Cam's troubles with a new crew member.



BIBLE ADVENTURES

Search for "review clues," have a party to celebrate our good friends, and act out ways the first Christians showed friendship and unity.



CHEW CHEW SNACKS

Good Friend Fruit Pizza



KIDVID™ CINEMA

Renee and Alina became friends when they helped in a cool church ministry. They love spending time together and growing in friendship with Jesus and each other!



IMAGINATION STATION

Make Power Bands with three types of beads, and wear them to remember that Jesus' power helps them be good friends.



ROCKY WRAP-UP

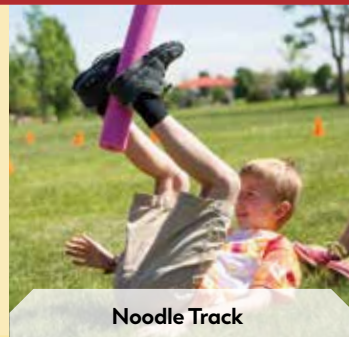
- ▶ Watch the adorable preschoolers in today's Spotlight VBS.
- ▶ See a jaw-dropping sciencey celebration of Jesus' power.
- ▶ Add the final Bible Memory Buddy to their herd.



LOCO MOTION GAMES



Train of Thought



Noodle Track



Boxcar Bolt

▶ At **Rocky Railway VBS**, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.



Before Kids Steam Your Way

- ▶ Cue the KidVid™ Stories: Trust Jesus' Power DVD to the Day 5 segment (length: 3:29).
- ▶ Hang the Day 5 Bible Verse Poster and Bible Point Poster.
- ▶ Spread out Crew blankets on the floor about 5 feet apart.
- ▶ Place a sticky note at John 15:12 in each Bible.
- ▶ Wear your Watch for God Wristband.
- ▶ To set an upbeat, welcoming environment, play the Sing & Play Express Music CD as Crews arrive and leave.

Say: Welcome back to KidVid Cinema! I can't believe it's our last day together. I've had so much fun getting to know you and listening to your stories! And I've had fun getting to meet all our new friends in the KidVid videos each day.

Now we're ready to meet one more friend and watch our last KidVid Cinema video. Are you ready? I can't wait to see who we'll meet today!

Watch the KidVid™ Stories DVD



Dim the lights, and show the Day 5 segment of the KidVid Stories DVD. When the segment ends, turn off the DVD and turn on the lights.

Say: What a good story about good friends!

Ask:

- ❓ What are some things Renee and Alina like to do together?
- ❓ What's your favorite thing to do with your friends?
- ❓ In your life, what do you look for in a good friend? For me, I'd like a good friend to be [add a quality you'd want in a friend]. What about you? Tell your Crew what you look for in a friend.

Give kids time to talk, then ask for a few reports.

Thanks for those ideas! But something I've found in my life is that friendships don't always work out as well as the relationship that Renee and Alina have. Sometimes you think someone is a friend, but then something happens to change your mind. Maybe the person you thought was a friend talked behind your back or made fun of you. Or maybe you hurt a friend's feelings and the friendship ended.

DAY 5 SUPPLIES

- ▶ Watch for God Wristbands* (a few extras for newcomers)
- ▶ Day 5 Bible Memory Buddy*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier



Ask:

- ?** When is a time a friendship didn't work out in your life? Without naming names, tell your Crew what happened. Crew Leaders, you go first.

Allow time for kids to share. Encourage Crew Leaders to make sure everyone in the Crew gets a chance to talk. When you see conversations winding down, sound your Train Whistle.

Say: Thanks for sharing your stories. Good friendships are special and important in our lives. But that doesn't mean friendships are always easy. That's why I'm so grateful that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS.** (Trust Jesus!)

Hold up your Bible. You know, the Bible has some great advice about friendship. Let's see what the Bible says.

Explore the Bible Verse

Say: Today's verse comes from John 15:12. Remember, today's Bible Memory Buddy can help you remember this verse at home later! Hold up today's Bible Memory Buddy for kids to see. Then give two Bibles to each Crew, marked to today's Bible verse of John 15:12. **Let's listen to what the Bible says.** Have someone in each Crew read the verse aloud while the other kids follow along.

All week at Rocky Railway, we've been learning about Jesus' power. And today we're discovering that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS.** (Trust Jesus!) I love that in this Bible verse, Jesus gives us advice about exactly how to be good friends!

Jesus tells us to love each other in the same way that he has loved us. Let's think back to what we've learned this week and see what we can discover about loving each other like Jesus loves us.

On the first day of KidVid Cinema, we met Dominic. Dominic loves karate even though it's hard sometimes. Watching Dominic, we learned that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS.** (Trust Jesus!)

Helping us do hard things is one way Jesus shows he loves us. So I guess that means we could be a good friend by helping someone do a hard thing.

Ask:

- ?** What's a hard thing you could help a friend with?



Maybe your friend is upset because his parents are getting a divorce. You could be a good listener and encourage your friend to trust Jesus. What are other hard things you could help a friend with?

Ask for a few reports.

After Dominic, we met Analiz, who used her music to give her sick grandmother hope. From Analiz we learned that **JESUS' POWER GIVES US HOPE.** (*Trust Jesus!*) Jesus shows his love for us by giving us hope!

If we want to love others like Jesus loves us, we could give someone hope.

Ask:

? How could you give a friend hope? What could you do?

Maybe you could make a card for a friend who's sick, telling that friend that you're praying for her. What are other ways you could give a friend hope?

Ask for a few reports.

Thanks for sharing your ideas! After Analiz, we met Lauren, who volunteers at her local community food center. She helped us remember that **JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE BOLD.** (*Trust Jesus!*)

Jesus shows his love for us by helping us be bold!

Ask:

? How could you help a friend be bold?

In our video today, we heard how Renee and Alina helped each other not be nervous before a performance. So that's one way to help a friend be bold. What are other ways you could help a friend be bold?

Ask for a few reports.

Thanks for sharing. Yesterday we met Isaac, who knows he'll see his brother, Joel, in heaven someday. Isaac's story can help us remember that **JESUS' POWER LETS US LIVE FOREVER.** (*Trust Jesus!*)

Everyone needs to know about Jesus and his incredible love for us. Telling a friend about Jesus is maybe the best bold thing you could ever do for that person!

Ask:

? Who could you tell about Jesus this week, and what could you say? Tell your Crew.

Allow time for kids to talk, then ask for a few reports.



Say: I love hearing all your creative ideas about how to be a good friend! Jesus is the best friend of all time! If we listen to him and follow his example, we can be good friends to others. Let's talk to Jesus before we close. Today we'll do our final prayer time in a special way.

Closing Prayer

Have everyone stand up and make one big single-file line, like a train. Have everyone put their hands on the shoulders of the person in front of them.

Say: I'm so glad for the new friends we've made here at Rocky Railway. I'll close our time together.

Pray: Dear Lord, your power and your love are amazing! Thank you for being the best friend we'll ever have, and thank you for showing us how to be good friends. Please be with each person here at Rocky Railway as we go out into the world to live for you. Thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Have the leader of the line march toward the exit and everyone follow like train cars. Encourage kids to make train sounds. Thank kids for coming to KidVid Cinema, and encourage them to come back next summer so they can watch more real stories about real kids! When you hear the Director's signal, dismiss kids to their next destination, and give them high-fives as they leave.





DAY 1



Dominic relies on Jesus' power to take a tough karate test... after failing many times.

DAY 2



Analiz uses her music to bring Jesus' hope to her sick grandmother and so many others!

DAY 3



Lauren helps in a community food program, trusting Jesus' power to help her boldly step out, serve, and share Jesus' love.

DAY 4



Isaac was sad when his brother, Joel, died. Today Isaac finds Jesus' strength through dance, and he dances to celebrate Joel's life forever in heaven!

DAY 5



Renee and Alina became friends when they helped in a cool church ministry. They love spending time together and growing in friendship with Jesus and each other!

Questions:

 group.com/RockyRailway  800-447-1070

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