



**Press Play VBS 2021**  
**Bible Stories, Points, & Key Questions**

**Memory Verse:** "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." *John 15:12 (NIV)*

**Life App:** Confidence—Learning to see yourself the way God sees you.

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

## Day One (July 7)

### Music for Day One

"Give Me You" Shana Wilson: <https://youtu.be/DzB8w2OBUVU>

"You Know My Name" Tasha Cobb: <https://youtu.be/t7owFiihXgg>

"Give Me Jesus" Tori Kelly: [https://youtu.be/Qf4HHT\\_oD-M](https://youtu.be/Qf4HHT_oD-M)

**Memory verse** - John 15:12 - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**Today's Bible Story** - Who Is Jesus? • John 10:14 and John 14:6

**Today's Point** - I can have confidence because **I AM KNOWN**

**Today's Key Question** - When are you most confident?

**Today's Icebreaker** - Choose two questions from each category and answer privately or share with the group at the appropriate time.

### Funny Get to Know You Questions

1. If you could invent a new dish, what ingredients would it have?
2. If you could completely get rid of one month out of the year, which month would it be and why?
3. What's the funniest place you've ever fallen asleep?
4. Did your parents have alternative name options that they were considering when naming you? What were they?
5. If your hometown was a food, what food would it be?
6. Tell a story about a time you felt super old. What happened?
7. What's your go-to dance move?
8. What would be the silliest feature of your dream house?
9. What's the funniest thing you've ever heard a child say?
10. What's the worst fashion or hair decision you've made?

### Hobby Icebreaker Questions

1. What is your favorite hobby?
2. What is your favorite thing to do by yourself?
3. What is your favorite sport or physical activity?
4. What crazy activities do you dream of trying someday?
5. What is your idea of fun?
6. What two things do you consider yourself to be very good at?
7. What two things do you consider yourself to be very bad at?
8. If money and time were no object, what would you be doing right now?
9. What is something you hate doing? Why?
10. What is something you love doing? Why?
11. Do you have any hidden talents? What can you do?
12. What was one new experience you tried that was completely unknown or uncomfortable to you at the time you tried it?

The point of this activity is to show that even though others may not know you, **JESUS KNOWS YOU.**

**Story** – John 10:1-14 – The man that climbs in the sheep pen is a thief and a robber. The man who enters through the gate is the shepherd of his sheep and the watchman opens the gate for him. The sheep hear his voice, follow him, and will not follow a stranger, but run away. Jesus says He is the gate, others before Him were thieves and robbers. Those that come through the gate will be saved. The thief comes to kill, steal, and destroy. Jesus came to give life and have it to the full. Jesus goes on to say that he is the good shepherd that lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. Jesus says I am the good shepherd that knows His sheep and the sheep knows Him, the Father knows Him and He knows the Father. He lays down his life for the sheep.

John 14:1-6 - The disciples asked Jesus how to get to the Father. They asked Him to show the way, and Jesus gave a simple answer: HE was the way. God is an amazing, enormous, unfathomable being...but He became a human, so that we could draw closer to Him. The way to life is through Christ.

### **Questions**

1. What is a parable?
2. What kind of relationship do sheep have with their shepherd? (John10:2-4)
3. To whom did Jesus say the sheep would not listen? (10:5, 10:8); Who did Jesus say was the thief? (10:1) Who does the stranger or thief represent today?
4. In this parable, Jesus describes himself as both the gate (10:7) and the shepherd (10:11, 10:14). Which image do you like better and why?
5. Gates can be used to keep some things in and some out. Which side of the gate that Jesus described are you on? (10:9) How has Jesus been a gate in your life?
6. What does a hired hand do for the sheep? (10:12) What was Jesus willing to do for his sheep? (10:11, 10:15, 10:17)
7. How are we like sheep? What tempts people to follow a stranger (or thief)? Why?
8. In what ways has Jesus been your shepherd? How can we better hear his voice?
9. Jesus says He is the Way, the way to what?
10. How do we have life through Jesus?

**Today's Key Question** - When are you most confident?

**Day Two (July 14)**

**Music for Day Two**

**"You Say"** Lauren Daigle: <https://youtu.be/HqpNGYbcy3U>

**"I have Decided to Follow Jesus"** Todd Galberth: <https://youtu.be/DyoCvm2n9sQ>

**"Psalm 23-I am Not Alone"** Joshua Sherman: <https://youtu.be/8OIMGnPUAdw>

**Memory verse** - John 15:12 - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**Today's Bible Story** - The Calling of the Disciples - Luke 5:1-11, 27-32

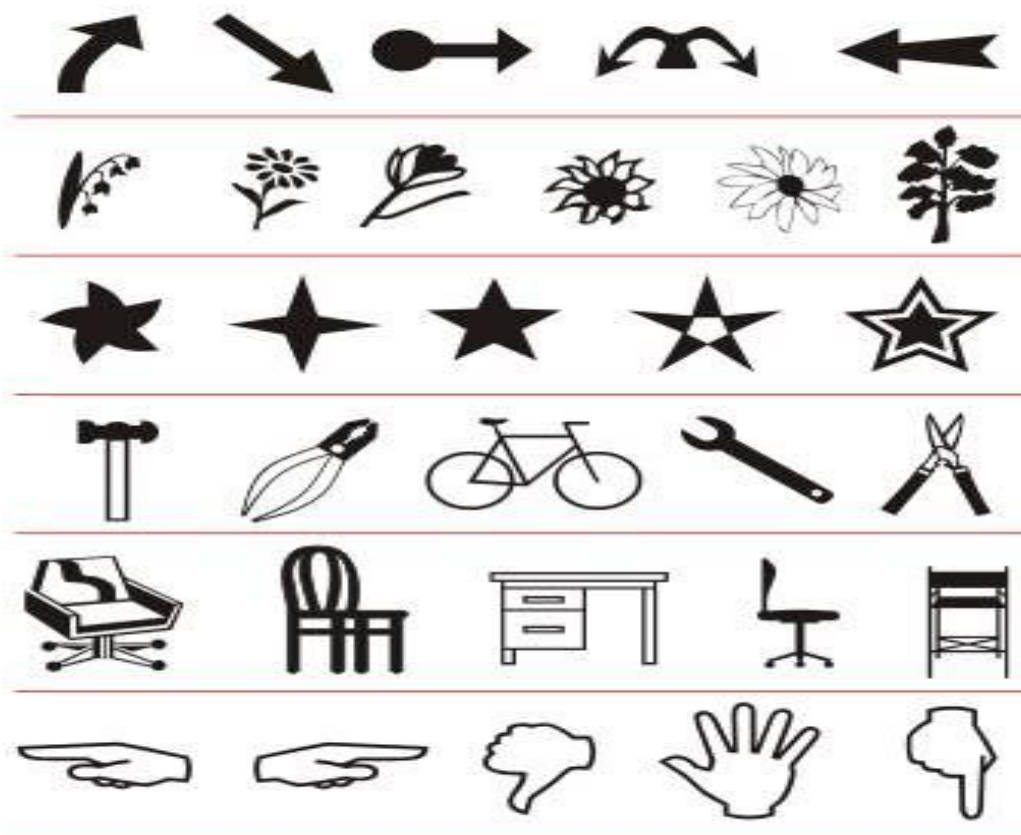
**Today's Point** - I can have confidence because **I BELONG**

**Today's Key Question** - Where do you feel like you belong?

**Today's Icebreaker** - Please take a few minutes to identify what object does not belong in the row. How you ever been in a place or with a group and you felt like you did not belong?

***WHAT DOES NOT BELONG?***

Find and circle the picture in each row that is different...



The point of the icebreaker is that sometimes we may not feel as if we belong, but we always **BELONG TO GOD.**

**Story** – Luke 5:1-11– One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret preaching to a crowd of people, he saw two boats on the sea shore. He got into the boat, which belonged to Simon and taught the crowd of people from the sea shore. When Jesus was done teaching, he told Simon to put his nets into the water to try to catch some fish. Simon had been fishing all night and had not caught any fish but he listened to Jesus anyway and put the net into the water. When Simon did this the net became so full of fish that the net began to break. He had to call a friend to help bring in the nets and the fish. Simon was amazed by all the fish they had caught and was embarrassed because he knew that he was a sinful man. He told Jesus to leave because he knew that he was sinful and didn't deserve all of the fish that they had caught. But Jesus told the Simon and the other men that they would become fishers of men. When Simon and the other men heard this, they parked their boats and left everything they had and followed Jesus.

Luke 5:27-32 - Jesus encounters a man named Levi. He was a Jewish man who collected taxes for the government using Mafia techniques. Not the kind of guy you want to have around. But Jesus is never constrained by cultural stigmas. He always loves those that are outcast and looked down upon by society.

### **Questions**

1. Jesus taught the crowd of people from Simon's boat. How willing are people to let Jesus use "their stuff"?
2. How important is it to trust God to do impossible task? Why? How do we trust God when things normally don't work out?
3. What things stand in the way of people following Jesus?
4. According to Luke 9:23, what are some things we must do if we want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?
5. Jesus is known for using ordinary people. Why is this important.
6. Is it possible to have too much baggage to be used by God?
7. Is it possible to be in a group, but don't feel like you belong?
8. Does being connected to Jesus give you a sense of belonging?

**Today's Key Question** - Where do you feel like you belong?

## Day Three (July 21)

### Music for Day Three

"You Still Love Me" Tasha Cobb: <https://youtu.be/MhD9GG4qXMw>

"Deliver Me(This is My Exodus)" Donald Lawrence: <https://youtu.be/W5aD6b3LSqg>

"Clean" Natalie Grant: <https://youtu.be/2BfZ3KKKg9c>

**Memory verse** - John 15:12 - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**Today's Bible Story** - Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-9

**Today's Point** - I can have confidence because **I AM FORGIVEN AND I CAN CHANGE**

**Today's Key Question** - What does it feel like to be forgiven? How have you seen someone change?

**Today's Icebreaker** – What's your name? In the story of Zacchaeus, Jesus called him out by name. For this memory game, each person will share their name and a favorite food (or activity/ animal/color etc.) that starts with the same first letter as their name. The next person to share must state the first person's as well as their own, continuing down the line so participants must remember and share one another's information.

**Story:** The story of Zacchaeus emphasizes the love of Jesus and the constant availability of grace. We see through this classic story that meeting Christ changes lives,

When Jesus passed through the city of Jericho a man named Zacchaeus climbed a tree to get a better look. Jesus amazed the crowd by calling Zacchaeus down to say that he would be coming to his house. In a true act of repentance for what had probably been a dishonest tax collecting career, Zacchaeus declared that he would pay back the people he had cheated and give half of his wealth to the poor.

### Questions

1. Who is Zacchaeus? What are some of his negative and positive characteristics? Are there any ways Zacchaeus seems similar to us?
2. In vs. 5, Jesus looks up and addresses Zacchaeus by name. What does this tell us about Jesus?
3. Would we be ready to let Jesus into our homes?
4. Are we willing to work on righting our wrongs?
5. Should Christians be concerned with money?
6. Does the process of forgiveness start when we stop doing wrong?
7. How does repentance lead to change?
8. How do we continue on our path of change/growth?

**Today's Key Question** - What does it feel like to be forgiven? How have you seen someone change?

## Day Four (July 28)

### Music for Day Four

"Help us to Love" Tori Kelly: <https://youtu.be/5izPEZNz1bs>

"Amen" Charity Gayle: <https://youtu.be/QHQKuWQhu8o>

"Fully Committed" Kingdom: <https://youtu.be/qCV6kZY4Pv4>

"Lord, I'm available to You" Milton Brunson: [https://youtu.be/eopVmm\\_uvHQ](https://youtu.be/eopVmm_uvHQ)

**Memory verse** - John 15:12 - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**Today's Bible Story** - The Story of the Lost Sheep • Luke 15:1-7

**Today's Point** - I can have confidence **TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Today's Key Question** – How can you make a difference?

**Today's Icebreaker** – Find the Missing Lyrics to the Song - each person is to take the slip of paper that has a single line from the chorus of a popular song and complete the song by finding the other parts of the verse and then standing in order of how the song goes. The group or someone in the group will sing the part of the song that was put together.

**Story:** Jesus tells the parable of the lost sheep to show that the Kingdom of God is accessible to all, even those who were sinners or strayed from God's path. He uses the example of a shepherd (God) who has 100 sheep and one goes missing. The shepherd leaves the 99 others and searches high and low for the lost sheep. Jesus stresses that when the shepherd finds the lost sheep, He rejoices over it more than the 99 who did not go astray. This is how God will rejoice when a sinner returns to Him.

### Questions

1. What were the Pharisees and teachers of the law doing? (15:2)
2. Why were the Pharisees and teachers of the law grumbling? (15:2)
3. What did Jesus do instead of directly rebuking the religious leaders? (15:3)
4. What does a conscientious shepherd do when one of the flock is lost? (15:4)
5. How does a shepherd bring a lost sheep home? (15:5)
6. What happens when a shepherd returns to his home and flock after finding a lost sheep? (15:6)
7. How does heaven react when a sinner repents? (15:7)
8. What causes God to rejoice most? (15:7)
9. What kind of people do not need to repent? (15:7)
10. Why did the religious leaders miss the point of what Jesus' ministry was about?
11. Why did Jesus choose a parable about sheep to make His point?
12. How might the one sheep have gotten lost?
13. In what ways do we go astray?
14. How does the picture of "rejoicing in heaven" over repentance make you feel?
15. In what situations are you most tempted to stray from God?
16. What can you do this week to help a fellow believer who may be straying from God's ways?

**Today's Key Question** – How can you make a difference?