



Olympics VBS 2024 at ECOB

Dates: July 16-18 6:00-8:00 and Family Night July 19 6:00-8:00

Theme Verse: Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Big Ideas:

Christians are a lot like athletes. We are born with skills, but what good are those skills if not developed and used for the greater good?

- Athletes have been gifted with athleticism and each member of the Olympics has certain skills that they use for the sport that they compete in. Likewise, God has given each of us talents/gifts. Each of us is to use our talent to further God's kingdom.
- A playbook helps athletes know the rules, and plan for the game. This helps keep all players on the same page. The Bible can be considered a playbook for Christians. God's word tells us what to do and what not to do.
- The Olympic torch symbolizes hope, peace, and unity. (Just like Jesus.) We are using the torch to symbolize Jesus being the light of the world. We carry that light with us into the world to show the world who Jesus is.

Local Missions Element Ideas:

- Support ECOBCC (We will donate money for them to purchase outdoor equipment for the center.)
- Support Mountaineers' Table families by giving scholarships for youth sports



Night 1: Opening Ceremony (Be the light)

- Scripture: Matthew 5:14
- Parade of Nations- each group is a nation and carries flags in?
- Torch Lighting (This week we'll learn how to be the light)

Bible Story: The Parable of the Talents

Scripture: Mathew 25:14-30

Bottom Line: God gave me a gift I can use to do his work.

Notes:

- We are each uniquely gifted and talented
- Who doesn't love gifts? Some gifts are physical, some gifts are unseen.
- God gives his children giftings special to them to serve the purpose he has thought

Theme connection:

Athletes have been gifted with athleticism and each member of the Olympics has certain skills that they use for the sport that they compete in. Likewise, God has given each of us talents/gifts. Each of us is to use our talent to further God's kingdom.

Game Ideas:

Craft Ideas:

Closing Rally:

- Review- we are learning how to be the light
- I can use my God given gift/talent to shine his light to others.



Night 2:

Opening Rally

- Review what it means to be the light.
- Review we each have a specific gift to be used for God.
- Introduce obedience and discipline

Drama (Shine On lights drama)

Bible Story: Moses/Ten Commandments

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17

Bottom Line: God's Word is my playbook.

Notes:

- Our role and purpose in the team is improved when we spend time with GOD and follow his instructions

Theme connection:

- Most athletes are born with a certain level of athleticism, but all are made better and world-class based on their practice and training and dedication
- God's children are instructed to similarly train and spend time in God's Word, spend time listening to God, spend time disciplining themselves & being obedient to God to become the best teammates for God
- Bible/playbook, God/coach

Game Ideas:

Craft Ideas:

Closing Rally:

- Being obedient to God and following His Word helps me shine His light to others.



Night 3:

Opening Rally Dana Risser, real Olympian speaks

Bible Story: You are the light of the world

Scripture: Matthew 5:14-16

Bottom Line: I can shine the light of Jesus so others may know him.

Theme connection: The Olympic torch represents hope, peace, and unity- and so does Jesus.

Game Ideas:

Craft Ideas:

Closing Rally: Review bottom lines, reveal total in offering, invite to Family Night on Friday



Night 4: Family Night

Carry the torch out to light a bonfire?

Sing a song or 2 from VBS

Celebrate the recipient of missions?

Pizza, veggies, chips

Shelly Reheard will speak a bit about the symbolism of the rings.