



300 Gallery Drive
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May 15, 2020

Dear Bible Chapel Family,

As you have probably experienced, our world changes quickly and requires us to respond in new ways. For us at The Bible Chapel, this has included our much-anticipated Vacation Bible School that typically happens in June. Last year, we had over 750 students and 450 volunteers attend. As we began praying about what Vacation Bible School would look like this year, considering the current guidelines surrounding COVID-19, it became clear that it would not be possible for us to have VBS at The Bible Chapel as it has looked like in the past. We couldn't bear the thought, though, of not teaching these children about God's love, power, and promises in such a time as this. As Jesus said in Mark 10:14, *"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."*

So this year, we are attempting something new- **NEIGHBORHOOD VBS!** We are asking families from The Bible Chapel to open their backyards as Host Families. A trained team from TBC will come to the backyard to lead games, hands on activities, and present relevant Bible teaching – just like they would at Vacation Bible School. We feel like this is a safe model for this year due to the current social distancing procedures. We will continue to monitor those guidelines in the upcoming weeks and make adjustments as needed.

Neighborhood VBS will be August 3 – 7, 2020. The time slots are 10:00-11:30 a.m., 3:00-4:30 p.m., or 6:30-8:00 p.m. Our goal is to run at least 20 of these Neighborhood VBS clubs during the week. We are looking for Host Families for elementary kids and breakout students, Bible teachers, Imagination Station leaders, Games leaders, Special Needs Volunteers, and teen helpers. Attached to this letter, you will find a description and when registration opens for each of these volunteer positions.

If you cannot help the week of Neighborhood VBS, but can help gather and separate supplies, please reach out to me and let me know. We would love to have you on our team!

Last but not least, we need your prayers. We know that God has prepared the way for us to do Neighborhood VBS this year, but please pray that God will permeate every area of this ministry and for God to bless our South Hills neighborhoods as we share His wonderful love.

We look forward to seeing what God does through Neighborhood VBS 2020. Thank you for your prayerful support of this new endeavor. We look forward to serving with you this summer.

Blessings,

Rebecca Thornsberry
Vacation Bible School Director
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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIBLE CHAPEL MEMBERS

Host Families for Elementary:

This position can be filled by one family or two families that live in close proximity working together. You will need a spot outside in your front or back yard for 20-25 ELEMENTARY kids (entering Kindergarten to 4th grade) to gather for a Bible story, craft/gizmo, and game. You will need a working bathroom and hose. You will also be responsible for inviting children in your neighborhood to join your Neighborhood VBS. At training, you will be given a box with all the supplies you will need to host.

REGISTRATION IS May 16 - May 31.

Host Family for Breakout:

This position can be filled by one family or two families that live in close proximity working together. You will need a spot outside in your front or back yard for 15-20 MIDDLE SCHOOL kids (entering 5th and 6th grade) to gather for a Bible story, craft/gizmo, and game. You will need a working bathroom and hose. You will also be responsible for inviting children in your neighborhood to join your Neighborhood VBS. At training, you will be given a box with all the supplies you will need to host.

REGISTRATION IS May 16 - May 31.

Host Family Requirements:

*Are you a member of The Bible Chapel?

*Do you have a current homeowners insurance policy?

*Do you have a safe, distraction free spot in the front or back yard where 20-25 kids can gather for Bible story, craft, and games while sitting on tarps or large picnic blankets? Think through a simple rain plan as well including garage or covered porch.

*Are you located on a street that allows children to be dropped off safely in the driveway or in front of the house?

*Does your yard have access to a working hose for games?

*Do you have a way to play music for worship time (CD player, portable speaker, etc.)?

*Does your house have easy access to a working bathroom that kids could use?

*If you have a pool, does it have a fence surrounding it to add an extra layer of protection?

Bible Teacher:

This position can be filled by a person willing to present an upfront 20-minute Bible story to the children in a way that is both interactive and fun. We have curriculum, a script, and props for you to use. You will need to be prepared with full knowledge of the lesson and review questions.

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIBLE CHAPEL MEMBERS OR ATTENDERS

Imagination Station Leaders:

This position can be filled by an energetic volunteer that will lead the 15-minute hands-on activity for the day. We will have script for you that will connect the daily Bible truths to a hands-on activity. Some of the activities will include science experiments, crafts, or creating a gizmo.

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.

Game Leaders:

This position can be filled by an energetic person that will lead the 10-minutes of games at the end of the day. The games will be predetermined, so you will need to understand the instructions and gist of each game. Some of the games will include water, so don't be afraid to get wet. We will supply all of the equipment needed for the games.

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.

Special Needs Helper:

This position can be filled by a volunteer that is willing to support a child with special needs as a one-on-one buddy during the week of VBS at the host home site.

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.

Runner/Floater:

This position can be filled by a flexible person who can fill in for another volunteer who is absent due to sickness, jump in as an extra volunteer for a home with lots of kids, or run extra supplies as needed. You will need reliable transportation.

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.

Teen Helpers:

This position can be filled by high school or middle school students (entering 7th – 12th) that will provide an extra level of support at each host home. You will assist the adult teachers and leaders in leading the games and activities. You will also support the teacher with crowd control during the Bible lesson. You will add the fun factor!

REGISTRATION IS June 8 – June 30.

REGISTER AT BIBLECHAPEL.ORG/VBS

“Let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power.” Ephesians 6:10