

# Welcome

Welcome to the One Way Café! We are so glad you have chosen to invest your time and energy to reach the kids in your church and community with the amazing message of God's love. It is our hope and prayer that the materials you have in hand, coupled with your efforts and God's grace, will make a lasting impact on the lives of the kids you minister to this summer.

As you dig into everything you'll find in these pages and on the resource CD included, you'll discover that the One Way Café is an easy-to-implement VBS program that is also easy on your budget. The program has been built on a core ministry philosophy that demands simplicity and fosters relationship building.

Over the years we have found that kids don't really need adults to put on a big production for them to learn the truths of God's Word and have fun. In fact, we have found that the most effective ministry to kids takes place when strong relationships are formed with adult leaders and mentors. So the One Way Café seeks to help kids develop relationships with one another, caring adults and, most importantly, Christ.

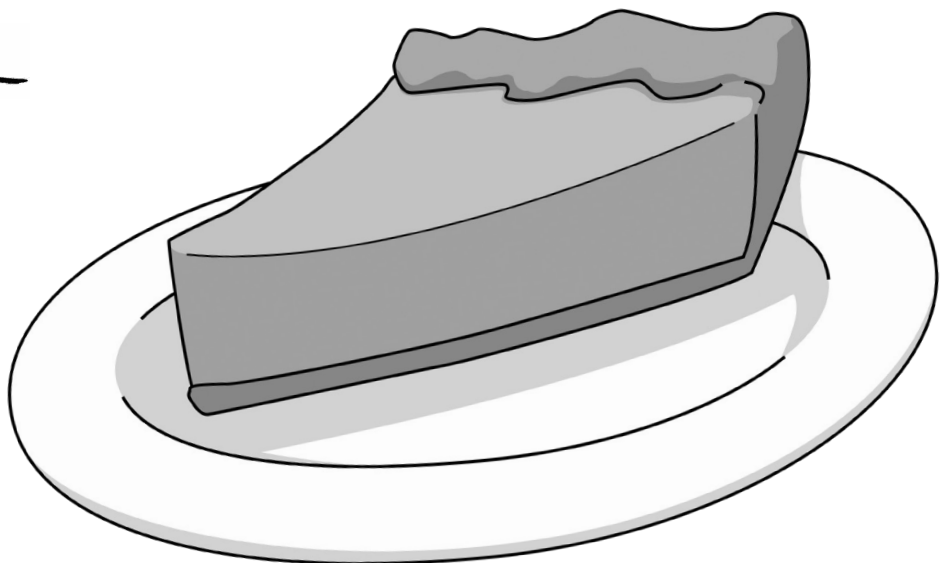
We trust that our One Way Café VBS will allow you the opportunity and time to build relationships while teaching the truths of God's Word. And we hope you will have fun in the process! As you dig into the material, feel free to add your own creativity and special touch. Make the One Way Café your very own and enjoy watching what God will do as you minister to the kids He brings your way.

I look forward to hearing from you about all that God accomplishes through your efforts. May His blessings be yours in abundance!

In Him,



Brian Ondracek  
President/CEO  
Pioneer Clubs



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## What You'll Find on the Resource CD

### DIRECTOR'S RESOURCES

Age Characteristics  
Director's Planning Calendar  
Registration Form  
Small Group Lists  
Supply Request Form  
Volunteer Signup Sheet  
Recruiting Bulletin Insert  
Job Descriptions  
Promotional Calendar

### PROGRAM MATERIALS

Bible Memory Cards  
(3 translations)  
Cookbook Crafts Leader Resources  
Take It To Go Papers

- Elementary
- Preschool

Family Feast Sheets

- Elementary
- Preschool

Sheet Music for VBS Songs  
One Way Café  
PowerPoint Template  
Music Lyrics PowerPoint

### PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Artwork

- Banner
- Postcard
- Poster
- Bulletin Insert

Invitations

- Elementary
- Preschool

Logos  
Parent Letter  
Promotional Video Clip



## DAY 1: TEMPTATION AND SIN

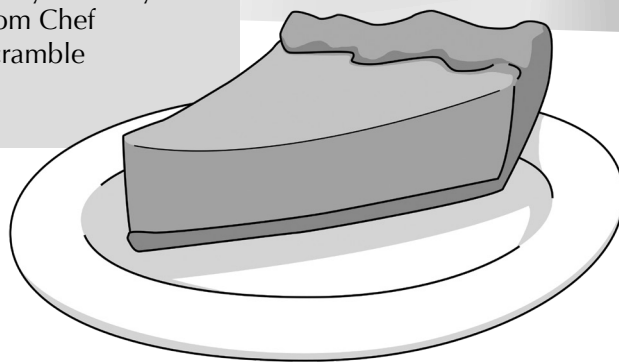
# Kitchen Kickoff

### Supplies:

- copy of skit and costume for Chef Scoop (chef's hat, white chef's coat, black or checkered pants)
- copy of skit and costume for Scramble (white apron, paper hat, colorful mismatched clothes)
- table
- several kitchen supplies (frying pan, spatula, mixing bowl, whisk, cutting board, knife)
- tabletop bell
- mango (or several, enough for each kid to have a taste)
- sharp knife (adult use only)
- sturdy drinking glass
- toothpicks (1 per kid)
- platter
- Bible
- small garbage bag
- 1 helper to collect garbage
- stuffed or rubber snake
- for each kid: Day 1 Family Feast sheet from Chef Scoop and Scramble folder on CD

### Do Ahead:

- Read materials, gather supplies, recruit helpers.
- Arrange to play music.
- Make copies of skit for Scoop and Scramble.
- Put all supplies onstage.
- Practice the mango peeling technique.
- Print Day 1 Family Feast sheets.



### Welcome:

As kids come in, Chef Scoop stands behind the table, using kitchen supplies to mime cooking. Chef Scoop is friendly and smiling but focused on cooking. Meanwhile, Scramble welcomes everyone, introduces self, and acts silly.

**CHEF SCOOP:** Rings bell and continues cooking. **SCRAMBLE** continues socializing. Rings bell again, looking around. **SCRAMBLE** continues to ignore the bell. Rings bell again, staring impatiently at **SCRAMBLE**. Scramble! Scramble! It's time to get started!

**SCRAMBLE:** Surprised. Well, why didn't you just ring the Order Up bell to get my attention?

**CHEF SCOOP:** Kindly, but through gritted teeth. I did ring the bell.

**SCRAMBLE:** Then c'mon! We'd better get started! Hi, everyone! Waving and gesturing grandly. I'm Scramble and this here is Chef Scoop.

**CHEF SCOOP:** As you can see, I'm the head chef here at the One Way Café and Scramble is my helper. We're different in a lot of ways, but there's at least one thing we have in common . . .

**TOGETHER:** We love food!

**SCRAMBLE:** Miming shoveling food into mouth. We love eating it!

**CHEF SCOOP:** We love cooking it.

**SCRAMBLE:** Rubbing tummy. We love eating it!

**CHEF SCOOP:** We love growing it.

**SCRAMBLE:** Puffing up cheeks. We love eating it!

**CHEF SCOOP:** We love sharing it.

**SCRAMBLE:** *Rolling to the ground as if completely stuffed. We love eating it!*

**CHEF SCOOP:** Yes, food is fun to eat, but it's also vital to life. All living things need food to survive. Food brings people together. And food is involved in many favorite Bible stories.

**SCRAMBLE:** *Bolts up to seated position. Did you say stories? I love stories!*

**CHEF SCOOP:** *To audience. Does anyone else like stories? (Pause) What about stories from the Bible?*

**SCRAMBLE:** *Gesturing energetically. Ooh. And snacks! Ask them about the snacks!*

**CHEF SCOOP:** *Ignoring SCRAMBLE. Well, we've got lots of stories coming up this week. And what about games? Does anyone like to play games?*

**SCRAMBLE:** *Gesturing more wildly. The snacks! Don't forget about the snacks!*

**CHEF SCOOP:** We've also planned some crafts. Do any of you like to do crafts?

**SCRAMBLE:** *Gesturing frantically. SN-A-CK-S!!!!*

**CHEF SCOOP:** Oh yes, and snacks. We can't have a One Way Café without sharing some delicious snacks with our new friends. But first, a little dinner music!

## *Music and Singing:*

Teach the week's theme song, "Taste and See." Tell kids that today they'll be learning about a perfect garden God created—and the mouth-watering fruit that grew there! Teach the Day 1 song - "Close to You."

## RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Teaching songs is simple with a CD. Have the songs playing as background music during registration, crafts, and snacks, and kids will start becoming familiar with them. When you're ready to teach, play a song through, asking kids to just listen. Then play it through again, letting them join in as they can. Play it a third time, or simply come back to it at the next Café Cleanup. Providing kids with music CDs can help them learn the songs even quicker.

## *Introduction of Bible Theme:*

Chef Scoop and Scramble reenter.

**CHEF SCOOP:** *To audience, holding up mango. Have any of you ever tried a mango?*

**SCRAMBLE:** *Oooh! I love to mango! Pantomimes dancing, humming to self with eyes closed.*

**CHEF SCOOP:** Not tango! Mango! It's a fruit and it's really quite delicious. You just have to know how to peel it. *Demonstrate method of peeling a mango by cutting it in half along the pit and then sliding each half along the rim of a glass so the fruit falls inside and the peel falls outside. Continue peeling as many mangoes as needed so each kid can try a bite. Meanwhile, SCRAMBLE looks on longingly, licking lips and rubbing tummy.*

**SCRAMBLE:** I can't take it any longer! I must have some of that mango!

**CHEF SCOOP:** *Continuing to peel mangoes as needed. Reserve peels in bowl for later. But Scramble, this is for the kids. No touching!*

**SCRAMBLE:** I just can't help myself! I have to try it!

**CHEF SCOOP:** You're beginning to sound just like a character in today's story. Someone who was also tempted by a delicious fruit. Kids, let's all tell Scramble not to touch your fruit. *Model "no-no" gesture by brushing one index finger along the other. Kids imitate.* Now, you chop this fruit while I tell the story. And remember, no eating the fruit! Repeat "no-no" gesture while kids follow.

*SCRAMBLE hangs head sadly but gets to work cubing the mango and putting a toothpick into each piece.*

### *Bible Story:*

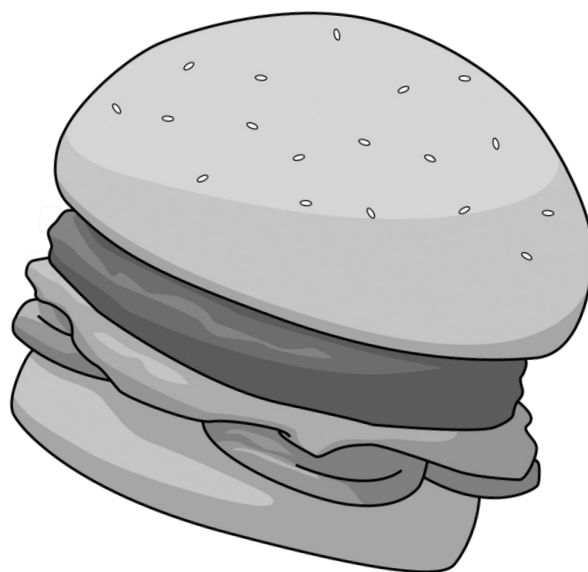
**CHEF SCOOP:** *Holding up Bible.* This book is the Bible. It is the Word of God and one of its first stories tells us about how God created the earth and people.

**SCRAMBLE:** *While preparing mango pieces on platter.* Ooh, good! Here comes the story!

**CHEF SCOOP:** He put the first man and woman in a beautiful garden. *Read aloud Genesis 2:7–9.* Doesn't that sound wonderful? Wouldn't you like to try some of the delicious fruit?

**SCRAMBLE:** I want some fruit!

**CHEF SCOOP:** Kids, what do you tell Scramble? *Model "no-no" gesture.* To **SCRAMBLE**, Now get busy serving up that mango! **SCRAMBLE** serves mango pieces to kids while **CHEF SCOOP** continues. That last tree and its fruit were very special and God had a special rule about it. *Read Genesis 2:15–17.*



**SCRAMBLE:** I know what that's like! *Muttering under his/her breath.* Don't eat the fruit, Scramble. The fruit is for the kids, Scramble. No, no, Scramble.

*When SCRAMBLE finishes serving the mango pieces, helper collects toothpicks in small garbage bag without interrupting the flow of the story.*

**CHEF SCOOP:** Getting back to the story . . . what did God tell Adam about the fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil? *Model "no-no" gesture.* Now the serpent . . . looking around for **SCRAMBLE**. I said, the serpent.

**SCRAMBLE:** *Reluctantly.* Aw, I don't like being the bad guy. *Holds up snake.*

**CHEF SCOOP:** *Read Genesis 3:1–6.* **SCRAMBLE** pantomimes with snake. Adam and Eve were tempted by the fruit and so they disobeyed God's command. That was the first sin, but it wasn't the last. All people sin by disobeying God. No matter how hard we try, we can never be as perfect as we must be to have a relationship with God.

**SCRAMBLE:** Oh, no!

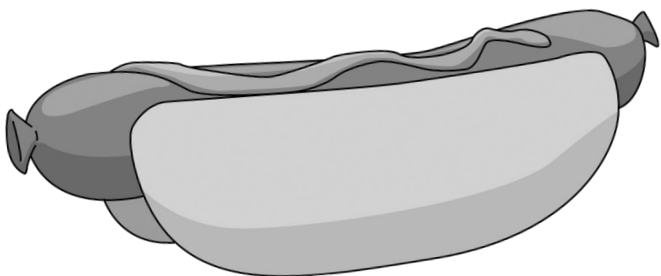
**CHEF SCOOP:** But don't worry! God still loves every one of us, no matter what! He made a wonderful promise way back in the Garden of Eden. *Read Genesis 3:15, directed toward the snake. SCRAMBLE drops the snake.* That promise means that God made a way to pay the price for our sins. This week we are going to learn how we can still be close to God and enjoy friendship with Him, even though we sin.

**SCRAMBLE:** Oh, yeah! *Lead kids in clapping and cheering for God.*

**CHEF SCOOP:** *Motion audience to quiet down.* That is exciting news, because we're all tempted at times to sin and we all disobey God at times. But we can know that He still loves us and wants to be close to us. You'll learn more about that in your small groups.

## Mission Focus

Introduce the missions focus, Feed My Starving Children (see page 21). Play a Feed My Starving Children video from YouTube so that kids see the need and the ministry they will be supporting during the week. Also use the Mission Memo to help inform children of the needs of others who are less fortunate. Challenge the children to give this week and set a goal for them to reach. Show them the visual you have chosen to use to track their giving.



## MISSION MEMO

Tell kids that in poor countries, many kids go to bed hungry every night. When they are hungry, they miss school, can't do their usual activities and sometimes even die from hunger-related causes. So your VBS kids are not only helping kids have nutritious meals, but they're helping them get a good education so they can have a better life, and they're literally saving lives!

## Bible Memory:

**CHEF SCOOP:** A great way to remember today's lesson and God's promise is to memorize a verse from the Bible.

**SCRAMBLE:** *Looks worried.* Rememo . . . Rememberize . . . Memberize . . . Uh, I'm not sure I can do that!

**CHEF SCOOP:** Don't worry! I'll help you every step of the way and by the end of Vacation Bible School we'll all have 5 Bible verses memorized!

**SCRAMBLE:** *Hesitantly.* Okay, that doesn't sound too hard. As long as you all will help me out! *Encourages kids to respond.*

**CHEF SCOOP:** I'll say a few words. Then you echo back what I said. *Starts 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins..." Points to SCRAMBLE and kids; they repeat. Continues through verse, and then says reference; kids repeat. CHEF SCOOP says entire verse and reference at once; SCRAMBLE and kids repeat.*

## Wrap Up:

Pray. Play "Taste and See" theme song on CD while kids head off to small groups.

# Café Cleanup

## Welcome:

Chef Scoop and Scramble reenter.

**CHEF SCOOP:** Has everyone been having fun?

*SCRAMBLE nods excitedly, encourages everyone to cheer, clap, and so on.*

**SCRAMBLE:** Calling on a few different kids, What did you do today at the games station? What did you make for today's craft? Okay, enough of all that stuff, tell me about your snack! Takes responses.

**CHEF SCOOP:** That sounds like a fun day at the One Way Café! Let's celebrate with some singing!

## Music and Singing:

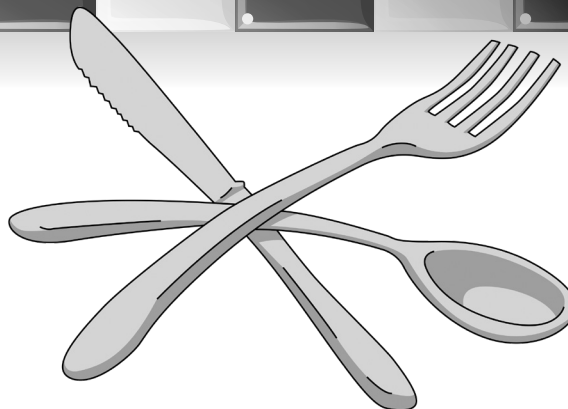
Review the week's "Taste and See" theme song and the "Close to You" song.

## Bible Story Review:

**CHEF SCOOP:** Who can tell me something important that they learned today? *SCRAMBLE finds several kids who want to share. CHEF SCOOP prompts kids as needed to bring out important ideas.* (God created a perfect garden in which to put man, man had many fruit trees to choose from, God commanded not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, the serpent tricked Eve, Eve and Adam ate the fruit God told them not to, they had to leave the garden, God loves us no matter what and promised a way to pay the price for all of our sin.)

## Bible Memory Review:

**CHEF SCOOP:** You kids have sure learned a lot. Did you learn the Bible memory verse, too?



**SCRAMBLE:** Hems and haws, shuffles feet, embarrassed. I don't think I know it.

**CHEF SCOOP:** Maybe the kids can help you. Leads kids in saying verse together.

## Wrap Up:

**CHEF SCOOP:** I think that's it for today! Time to clean up the One Way Café.

**SCRAMBLE:** Looking eagerly over the table. Are you sure that's it? There's nothing left?

**CHEF SCOOP:** Pretty sure.

**SCRAMBLE:** Licking lips. I mean, isn't there something you want to give me? Rubbing hands together. Aren't you going to let me have it?

**CHEF SCOOP:** Holds up bowl of mango peels and shows to the audience. What do you think, kids? Should I let Scramble have it? Encourage cheers. *SCRAMBLE nods enthusiastically.* Okay, Scramble. Open your mouth and close your eyes! You're about to get a big surprise! *SCRAMBLE opens mouth and closes eyes, expecting a yummy treat. CHEF SCOOP dumps the mango peels over him/her. Both laugh good-naturedly.* While we clean up this mess, you kids tune in for some final announcements.

## Closing:

Give announcements. Hand out Family Feast sheets. End with prayer.



## DAY 3: THE LAST SUPPER

# *Small Group Time (Grades 3–4)*

### *Goals:*

Kids will:

- form relationships with leader and one another.
- know that Jesus died and rose again to save us from sin.
- have an opportunity to accept Jesus as personal Savior.

### *Supplies:*

- empty box wrapped as a present
- Bible for each kid
- grape juice prepared during Kitchen Kickoff
- paper cups (1 per kid)
- crackers
- Day 3 Take It to Go papers (from Small Group Leader folder on CD)
- pencils
- glue sticks
- scissors
- lengths of thin yarn (6 feet per kid)

### *Do Ahead:*

- Collect supplies, read lesson materials.
- Print Day 3 Take It to Go papers for each kid.



### *Get-To-Know-You Time:*

Today, we'll share our birth date and a birthday wish. When someone passes this present to you, tell us your birthday and what you would wish for if you could have any wish. State your birthday and a wish, then pass the present to each kid in turn to do the same. **Let's sing the birthday song, too.** Instead of a person's name, we'll just say "Happy birthday to everyone." Do so.

### *Thinking about God's Word:*

A birthday is a special celebration. It's a way to remember and honor someone for the day they came into the world.

- **What are some birthday traditions?** (Singing, eating cake, blowing out a candle, and giving presents.)

In the church, we have another special celebration. It helps us remember how Jesus gave His life to save us from our sins. We honor God with a symbolic meal that helps us remember the last meal Jesus had with His disciples. In the Bible, it is called the Last Supper. In church, we call the celebration Communion.

- **Have any of you ever seen Communion celebrated in church? What do you know about it?**

Open Bible to Matthew 26. Explain that Jesus and His disciples had gathered together for a holiday called Passover. Read or have kids read verses 26–30.

- **How did Jesus and His disciples celebrate the Passover holiday?** (They ate bread, drank wine, and sang a hymn.)

The bread and the wine weren't just regular foods for the people to eat. They were important symbols. The bread represented Jesus' body. In church, we use crackers like this to remind us of Jesus' body. Pass out crackers to share while you read. Let's look at a couple of Bible verses that tell us about Jesus sacrificing His body for us. Read or have kids read John 2:18–22 and Luke 23:32–46.

It was a very sad time, but don't worry! We know how the story ends. It was important for Jesus to die for us to save us from our sins. We remember Jesus' saving blood with the symbol of grape juice. To help us think about Jesus who saves us, let's look at a few more Bible verses. Pass out cups of juice. Read or have kids read Ephesians 2:13, 1 John 1:7, and Revelation 1:5.

#### RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

If your ministry team has decided to forego sharing crackers and grape juice, simply show them as examples and follow the rest of the lesson as written.

- Does anyone know what happened to Jesus after He died? (He was buried in a tomb, three days later He rose again, many people saw the resurrected Christ, He was taken up to heaven.)

On the last day of VBS we'll learn more about our home in heaven. But first, we'll talk about how to get there.

Let's say today's memory verse together. Do so.

- Who can have eternal life? (Anyone.)
- How can a person have eternal life? (By believing in Jesus.)

Let's have a few minutes of silent prayer time. Bow your head and close your eyes. Think about

Jesus and what He did to save you from your sins. After a few quiet moments, I'll pray out loud. Allow for a few moments of silent prayer.

Now I'll say a prayer asking Jesus to save us. Listen once. If it says what you want to say to Jesus, repeat it after me silently or softly the second time. Dear Jesus, / I believe / you're God's Son. / Please forgive me / for the wrong things I've done. / Please save me / and give me a new start. / Thank you! / Amen.

If you prayed the prayer, now you are God's own child! Ask kids to tell you before the end of the day if they prayed the prayer or want to know more.

### Response:

When Chef Scoop taught the Bible memory verse today, Scramble inserted some of his own comments. On this sheet, you'll match those comments to parts of the verse using yarn. We'll work together to figure them out. Pass out Take It to Go papers, pencils, scissors, yarn, and glue sticks. Help kids match the comments with the sections of the verse. For each match, have them draw a line with glue and press the yarn into it, cutting off the excess. Then, have them complete the bottom portion and share if they like.

#### IF TIME PERMITS:

Have kids decorate a large "present" to show how awesome God's gift of Jesus is. Spread out a large square of plain paper and draw crisscrossing ribbon on it in marker. Then, let the kids use stickers, foam shapes, glitter, markers, and other craft supplies to make the present look amazing!

### Bible Memory:

Practice reciting John 3:16 with partners. Have kids sit facing their partner and recite the verse back and forth, each saying 4 words (For God so loved / the world that he / gave his one and / etc.). Then, repeat saying 3 words each, 2 words each, and 1 word each. End by reciting the entire verse all together.

## ELEMENTARY - DAY 3

# Cookbook Crafts

## SEEING THROUGH SIN

### Object:

To remind kids that Jesus' blood saves us from our sins and give them a fun icebreaker to use when sharing that good news with others.

### Instructions:

Today, you learned a very important lesson—the good news of the gospel. Jesus saves us from our sin because He died and rose again. His perfect, innocent blood covers all of your sin.

Pass out Isaiah 1:18 papers and read the verse together. **When God created mankind, the world was a perfect paradise without any sin. But it didn't stay that way. We all sin, every day.**

Pass out red markers.

- What are some things God considers sin?

As you take responses, instruct kids to make a red dot on their paper, right over the area with the words printed. Continue marking the paper this way until it is very hard to read the verse.

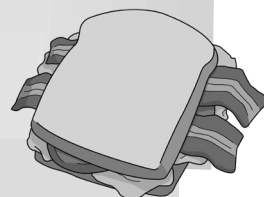
Hold up speckled paper. **Could you imagine trying to stand before God's throne in heaven covered in this much sin? There's no way we could get close to God like this.**

### RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Find red cellophane at craft stores. No single sheets? Buy a cellophane gift bag (the kind used to wrap baskets) and cut to size.

### Do Ahead:

- Print copies and cut apart Isaiah 1:18 papers (1 per kid).
- Cut cellophane into 4" squares (1 per kid).
- Prepare a sample viewfinder.



### Supplies:

- for each kid: Isaiah 1:18 paper (from Cookbook Crafts Elementary Leader folder on CD)
- thin red markers
- small craft sticks (6 per kid)
- white glue
- red cellophane

**But all believers know the good news of Jesus' sacrifice for us. When we are covered in Jesus' blood, (hold up viewfinder) God doesn't look and see our sin.** Hold viewfinder over a speckled paper and allow kids to look closely as the words appear clearly.

Instruct kids to build their own viewfinder as follows:

1. Lay a square of cellophane on the table.
2. Trace the outer edge of two opposite sides in white glue.
3. Lay two craft sticks in the glue.
4. Dab glue on the ends of the craft sticks.
5. Lay two more craft sticks across the opposite way to form a square. Let dry for a few minutes.
6. Flip the viewfinder over and reinforce by gluing two more craft sticks to opposite sides.

As you wait for the crafts to dry, discuss with kids how they can use this tool to share the good news with others.

See the craft folder on resource CD for photos of the completed craft.

## ELEMENTARY - DAY 3

# Cookbook Crafts

## SERVICE CRAFT: WORDLESS BOOK KEYCHAINS

### *Object:*

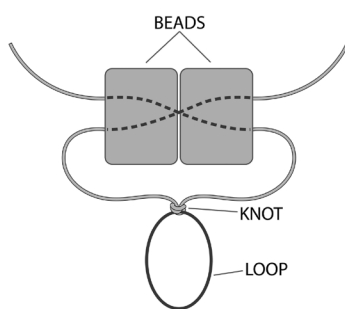
To give kids a tangible way to share the gospel story with others.

### *Instructions:*

Today's story was all about how Jesus saves us from sin. This is called salvation. Our craft today will help tell the story of salvation through colors. You may have seen this color story before in a book of colored pages. It's a great way to share the good news of Jesus with others, so we'll make this craft to give away to a person you want to share the story with.

Pass out bags and have kids remove the cord. Demonstrate doubling the cord so the two free ends are together. Demonstrate tying a knot in the "folded" end of the cord, leaving a small loop. Help younger kids tie their knot.

As you tell the story, demonstrate how to string the beads and offer help as needed. All colored beads will be strung in matching pairs (like one long bead) with cord laced through from opposite ends:



The world God created was a perfect paradise with no sin and no death. People lived close to God. But man did not obey God and sin entered the world. We all sin and it

### *Do Ahead:*

- Cut cord into 30" lengths (1 per kid).
- Put a length of cord, 2 of each colored bead, 1 clear bead, and a metal keyring in each sandwich bag. Label bags with kids' names in permanent marker.

### *Supplies:*

- leather bracelet cord or plastic lanyard cord
- pony beads in black, red, white, green, purple, yellow (2 per kid)
- clear pony beads (1 per kid)
- metal keyrings
- sandwich bags
- permanent marker
- scissors

**separates us from God.** Demonstrate stringing black beads. Pull the cord taut.

**God had a solution to sin. He sent His Son Jesus to die for us and be raised again. Jesus' blood washes away our sins.** Demonstrate stringing red beads. Pull the cord taut.

### RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

In today's snack time, kids will learn the salvation color story beginning with yellow to represent God's perfect creation. However, tomorrow they will learn that yellow also comes at the end of the story to represent our eternal home in heaven. Therefore, string the yellow beads at the end today.

## ELEMENTARY - DAY 5

# Crunch & Munch Games

## MARSHMALLOW MANSION

INDOOR

ENERGY LEVEL: LOW

### *Supplies:*

- Bible
- dry/uncooked spaghetti or toothpicks
- mini marshmallows

### *Game:*

Read John 14:1-7. **Today, you and a partner will build a marshmallow mansion as high as you can! Work together to see if you can create a structure with two stories, three stories, or more!** Demonstrate how to attach spaghetti (broken into shorter lengths) or toothpicks using mini marshmallows, making a simple cube. Allow kids to work with their partners to create the tallest mansion they can.



## KITCHEN CHARADES

INDOOR/OUTDOOR

ENERGY LEVEL: MEDIUM

### *Do Ahead:*

- Write down charades suggestions (listed below) on scraps of paper and fold in half.

### *Supplies:*

- strips of paper
- pencil
- optional: easel with dry erase board or chart paper, markers

### *Game:*

**In preparation for today's heavenly feast, we'll practice our kitchen**

**skills with a game of charades.** Let kids take turns drawing a slip of paper and acting out the kitchen activity. The other kids try to guess what it is. If time permits, repeat the game having kids draw the activity rather than act it out.

Kitchen Charades Activities:

- Chop vegetables
- Roll dough
- Stir a large pot
- Put something in the oven
- Use the microwave
- Wash dishes
- Toss pizza dough in the air
- Flip pancakes
- Mop the floor
- Take something hot out of the oven
- Measure ingredients
- Make a shake in the blender

## ELEMENTARY - DAY 2

# Finger-Lickin' Snacks

## A BASKET TO SHARE

### Supplies:

- rice cakes (1 per kid)
- spreadable cheese in individual servings (such as Laughing Cow wedges)
- plastic knives
- Goldfish crackers
- oyster crackers
- paper plates
- zip-top gallon bags
- napkins

### Do Ahead:

- For each pair, fill a zip-top bag with 2 rice cakes, 1 cheese wedge (to share), 4 fish, 10 oyster crackers, 2 paper plates, and 2 plastic knives.
- Have kids wash their hands.

### Instructions:

Thinking back to our story today, we learned that God is powerful enough to provide for all of our needs. But when Jesus fed the 5,000 people, He didn't make food out of thin air.

- **What happened first?** (A young boy offered to share his two fish and five small loaves of bread.)
- **How would you describe the boy based on his actions?** (kind, generous, unselfish, trusting)

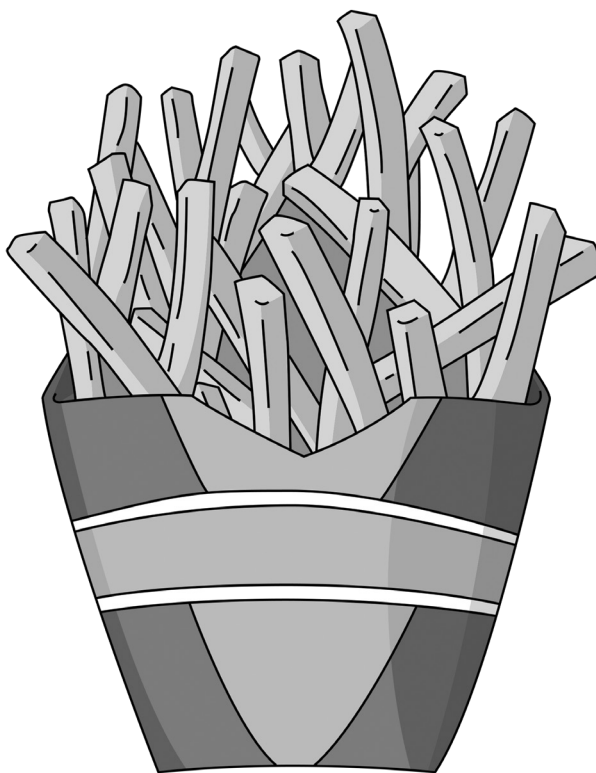
Today's snack will give you the chance to share with a friend. You'll make a crunchy treat and then give it away to a friend. Don't worry – a friend will give you a snack too!

Pair kids up to share a bag of supplies. Talk them through building A Basket to Share by spreading some cheese on a rice cake (the basket) and then topping it with two fish (Goldfish crackers) and five small loaves (oyster crackers).

Make sure kids are working together to share their supplies, including the one wedge of cheese. As they work, have them retell the Bible story to their partner or recite today's memory verse.

**Now that your snack is finished, we'll find out which friend you can give it to.** Randomly draw or call names so that kids can give the snack they made to a friend other than the partner they worked with.

Say a grace for kids to repeat: Thank you, God, for food we eat. / Thank you, God, for this good treat!



## DAY 5: HOME IN HEAVEN

# Preschool Bible Fun

### Goals:

Kids will:

- form relationships with leader and one another.
- trust that Jesus has given them an eternal home in heaven.
- desire to proclaim Jesus as their personal Savior.

### Get-To-Know-You Time:

We've made some good friends at VBS this week. Let's pray for each friend. When I pass the Prayer Bear to a friend, we'll all say "Dear Jesus, thank you for our friend [name]. Amen." Do so until all kids have been prayed for.

### Activity Time:

When we think of heaven or see heaven in a cartoon, it sometimes looks like a land of fluffy white clouds. Spray some shaving cream into your palm. **Kind of like this fluffy cloud! Today, I'll give you some heavenly clouds to draw in with your finger.** Spread the shaving cream onto the table in front of you and demonstrate drawing with your finger. **Do you think there is any slapping in heaven? (No!) That's right, so the rule is no slapping your fluffy clouds. Just draw with your finger.**

As kids explore with the shaving cream, have them try drawing a J for Jesus or an H for heaven.

### Exploring God's Word:

Chef Scoop told us about Jesus' good friend John, who saw a vision of heaven. Will you help me bring the story to life? Okay, I'll read and you follow my directions.

Jesus had a good friend named John. Put your arm over the shoulder of a friend to show what good buddies they were.

After Jesus went to heaven, John was arrested and sent to an island by himself. Show me with your face how you think John felt.

One day, John heard a loud sound like a trumpet blast. Make the sound of a noisy trumpet.

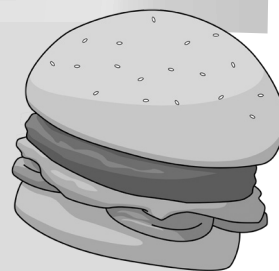
Then he turned and saw Jesus. John was so surprised, he fell down like he was asleep. Fall down like you're asleep.

### Do Ahead:

- Collect supplies, read lesson materials.
- Write the word HEAVEN vertically on the chart paper in large letters.
- Print Day 5 Take It to Go papers (½ sheet for each kid) and trim to size.

### Supplies:

- teddy bear
- shaving cream
- Bible
- easel and chart paper
- marker
- Day 5 Take It to Go papers (from Preschool Small Group Leader folder on CD)
- construction paper or card stock
- glue sticks
- crayons, glitter, stick-on jewels, etc.



Jesus told John to write down everything he was about to see. Pretend you are John writing everything down.

Great job! That's the story of how we got the last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation. In it, John tells us that he saw heaven. God's glory shines brighter than the sun in heaven and people and angels all worship Him by singing songs. No one is ever sad or scared or hurt in heaven. All believers get to live there forever and ever. Doesn't heaven sound like a great place?

### *Responding to God:*

Let's work together to write a poem about heaven. Our poem doesn't have to rhyme. We just have to begin each line with one of the letters in the word "heaven." Let's start with the letter H.

- **Is heaven h-h-happy or h-h-horrible?** Write the word happy on the chart.
- **Is heaven for e-e-elephants or e-e-everyone?** Write the word everyone on the chart.
- **Hmmm . . . A. Can you think of who is in heaven that starts with A-A-A?** Write "angels" on the chart.
- **I'll write the word "very" for V. How would you finish this idea?** Heaven is very . . . ? Write the response on the chart.
- **Is heaven e-e-everlasting or e-e-ending soon?** Write everlasting on the chart.
- **Can you think of any n-n-N words that describe heaven?** Write nice, neat-o, or whatever else the kids suggest on the chart.

Read through the poem twice together. Bring the poem with you to the Café Cleanup.

Pass out Take It to Go papers (trimmed to size) and art supplies. Help the kids mount their ticket on construction paper and write their name on the blank line. Let kids decorate the ticket using the art supplies.

### *Memory Verse:*

Let's try the Bible verse that Chef Scoop and Scramble showed us earlier. Say the verse a few short phrases at a time, as shown below, with the kids repeating each short phrase after you. Repeat several times. (Example is shown in the NIV translation. Modify based on the translation you are using).

In his great mercy  
he has given us new birth  
into a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
and into an inheritance  
that can never perish,  
spoil or fade.  
This inheritance is kept in heaven . . .

