

Let Your Light So Shine



An Overview

PreK-5th Grade Unit

Unit Description

In the Let Your Light so Shine Unit, students explore Bible stories that show how God loved them, how God is trusted, how He protects us, and finally how He entrusts us to spread His word to the world. The leading theme throughout is light and letting your light shine.

Unit Design

This unit is designed that it can be used one of three ways:

1. As a Vacation Church School curriculum spanning 4-5 days. Each day would be one lesson including the games, craft, and snack. The final day would be the culminating activity in the overview. If a 4-day unit is preferred, then the culminating activity could be added to the end of the fourth day of the Unit.

VCS Sample Daily Schedule:

Introduction: Prayer and priest introduction—5 minutes

Station 1: Lesson—25 minutes

Station 2: Games—25 minutes

Station 3: Craft—25 minutes

Station 4: Snack—25 minutes

Closing: Prayer and questions—5 minutes

2. As a month-long Church School themed unit. Each week one of the lessons would be used. The teacher can decide which portions of the lesson to keep in and which ones to remove based on their timing.

3. As a single lesson. Each lesson is a full and complete set on its own, so teachers can choose to grab a lesson here or there and not complete the entire unit.



Lesson 1: Creation of the Stars

Lesson 2: Abraham's Descendants

Lesson 3: The Three Holy Youths

Lesson 4: Pentecost

*A note about Middle and High Schoolers and Vacation Church School. While this unit is geared toward younger students, we have found success having the older students meet off site for a brief lesson and an activity such as bowling, swimming, or kickball. Their lessons follow the same topics as the younger students, and the older students return for the culminating activity at the end of the week.

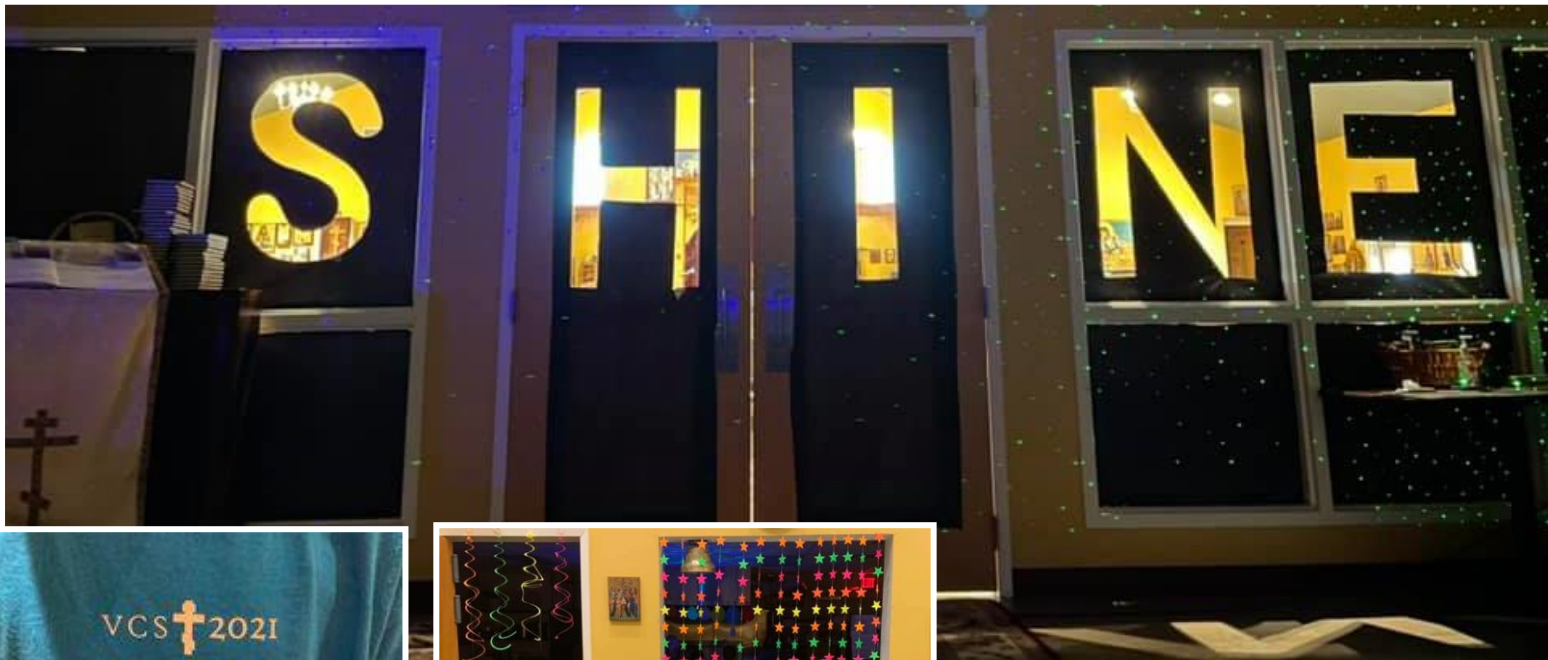
Decorations

Light it Up

- ✧ A large SHINE cut out of black paper and placed in adjacent windows makes an amazing focal point. If this space is not available, consider using cardboard and stringing Christmas, fairy, or rope lights to spell the word SHINE.
- ✧ Christmas Star Shower or Christmas Laser lights also work great to give a light up effect on the walls.
- ✧ Creating a black light space by putting black paper over all doors and windows allows for a fun entrance or fun zone area!
- ✧ Balloons with LED lights work great for a few accent places. Some LEDs might last the entire week but have some extras.
- ✧ Glow party supplies such as tablecloths, streamers, neon star post-its, and neon swirls.

Glow Zone

- ✧ Glow sticks are a must-- glow necklaces, glow bracelets, glow scrunchies, finger lights, etc.
- ✧ Glow cups that are fitted for a glow stick to go around the edge.
- ✧ Glow lanterns can be made from water bottles with glow sticks in them or skip the water and use finger lights!
- ✧ Glow make-up makes for a fun final night add in!
- ✧ LED hair accessories or light up earrings can be fun.
- ✧ Neon colors should be encouraged by staff and students as they will light up nicely in the black space fun zone.
- ✧ Custom T-shirts in neon colors with glow in the dark iron on vinyl make nice souvenirs for the students and staff.



End of the Unit Celebration

Vespers & Campfire Night

What better way to celebrate the end of a Let Your Light So Shine Vacation Church School than with evening prayers and a campfire! This also allows parents and all parish members to partake in the celebration.

Encourage students to wear neon colors and bring all their glow accessories for the outdoor fun.

If weather or location does not allow an outdoor fire, consider doing indoor s'mores using the oven or electric s'mores maker. Mini table centerpieces could be made to look like fires with logs/twigs, orange and red cellophane, and tea lights.

Color changing flame packets make a fun colorful treat. Colored sparklers could be festive too.

Flashlight tag or a glow in the dark ring toss could be organized.

Snacks to Serve

- ✧ S'mores
- ✧ Hot Dogs with rolls and toppings
- ✧ Orange foods like Cheezits, cheese puffs, Doritos, Takis, mandarin oranges, and baby carrots.
- ✧ Red foods like red bell pepper, cherry tomatoes, strawberries, red apples, and fruit by the foot (tongues of fire).
- ✧ Yellow foods like yellow bell pepper, bananas, mango, and pineapple.

