

BCBC 30th Anniversary Edition

2015 VBS & FBN reflection

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2015 VBS

Planning and implementing a Vacation Bible School and then can present challenges that prompt me to ask, "Will it really matter?" When I plan for months, pour my heart and soul into two weeks of VBS, sometimes I ask myself, "Is it worth the effort?"

There are lots of deep thoughts in this Ministry. Sometime, I fear that there won't be enough leaders and helpers within the church to justify such an activity. And I may wonder if I am able to find enough volunteers to work in the kitchen. There are lots of concerned involvements and responsibilities that need to be look after. This is the sign of our human weaknesses, but thanks God for His faithful promises and how he provides all of our needs. For the past years, our VBS ministry has increased in numbers of community kids that join our church continually year after year.

In 2015 we have almost fifty campers, with the majority of them from the community, only thirty five percent of the kids are from our church. Our theme was "Jesus is my Superhero". Each day's activities will help girls and boys learn more about God and Jesus through Heroes in the Bible, it also encourages children to understand the Bible and apply those Bible truths to their lives, and making God's word both real and meaningful. In addition, we had a field trip day to Aerosports indoor trampoline, superhero bouncy castle outdoor carnival, baking fun, skits, craft time and Zumba Fitness with a professional Zumba Fitness instructor. Our daily program starts from eight thirty to four thirty from Monday to Friday continually for two week. Most importantly, with God's abundance, he provided for all our need that direct our program richly and overflowing. For this reason, we can draw all the children to focus on their daily activities. Our closing presentation on the following second Sunday service was profound and precise. This is the significant moment to our kids. They are excited to dress themselves up like heroes to prepare their presentation, to show and share all they have learned during these two weeks. I try all my best to introduce children to God in Jesus Christ through the Bible, to reaffirm faith in Christ to those who already have a relationship with Christ, and to model Christ's teachings and servant hood to all of them.

VBS is the biggest and best evangelistic outreach event in the life of all churches. It also provides an outlet for meeting new children and families in our community, whether they are unchurched, looking for a new church home, or are already church members elsewhere. I suppose, VBS is not only "worth it," it is essential to the life of a functioning, growing church and community. My prayer is that as long as there are children and summer vacations, there will be a VBS to attend. And I thank God for allowing me to do the kind of work I do and partner with Him to change the lives of children now and forever.

Jesus said: *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* Luke 18:16.

“Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For he who is least among you all -- he is the greatest.” Luke 9:48

For this reason, we know that children are of matter to God, and they should matter to us too. I encourage parents to take seriously the spiritual instruction of their children. They are a special gift that God entrusts to each one of us. We should do all our best to train them in the way they should go, and when he is old he will never depart from it. However, VBS is one of the programs that can help nurturing your child to learn more about God, and draws them closer to Him, because they are uniquely special to God, so we should remember that they are uniquely special to us too. Please keep in mind, there is no pleasure in life that can equal the pleasure of seeing your own children grow up where God’s Word is taken seriously and where it has deeply penetrated their heart.

Family Blessing Night

Each year our Family Blessing Night turns out to be one of the greatest annual opportunities for parents to put actions of love behind their faith. In fact, I think this is the best time for children, teenagers, young adults, parents, and grandparents to gather in a setting where all members give and receive from each other. All ages can participate actively in prayer and packing shoe boxes, and fellowship to one another through refreshment time. The most significant is to draws our church into intergenerational family event.

For each shoe box we pack, it represents one seed we sowed. For the last four years, we sowed more than nine hundred seeds. In 2015 alone, we sowed around three hundred seeds. Praise the Lord! Praise Him for His favor that provides opportunities for our congregation to sow seeds all over the world and enable us to make it happen! Parents and children to sow seeds in the ground; the more seeds they sow, the more abundant harvest they will reap in God’s time. In fact, God intends to spread his blessings to every child all over the world. I truly believe God blesses those who love the children God loves. What matters is that we are walking in the blessing of God and we are leaving a legacy of blessing for generation after generations.