

OPENING SESSION | DAY 4



Key Question What is my favourite part of God's Creation?

Life Application I can be creative because God is creative.

Bottom Line God made everything we can know and see

Basic Truth I can trust God no matter what

DAY 4: Gifts and Talents

What gifts and talents do I have?

Supplies:

- Gift Box (wrapped with a bow)
- Inside the gift box: a giant pencil, clock, microphone, screwdriver, telephone, big paintbrush, washcloth
- Tags to label each gift box item
- Sewing machine, clothing tape measure, bolts of fabric, spindles of thread all set up on stage to set the scene for the Bible story
- Need one theatre costume or prop per Camper and Crew Leader
- outfit for Tabitha and poor woman
- needle
- thread
- scissors
- robe that Tabitha is sewing
- bench for them to sit on

Host selects two Campers to help open the gift box during Opening Session.

Host

I'm so happy you are here at VISTO! (Hold out V-shaped fingers. Wait for a response from the Campers)

Today is an important day as we put the finishing touches on our Showcase. (jazz hands) We get to share what we have learned this week with your family and friends! Have you invited them to Showcase (jazz hands) and the BBQ tomorrow? When your family arrives, you will get your hotdog and drink with them, and eat together. Also remember to wear your VISTO shirt tomorrow for the Showcase.

Now, let's play a game!

MADE TO WONDER

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Simon Says Theatre Style

Supplies: Need one theatre costume or prop per Camper and Crew Leader

Play background music during game

Host

You know how to play Simon Says but this is Simon Says Theatre Style.

Use one theatre costume or prop item to follow Simon's directions only when he says Simon Says.

If you move when there was no Simon Says, sit down with your prop in your lap.

Give Campers time to pick their theatre costume or prop item

Ready?

Simon Says wave your theatre prop high in the air.

Put it on the ground.

Simon Says....

Continue with these suggested actions:

- put your theatre prop on your head
- pass your prop to a friend
- set your prop on your chair
- Give a big belly laugh with your theatre prop in your hands
- Cry with your theatre prop
- Pretend to mime with your theatre prop
- Spin around with your theatre prop
- Hide behind your theatre prop

Host

Way to go, Campers! We have a winner! How creative you got with the actions you did.
(Crew Leaders gather theatre props)

Connection to Theme - Gifts and Talents

When you think of creativity, do you know of someone who is really talented or gifted in something? Maybe someone who plays the drums really well or decorates cakes super fancy or they can build anything out of Lego.

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Who do you know who is really talented or gifted in something?
(Let Campers share)

VERA enters carrying a big wrapped gift box. Inside the gift box is: a giant pencil, clock, microphone, screwdriver, telephone, big paintbrush, washcloth.

VERA

Hello, __Host's name__. Hi, everyone! (Give Campers time to say, "Hi, VERA!")

Host

Hi, VERA.

VERA

Look what I found backstage! A present! Who do you think it is for? What do you think is inside? Can we open it?

Host

Wow! What a pretty gift! What a big bow! Let's set it down on this table.

VERA

It must have something very special inside.

Host

Presents are special, aren't they? (Nods her head to Campers when saying this)

It is super special to give gifts on birthdays and holidays because we want our family and friends to know how special they are to us. It's also super special to receive gifts, isn't it?

VERA

I love presents!

Host

VERA, have you ever shopped and shopped until you found the perfect gift for a friend or your grandma that you knew they would love?

VERA

O, yes! One Birthday, I gave my cousin Tony a new fishing lure because he won a fishing contest. He is really good at fishing.

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And I gave my cousin, Brittney, a new popcorn maker because she can toss popcorn up and catch it in her mouth every single time. She is so talented.

VERA acts out the fishing and pretend popcorn tossing and catching it in her mouth.

Host

Wow! When you were born, you were given gifts specifically picked out for you. These gifts were given to you by God. We also call them talents.

The talents God gives us can be whatever you're naturally good at. You might be good at sports or playing a musical instrument. Or maybe science or math really interests you. Perhaps you are great at making new friends and helping people feel safe and welcome.

VERA

I'm really good at making my friends smile and laugh! I love bringing JOY everywhere I go!

Host

We love that about you, don't we, Campers?

Whatever it is that you are really good at, God made you talented in that way for a reason. He wants you to help others with your talents.

VERA

You mean that every time I make a friend laugh when they are sad, I am using my talent to help others?

Host

Yes! You got it, VERA. God loves it when you cheer up your friends when they are sad. What a great way to use your gift of bringing joy to help others.

Your talent is a gift for everyone!

VERA

Hey, __Host's name__, can we open the gift box already? The suspense of what's inside is getting the best of me!

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Host

Yes! Everyone has been so patient.

Would the two Campers I selected come to the stage to help me open the gift box?

Campers come to the stage and open the gift box with VERA and the Host. They read the tag on each item.

Each item is labeled with a gift tag that reads the gift or talent

Item:	Gift & Talent:
Giant Pencil	Storytelling/Writing
Clock	Patience
Microphone	Public Speaking/Giving Speeches
Screwdriver	Construction/Building
Telephone	Good Listener
Big Paintbrush	Artistic
Washcloth or sponge	Helper

VERA

What great gifts and talents God gives!

Host

Yes! Campers, did you recognize any gifts or talents you have when they were pulled out of the gift box? There are so many gifts and talents God gives, not just the ones we pulled out of the gift box.

VERA

I'll see you later, Campers. I'm going to find a friend who needs joy. Bye, everyone!

Host

Bye, VERA.

VERA exits

Bible Story | Acts 9:36-42

Cue Bible Story SFX

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Host

All of this talk of gifts and talents, makes me think of a woman in the Bible named Tabitha. (Host thumbs through Bible to Acts 9.)

What is the Bible? The Bible is...(Wait for Campers to shout, TRUTH!)

Tabitha enters stage and sits down on a bench to begin sewing. She is sewing the bath robe.

Tabitha was known for doing kind things and showing love to others. Tabitha was gifted in sewing and used her sewing skills to make clothes for the poor.

A Crew Leader dressed as a poor woman enters and sits beside Tabitha on the bench. They talk inaudibly as Tabitha sews.

Back in the days of the Bible, most people only had one set of clothes: 1) their main dress or tunic and 2) their cloak or coat. They didn't have a whole closet full of clothes like we have today. Tabitha made the woman feel special by making her a coat.

Tabitha holds up the robe for the woman to put on. Both smile and hug each other and then walk off.

Host

Your talent is a gift from God to bless and help others.

As you go about your day, I want you to ask the question,
What gifts and talents do I have?

Cue Question of the Day Animation and SFX