



Dear VBS Leader,

Thank you for who you are and all you do in answering the call to ministry with children! The work you and your teams do is and has been a key part of the lives of so many of us. VBS in particular is one of the first places many of us were introduced to the God who loves us, began a relationship with God through Jesus, and began serving God and others. We believe the time, effort, and spirit you invest in reaching all of God's children through VBS is essential to making our world a better place.

At this point in time, we understand that you and the people you are in ministry with are facing lots of uncertainty individually and as ministry team leaders and members. As we pay attention to how circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic unfold, we all wonder if, when, and how we will be conducting our ministry in the coming months. As you begin to consider your responses and plans, please know that your Cokesbury VBS team is praying for you. We've heard from you and we've seen what an important ministry opportunity VBS can be this year and every year. Know also that we are available to assist you with whatever your decision may be.

Cokesbury VBS programs have always been flexible. With suggested schedules for a variety of settings and timeframes, we are ready to help if you need to make adjustments.

If you decide to hold a virtual or remote VBS, many of our resources are already available digitally and several come with permission to share. To fill in the gaps, we are working to provide guidelines for sharing all of our resources, including adventure videos and music (which we do not own). In some cases, our resources may require adaptations for use at home. We're combing each leader guide to find the best options for "in-home" experiences and will share that information along with suggested adaptations and alternatives where necessary. As we put this together, we'll seek input from our writers and consult VBS leaders and educators to make sure we help you provide the best VBS experience possible this year.

If you are rescheduling your VBS to a later date, know that our returns deadline is extended until September 15, 2020. If you have already purchased a Cokesbury kit but have decided to postpone until next year, we plan to hold materials until 2021 as long as supplies last.

As we continue moving through this season of ministry, we invite you to join our Facebook group, "Cokesbury VBS," for connection, inspiration, conversation, idea-sharing, and keeping up to date.

We pray that each of you will know and experience God's love, grace, and nearness as we walk through this together!



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**Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10**