



GUIDE FOR POSITIVE **GUEST INTERACTIONS** AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Beginning A Conversation With Guests:

1. Look around and identify people you don't recognize.
2. Go over to them and introduce yourself, and tell them who you are (For example, "Hello, my name is X and I'm one of the church members here.")
3. Ask the names of everyone in their group, and repeat their names back as you say hello to each one.
4. Begin a conversation using one of the Conversation Seeds provided in this guide, or create some of your own.
5. Before ending the conversation, make sure they know they can ask you if they need anything, or have any questions.
6. Make sure to greet them again every following night that they come.

Trifecta of Positive Guest Interactions:

(Use these three pointers when having conversations with guests)

1. Use Positive Body Language

1. Maintain an open posture with uncrossed arms and hands out of pocket
2. Make eye contact consistently
3. Speak using your hands and allow the palms of your hands to be seen

2. Show Genuine Interest

1. Ask open-ended questions that encourage detailed responses
2. Focus on the guest by limiting self-talk
3. Remember details shared by the guest for future conversations

3. Participate in Active Listening

1. Provide visual cues to show you're listening, such as nodding or smiling
2. Paraphrase or summarize what you've heard, and ask follow-up questions to show you've been paying attention
3. Eliminate distractions and avoid interrupting the speaker

Conversation Seeds:

- "We're so glad you could join us for Vacation Bible School this week! Have you attended an event like this before?"
- "Welcome to Vacation Bible School! How did you hear about our event?"
- "It's great to have you here! What made you decide to come to Vacation Bible School?"
- "I've really been enjoying the skits! What was your favorite one so far?"
- "Where do you think the skits are going, and how do you think they'll end?"
- "What have you enjoyed the most about VBS so far?"
- "The kids seem to be having a great time, don't they? Do you have any kids participating?"
- "Have you had a chance to meet Ken Tucky yet?"
- "We really have a lot of great volunteers putting on this VBS! Have you had a chance to meet many of them yet?"
- "It's such a beautiful evening for our Vacation Bible School! How has your day been going so far?"
- "I love the positive energy at Vacation Bible School. Do you have any other fun plans for the rest of the summer?"
- "I find the stories and lessons we're sharing this week so inspiring. Have any stood out to you?"

Create some of your own Conversation Seeds:
