

Preparing For Next Months' VBS

by Wayne Goff

1. Plan to attend every night of the study on [Loving Your Neighbor As Yourself](#), and bring your children. If we don't support the effort, who will?
2. Think of friends, family, neighbors, co-workers who might want their children to learn about how to love your neighbor and give them a flyer, or send them an e-mail or text, or give them a call. You might be surprised how interested they are in the subject.
3. Pray for the effort that God will provide "*a great and effective door*" (1 Cor. 16:9) through this time of Bible study. There may be "*many adversaries,*" as in Paul's day, but God can help us overcome all of them! *Just be sure your indifference is not one of them.*
4. "*Love your neighbor as yourself*" is recorded first in Leviticus 19:18. Then it is repeated nine times in the New Testament – 4 times by Jesus (Matt. 5:43; 19:19; 22:39; Mk. 12:31), 1 time by a Jewish lawyer (Lk. 10:27), 1 time by a Jewish scribe (Mk. 12:33), 2 times by the apostle Paul (Rom. 13:9; Gal. 5:14), and 1 time by James (2:8). Read each of these in advance, learn what the Bible means by the phrase, and see the **motivation** to invite others in this text.
5. Get excited! It's an annual event that is geared toward children but is very useful for adults. In fact, our largest class is usually the adult class. But the songs, stories, illustrations, etc. are directed chiefly toward children. Remember Matthew 18:3? "*Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.*" **Think of what this means.**

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