

OPENING SESSION | DAY 2



Key Question	Who am I?
Life Application	I am who God says I am
Bottom Line	God made me amazing and wonderful
Basic Truth	I am deeply loved by God, just as I am

DAY 2: Created for a Purpose

What can I do to help others?

Supplies:

- Painter's tape
- Hopscotch boards taped with painter's tape to the floor, one per Crew
- Bean bags (to mark a Camper's spot on the Hopscotch board – only need five, one per Crew)
- fireworks audio booming in the background as VERA enters stage and sings
- pom poms
- a Bible
- Costume for Gideon, Angel, and a few warriors
- 3 jars
- 3 trumpets
- perhaps a broom (just the stick part) to represent the tool used by Gideon to thresh the wheat
- a wide, wicker basket holding wheat

HOST: Good morning VISTO Camp! (Hold out V-shaped fingers. Wait for a response from the Campers)

So happy you are here today! We have so much fun in store today as we talk more about how you are amazing and wonderful, made by God.

Call & Response: **“Uniquely who? You! Uniquely We? Me!”**

Let's jump right into a game. Who noticed the five Hopscotch boards around the gym? We are going to play Hopscotch, but listen carefully to my directions.

UNIQUELY ME!

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Hopscotch

Crew Leader grabs bucket of bean bags

Host:

When I say, Go!, follow your Crew Leader to the Hopscotch board closest to you.

You will take turns:

1. Tossing the bean bag onto a number on the Hopscotch board.
2. Then hop through the Hopscotch board until you get to the number your bean bag is sitting on.

Usually, you jump over the square that has the bean bag on it, right? But not today!

3. Jump on the spot that has the bean bag, and there, tell your Crew one thing that you are really good at or like doing. What is a skill or talent you have?

4. Then hop through the rest of the way through the Hopscotch board.

Got it?

Remember,
Toss the bean bag
Hop through the Hopscotch board
Tell what you're good at when you get to the bean bag
Hop the rest of the way through the Hopscotch board.
Go!

Each Camper takes a turn through the Hopscotch board.

Crew Leaders pick up bean bags after game and place them on stage

Host:

Isn't Hopscotch the best?!

I want to hear the things you enjoy doing and are really good at. Who wants to share?

Engage with Campers answers

What an amazing, talented group of Campers we have at ViSTO this week.

Hold out V-shaped fingers

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Connection to Theme

Host:

Yesterday, we learned how God made everything, including you and me. You are amazing and wonderful.

Today, we want you to know that you have purpose. Your life and the things you do are important.

Everything you shared that you are good at, matters. They are part of your purpose.

VERA pops on stage like a firework with pom poms in hand
Cue fireworks audio booming in the background

VERA:

'Cause, Baby, you're a firework! Come on, show 'em what your worth!
Make 'em go Oh! Oh! Oh! As you shoot across the sky!

Host:

Well, hello, VERA!

Give Campers time to say Hi, VERA!

VERA:

Hi, everyone!

Host:

You are a firework!

VERA:

Why, thank you very much! (Does an exaggerated bow and shakes her pom poms.)

Host:

I was just telling the Campers about how we were created for a purpose.

The things we love doing now and are really good at doing can become the work or purpose God has for us when we grow up.

Share approximately 2-3 of these that you would know
relates to your Campers. Not all need to be said

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Connection to Theme

- Perhaps you love to draw or paint. Maybe someday, you will become an art teacher or an illustrator for children's books.
- Your great hockey skills might mean that you make it to the OHL or NHL or coach a kid's hockey team.
- Not everyone can play the piano. Maybe one day, you'll play the piano as a little concert for the people living in a retirement home.
- Maybe someday, your singing talent will lead you to record a #1 hit.
- Taking care of your younger siblings today might mean that one day you have your own day care.
- If you love baking cookies now, maybe one day you'll have a bakery that serves the best chocolate chip cookies around!
- Keep writing because you might write a New York Times best seller.
- Love pets? Maybe you'll become a veterinarian.
- Keep beating your friends in your favourite video game? You might become a video game designer someday.

VERA:

I get it! I see how the things we love doing now and are really good at doing can be the work or purpose God has for us when we grow up.

Host:

Totally, Vera! And guess what? You don't have to wait to grow up to do those things. You can do them now.

Lean in, Campers. We're going to hear a story from the Bible of a man who had a BIG purpose. God had something important for him to do.

VERA:

Yahoo! I love Bible story time! (Sits among Campers to hear the story)

BIBLE STORY | Judges 6-7

Cue Bible Story SFX

Characters:

Gideon	_____		
Angel	_____		
Narrator	_____		
Warriors (a few)	_____	_____	_____
Midianites	_____	_____	_____

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Supplies for Bible Story

Narrator:

This is Gideon.

Gideon makes a grand entrance with his broom stick and wide
& shallow wicker basket in hand

One day, he was working away collecting wheat to make bread.

Gideon:

I gotta hide this wheat from the Midianites. They are enemies of my people, Israel. Seven years we have been controlled by the Midianites. No more! These bad guys gotta go!

Narrator:

As Gideon was working, an angel from God suddenly appeared.

Angel:

PSTTT! Gideon. Don't stress. God is with you. You're a brave warrior.

Narrator:

Gideon looked around. An angel? Talking to him? A brave warrior? He's gotta be talking about somebody else.

Gideon:

Are you talking to me? I am definitely not strong enough to fight the Midianites.

Angel:

I am talking to you, Gideon. I'm telling you, Go! Save Israel from the Midianite mobster meanies!

Gideon:

But, how? My family is poor, and I'm too young.

Angel:

I'll be with you. You will crush them, no sweat.

Narrator:

One night, Gideon snuck down to the enemy's campground with a few warrior men.

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A few warriors and Gideon sneak across the stage and huddle together Backstage lights are dim to represent the night

Warriors:

(enter) Sneak, sneak, sneak

Gideon:

Gather your trumpet and jars. When I say, “Blow your trumpet and smash your jars, do it. And shout, “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!”

Narrator:

Gideon and his warriors did exactly that. They surrounded the Midianite camp, blew their trumpets, smashed their jars, and shouted.

Mix SFX, trumpets with jars breaking

Gideon and his warriors shout on stage “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!”

Warriors run off stage

Narrator:

They created so much noise that it confused and scared the Midianite army. The whole army ran away.

Even though Gideon felt scared and too young, He did it! He did God’s purpose and saved his people, called Israel, from the Midianite mobster meanies.

VERA: (jumps up)

Wow! Gideon was so brave. I want to be brave like that. I’m going to practice my trumpet.

(VERA exits. From off stage, hear VERA making a trumpet sound and shouting “A sword for the Lord and Gideon!”)

Host moves to front center stage to sit.

Host:

God created you for a purpose. You are special and you have important things to do, just like Gideon.

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Host:

Those important things might be:

- opening the door for someone
- encouraging a friend
- inviting someone who is sitting alone to join you for lunch
- choosing to not talk so you can listen to the game rules

These are important things to do because they help others.

As you go about your day, I want you to ask the question,

Cue Question of the Day Animation & SFX

What can I do to help others?

I encourage you to look for ways throughout the day to lend a helping hand and to be an encouraging friend.

Call & Response: Uniquely who? You! Uniquely We? Me!

VISTO VIRTUES - Behavior Expectations

Host:

Now, before we go out the door, let's remember our VISTO VIRTUES. Everyone say "VISTOOO!"

Let Campers respond with VISTOOO!

Following our VISTO Virtues is an important thing to do today to help others.

Cue Animation 1-slide

- We are super stars at being respectful and kind. No bullying is allowed.
- Go Outside with Permission and with a VISTO Staff
- Keep Your Hands to Yourself and distractions away
- Dive In! Take part in all of the activities and have fun!