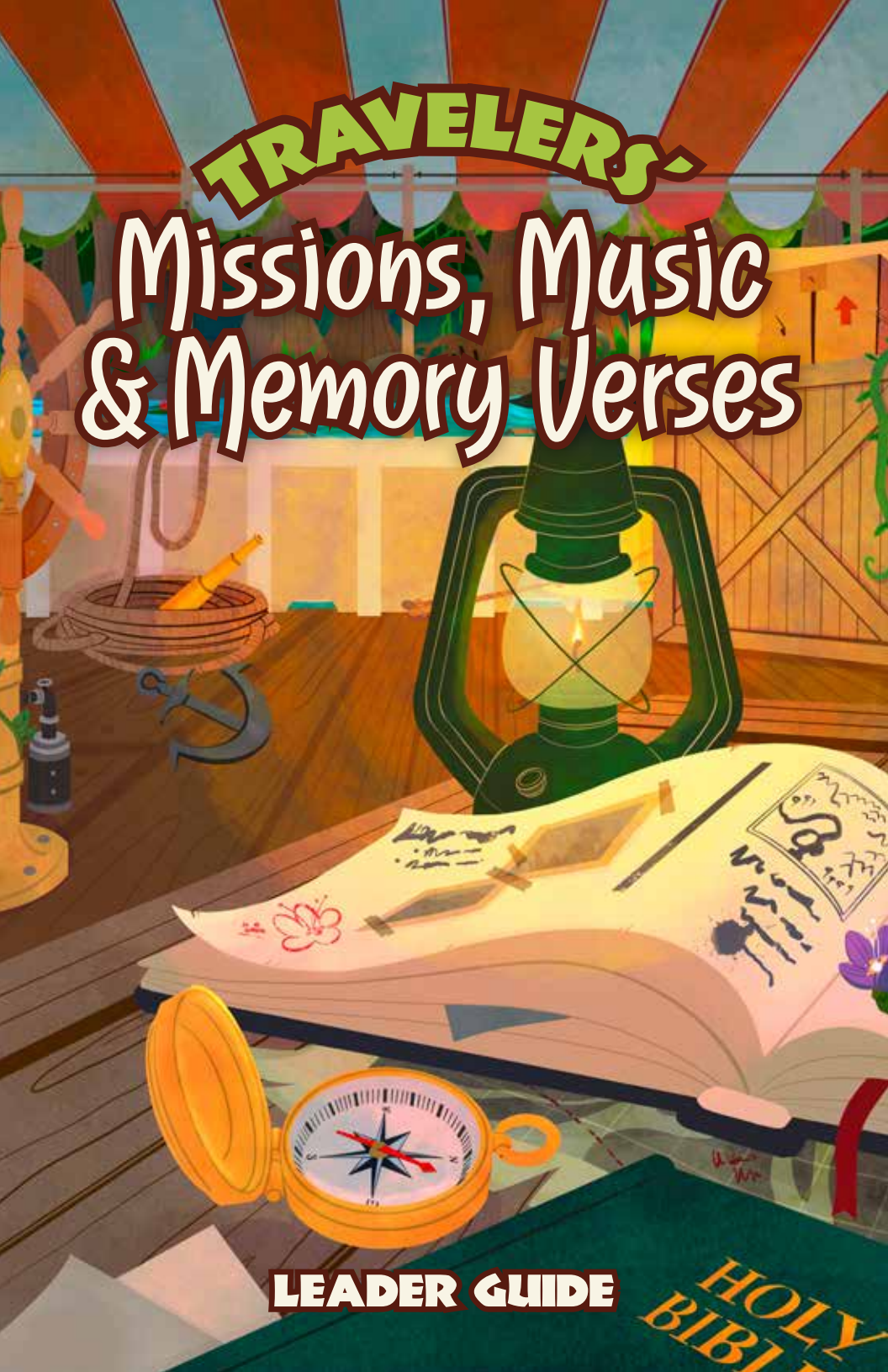


**TRAVELERS-**

# Missions, Music & Memory Verses



**LEADER GUIDE**

**HOLY  
BIBLE**

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# Handy Helps

## It's a Jungle Out There!

*Listen!* Can you hear a howler monkey screeching and insects buzzing? *Look!* Do you see a sloth hanging from a tree and a jaguar crouching, ready to pounce? *Smell!* Is that the aroma of tropical flowers wafting through the air? *Touch!* Do you feel soft grass under your feet and gentle rain on your skin? *Taste!* Is that delicious milk from a coconut and exotic spices from the rainforest?

Join us in a world of wonder that will delight our senses while captivating our hearts and minds at *The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation*. We will cruise through jungle rivers, making stops at seven ports of call along the way—each starting with a C. These represent seven key biblical events—the 7 C's of History.

**Day 1: Creation**—Our first C takes us back to the beginning of time and the creation of the universe when it was all good. Did the universe start with a big bang, or did God create it?

**Day 2: Corruption and Catastrophe**—Next, Adam sinned, which affected his descendants, who were so wicked that God sent a global flood as judgment for their sin.

**Day 3: Confusion**—The fourth C checks out the events that began at the tower of Babel. Can this be where all the people groups originated from?

**Day 4: Christ and the Cross**—At these stops, we realize once again that man is sinful and needs a Savior. Hallelujah, God provides one in his Son!

**Day 5: Consummation**—The last C shows the thrilling conclusion to history when all goes back to very good again, and—best news ever—God wins against sin and Satan.

Excitement and adventure await from the first minute of each day when kids meet in travel groups. The groups gather at the **Jungle Jam Assembly**, a high-energy beginning that includes wacky intros, lively songs, a Mission Moment, and prayer.

Then they're off to rotate through five fun sites:

**Rain or Shine Bible Time**, where God's Word is taught in creative, hands-on ways.

**Tree-mendous Science and Crafts**, where kids make jazzy jungle crafts and explore God's amazing world with science experiments.

**Canopy Café Snacks**, where travelers go bananas, munching on tropical treats and eats.

**Rainforest Recreation**, where kids rumble in the jungle with some wet and wild games.

**Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses**, where kids sing songs, learn their memory verses with fun games, or go in-depth with the Mission Moment featuring Children's Hunger Fund.

Finally, everyone heads back to the **Jungle Jam Assembly** for the closing, where there's more singing, contest results, and the highly anticipated daily drama. This follows a jungle river cruise that plans to make stops at different ports of call but faces a catastrophe that affects the plan, resulting in lots of unexpected rainforest adventures.

Prepare to swing into the fun as we head out on our jungle river cruise. See you in the rainforest!

## **Our Goal**

We are so thankful for how God has chosen to use the Answers VBS programs over the past years! But why did we decide to embark on such an undertaking in the first place, and why are we still at it by God's grace?

Our primary goal has always been to bring God glory by boldly and unashamedly proclaiming him to a strategic group—young people! From both a biblical and statistical point of view, young people are a big deal. They're not only awesome—we love 'em!—but they're also dearly cherished by our Lord and tend to be softhearted toward spiritual things. Researchers generally agree most people become Christians when they're children, so it's apparent this age group is a huge mission field!

Children are loved by their Creator, and Jesus said to let them come to him (Luke 18:16). We want children to come to Christ and not be hindered in any way from doing so. To that end, we combine a biblically rich VBS with off-the-chart, irresistible fun. In a day and age when content sometimes suffers, we don't want to sacrifice rich teaching. But it's also crucial that the most exciting book in the world not come across as boring or irrelevant. We want to reflect our creative, inspiring, joy-giving God who made laughter and fun.

So why do we do it? We want kids around the world to hear about and personally meet our awesome God and understand how they can receive eternal life through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus. We believe VBS is a great way to introduce them to God, as it is one of the biggest outreaches of the year for most churches.

We pray you will find that every prayer prayed, every minute invested, every dollar spent, and every word spoken will bring God glory as you reach kids for Christ. Just remember—VBS is worth it. May God richly bless your VBS. We're praying for you!

# Frequently Asked Questions

The content of *The Great Jungle Journey* may be new to you. For a list of helpful articles on the topics covered in this VBS program, please visit [AnswersVBS.com/junglefaq](http://AnswersVBS.com/junglefaq).

## Terms to Know

Throughout the VBS curriculum, various terms will be used. Here is a list of some of the most common terms you should know.

**Travel Groups/Travelers:** Groups of children (individual classes) named after jungle animals, such as Bengal Tigers, Butterflies, Toucans, or Howler Monkeys.

**Group Guides:** Group leaders who lead the travelers from place to place during VBS. No teaching is required of this position.

**Rain or Shine Bible Time:** Bible and apologetics lesson time in the jungle.

**River Guides:** Teachers of the Rain or Shine Bible Time.

**Tree-mendous Science and Crafts:** Rotation site where crafts are made and science experiments are explored.

**Canopy Café Snacks:** Indoor or outdoor location where snacks are served.

**Rainforest Recreation:** Indoor or outdoor site (outdoor is preferred) for recreation time.

**Travelers' Missions, Music, and Memory Verses:** Rotation sites where kids can spend additional time learning songs, memory verses, and missions.

**Memory Verse:** Daily Bible verse to learn.

**Animal Pals:** Our friendly animal mascots that remind us of the main themes of each day.

**Toddlers:** 2–4-year-olds.

**Pre-Primaries:** 4–6-year-olds or children ages 4 through those who have completed kindergarten.

**Primaries:** 6–9-year-olds or children who have completed grades 1–3.

**Juniors:** 9–12-year-olds or children who have completed grades 4–6.

For multi-age K–6 travel groups, we recommend using the material for the Primaries.

# Swinging Songs

This section is for those who may want to add a music rotation to their schedule. A Music Leader Download (including both contemporary and traditional) is included with the purchase of a Super Starter Kit or is available to purchase separately at AnswersVBS.com. The Music Leader Download includes memory verse hand-motion videos (contemporary only), song lyric videos, and audio files for you to choose from. Check with your director for the link or the files.

To help the children learn the VBS songs, spend some time singing them during this rotation. The theme song is fun to sing every day along with several other songs. Choose the songs your kids will enjoy and repeat them throughout the week or use the suggestions given below. You may also want to include the day's memory verse song. (See the Memory Verses Review section.)

## Materials

- Music Leader Download
- Music Station Poster (12-1-034)
- Device to play songs

## Day 1

Theme Song

Contemporary: "The Manatee Song"

C: "No One Does Good"

C: "Jesus Is My Light"

Traditional: "God Is Good"

T: "Messing It Up"

T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"

## Day 2

Theme Song

C: "No One Does Good"

C: "Jesus Is My Light"

C: "O God Our Help in Ages Past"

T: "Messing It Up"

T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"

T: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

## Day 3

Theme Song

C: "Jesus Is My Light"

C: "Peace, Love, Joy"

C: "You Made a Way"

T: "Hello, Hello, Babble, Babble"

T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"

T: "At My Journey's End"

## Day 4

Theme Song

C: "You Made a Way"

C: "The Manatee Song"

C: "No One Does Good"

T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"

T: "God Is Good"

T: "Messing It Up"

## Day 5

Theme Song

C: "Peace, Love, Joy"

C: "The Seven C's of History"

C: "You Made a Way"

T: "At My Journey's End"

T: "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"

T: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

# Memory Verse Review

This section is for those who want to add a memory verse rotation to their schedule. Display the memory verse posters in your area. Review the memory verse by playing the appropriate song from the Music Leader Download (either video or audio) several times, encouraging the kids to sing along. Then play a game to review the verse. You may want to combine this with the song rotation time.

The Music Leader Download, including both contemporary and traditional music, is available with the purchase of a Super Starter Kit (12-1-002) or separately at [AnswersVBS.com](http://AnswersVBS.com). Check with your director for the files or go to [AnswersVBS.com](http://AnswersVBS.com) to purchase the music download.

## Materials

- Music Leader Download
- Memory Verse Posters
- Memory Verse Sign (12-1-035)
- Device to play songs

## Day 1

To review the verses, play a creation game. Write several kinds of animals on small pieces of paper (e.g., bird, kangaroo, gorilla, butterfly, dolphin, frog) and place them in a bag or box. Have students take turns picking a paper and leading the others in acting out the animal while reciting the verse together. Repeat the process several times for each verse.

## Theme Verse

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17, ESV)

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17, KJV)

## All Ages

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1, ESV)

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Genesis 1:1, KJV)

## Day 2

To review today's verse, have students sit down in a circle. Choose a student to say the first word in the verse as he raises both hands (and keeps them raised). Continue around the circle as each student raises his hands and says the next word. When the verse is finished, start over with the next person. If his hands are raised, have him lower them; if his hands are

# The Good News Cruise



The Good News Cruise is a powerful addition to your VBS program. Your kids will explore five different countries and learn how they can make a difference for children living in poverty around the world.

As your students explore Ukraine, Thailand, Mexico, Zambia, and the US, they'll hear the stories of boys and girls whose lives have been impacted by poverty. These children have no guarantee of meals, shelter, or an education. They need help. And they need the hope that only comes from salvation in Jesus Christ.

The good news is you and your kids have the power to make a difference!

The Bible says that giving generously to the poor is really giving generously to God himself (Proverbs 19:17). Teach your VBS class the great joy that comes from sacrificing for the sake of Jesus and his gospel.

During the Mission Moment, your group will meet Frankie, an energetic and accident-prone deckhand on the Good News Cruise. Frankie has worked a variety of jobs on ships all around the world, and he's met some amazing people with incredible stories. As he takes on different jobs on this week's cruise, he'll share stories of people he's met on his travels.

Your mission is to collect coins to fill Children's Hunger Fund Coin Paks and help provide meals for children in need, just like the ones Frankie introduces throughout the week.

When your VBS children earn coins for their Coin Paks, they make it possible for Children's Hunger Fund to fill Food Paks. A Children's Hunger Fund Food Pak is a box of nutritious food that can provide meals for a family in need. In a Food Pak, just 25¢ can provide one meal!

The Food Paks are provided to partner churches in the US and around the world who deliver them to homes of families in need. Along with food delivery, relationships are built and the gospel is shared.



The following items are available from [AnswersVBS.com](http://AnswersVBS.com).

- **Daily videos**
- **Daily scripts and activities**
- **Child Profile Slides**—Daily profiles of the children your VBS students will meet
- Printable **Prayer Journals**—These informative prayer briefings will help your kids connect with the real needs of suffering children
- Printable **Map of the World** activity sheet, featuring locations of the children from the daily videos
- Printable **banner artwork**
- **PowerPoint images** to help your kids track their fundraising progress
- Printable fold-up **Coin Pak** for collecting coins
- **Donation Submission Form** to accompany your donation to CHF at the end of your VBS program

### **Coin Paks Available to Order**

Included in your starter kit is a sample of the sturdy, pop-up **Coin Pak**, made for your kids to use as they collect quarters for meals. Check with your director for this sample. After VBS, these will be fun souvenirs that can be kept as reminders to always care for the needs of others. Coin Paks are available from Children's Hunger Fund.

To order Coin Paks, please visit [ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs](http://ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs).

For questions regarding your Mission Moment resources, please call (800) 708-7589 or email [coinpak@childrenshungerfund.org](mailto:coinpak@childrenshungerfund.org).

Orders must be received 14 days prior to your VBS date. Available while supplies last.

### **Collecting Donations**

Give children their own Coin Pak for collecting donations. Work with your director to set up a fun area for kids to deposit their money each day as they begin VBS. Encourage your kids in the weeks leading up to VBS to save their money and then begin collecting the first day. Or plan on passing out the Coin Paks on Day 1 and begin collecting on Day 2.

Once you've totaled your donations, you can submit your donation online at [ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs](http://ChildrensHungerFund.org/answersvbs). If you would like to mail a check, please make it out to Children's Hunger Fund and indicate "Good News Cruise" in the memo area and then fill out the Donation Submission Form. Send your check with the **Donation Submission Form** (from the resource download) to:

Children's Hunger Fund  
Attn: Good News Cruise  
DEPT LA 24373  
Pasadena, CA 91185-4373

Learn more about the gospel-centered mercy ministry of Children's Hunger Fund at [ChildrensHungerFund.org](http://ChildrensHungerFund.org).

## **Tracking Your Progress**

To help your kids maintain their excitement, announce how many meals their coins can provide each day. Check with your director to find out when to do this: either during this time or during the opening or closing assembly time.

Here are some fun ways to help your kids see their progress as they raise funds:

1. Show your progress with the **Daily Count PowerPoint slides**, found on the resource download. Update the slides with the total number of meals that can be provided each day.
2. Make your own goal tracker and update it throughout the week. Create or print a jungle vine with leaves and put equally spaced marks on it, going up. Each day, you can color in leaves as you climb the vine. Color to the mark representing the kids' offering and write the total number of meals that can be provided so far on the corresponding line.
3. Consider having a contest between boys and girls or between teams to see which group can bring in the most money. (Printable **Teams** and **Daily Count artwork** are available to download.)

**NOTE ON COUNTING COINS:** It may be helpful to recruit two or three adult volunteers to count and/or roll the coins at the end of each day. Some banks provide a coin-counting service, but they may require several days to do so. Check ahead with your local bank.

# Daily Scripts

## Day 1: Nadya (Ukraine)

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise” slide

As we spend this week journeying from Genesis through Revelation, we are also going to get the chance to meet a boy or girl living in a different part of the world. We are partnering with Children’s Hunger Fund to help provide meals for children who don’t have enough to eat.

Besides helping provide them with meals, you can also help them hear about the message of the gospel!

SHOW: “The Good News Cruise—Nadya” slide

Are you ready to meet the first child? Pause for participation. Great! Today, we’re going to meet a little girl named Nadya, who lives in the country of Ukraine.

SHOW: Video 1—Nadya

Country: Ukraine

Problem: War

Before the war, Nadya’s family didn’t have to struggle to provide basic needs like food and a place to live. They had a home, her parents had jobs, and Nadya went to school and had plans for her future. When they had to leave their home in search of safety, everything they had was lost. Thankfully, nearby churches have worked together to help refugees (people who had to leave their homes) just like Nadya and her family.

Do you want to help kids like Nadya? Pause for participation. Great! This week at VBS, we will be collecting coins to put in these Coin Paks. Show Coin Pak. Take this home today and tell your family and friends about Nadya. Ask them to help you collect coins for meals. Just 25 cents can provide a nutritious meal for a hungry child.

These meals will be packed into a Children’s Hunger Fund Food Pak, which is a box of healthy, nutritious food. This will be enough to feed a family for several days.

Each day this week, bring back any coins you’ve collected, and we’ll count how many meals you’ve given so far. With your help, we can deliver hope to suffering families all over the world.

## **DO MISSION ACTIVITY: WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?**

1. Pass out paper and a pen or pencil to each student.
2. Tell the students, "Quick! You have five minutes to grab the 10 most important things from your home!"
3. Set a timer for five minutes and have them write down 10 things they would take with them.
4. Have the students share what they would bring with them and write a few on the board.
5. Tell the students, "Oh, no! We don't have enough room for all 10 items! You have two minutes to cut it down to five items!"
6. Set a timer and have them cross off half of the items from their list.
7. Have the students call out what they removed from their list.
8. Tell the students, "Bad news! You can only take one item, and you only have 30 seconds to decide!"
9. Set a timer for 30 seconds and have them cross off all but one item.
10. Have the students call out what their one item was and circle those on the board.

## **TALKING POINTS**

- Which of these lists was the hardest to make?
- Why did you remove certain items from your list and not others?
- What if you couldn't even bring the one item left on your list?
- When Nadya had to leave her home, they didn't have a chance to pack their bags and make a list of what they wanted to take with them. Nadya had to leave with only the clothes she was wearing.
- Think about other things you need each day. Did anyone think to include food on their list? What about a blanket or a warm jacket?
- Even if Nadya's family could find a grocery store or a hotel that was open, the money they brought would only last so long.
- Without churches to help them, how would Nadya's family make it to safety?
- Once there, how would they be able to start over?
- What can you do to help families like Nadya's?