# Emerald Crossing Promo Skit

## WEEK 1

***Props: straw/hay, pitch fork, clipboard (place a tarp on your floor under the hay to make cleanup easier)***

***Costumes:***

***Person 1 is wearing overalls, muck boots, and a straw hat***

***Person 2 is in normal clothes, carrying a clipboard***

*Person 1 enters, shoveling forkfuls of straw/hay, spreading it out, humming an Irish tune.*

**Person 2:** *(Walking in with eyes on the clipboard before noticing hay everywhere)* \_\_\_\_(NAME)! What are you doing? Why is there hay everywhere?

**Person 1:** *(Continuing to spread hay)* I just thought I’d get an early start on getting things ready. You know, “the early bird gets the worm.” We farmers have to be up early to get a head start on the day.

**Person 2:** What are you talking about? You don’t live on a farm. And where did all this hay come from?

**Person 1:** You really haven’t been paying attention, have you?

**Person 2:** *(Looking around bewildered)* Paying attention—to what?

**Person 1:** There have been countless flyers, signs, and emails all about it. *(Scooping up another pitchfork full of hay)* I’m really surprised you didn’t pay attention. Well, not really. Apparently, a lot of people haven’t been paying attention. Can you believe, when I got here, there was not a single bale of hay? It’s a good thing I came early, or the sheep would have nowhere to rest. *(Continues to spread out the hay)*

**Person 2:** *(Grabbing Person 1 by the shoulders)* Okay. Stop. Help me understand what you are doing, other than making a mess with all this hay.

**Person 1:** \_\_\_\_(NAME of Person 2), we are about to have a church full of sheep! You don’t think the sanctuary magically transforms into a pasture all by itself, do you? We have to prepare, just like \_\_\_\_(NAME OF VBS DIRECTOR) said. *(Tries to go back to spreading hay)*

**Person 2:** *(Finally beginning to understand)* Wait a minute. Are you talking about *Emerald Crossing*?

**Person 1:** Yes! The name of our new sheep farm: Emerald Crossing. Personally, I think it’s a little weird to turn a sanctuary in the middle of \_\_\_(STATE) into a sheep farm, but if that’s what we are doing. . . . *(Tries to go back to spreading hay)*

**Person 2:** *(Takes pitchfork away from Person 1)* Hold on. I think I’ve figured out what’s happened. Remember when you said I didn’t pay attention? Are you sure *you* read all of the flyers and emails?

**Person 1:** Maybe not word for word. I get a lot of emails. But I skimmed. I skimmed it really well. I know all about our new sheep farm, “Emerald Crossing.”

**Person 2:** *(Rifles through pages on clipboard and hands it to Person 1)* Here. Read this page—out loud, if you don’t mind.

**Person 1:** Oh-kaay? *(Reading sheepishly, beginning to understand the mistake)*  Coming Soon! *Emerald Crossing, an Irish Adventure* through Psalm 23. Sign up to help us transform our church into the Irish hillside, as boys and girls this summer will learn all about the Good Shepherd.

**Person 2:** So is our church transforming into a sheep farm?

**Person 1:** I mean, technic. . . okay. No. Apparently, I should have read the email a little more carefully. If I had, *(looking around)* I would have saved myself a lot of time and mess.

**Person 2:** Because???

**Person 1:** Because *Emerald Crossing* is the name of this year’s Vacation Bible School, centered on Psalm 23—not a new sheep farm endeavor of the church.

**Person 2:** Exactly. *Emerald Crossing VBS* is happening \_\_\_\_\_\_ *(*TIME and DATE of VBS*).* It’s a fun Irish sheep farm theme to go with the Bible focus on Psalm 23. Boys and girls will learn about how God is our Shepherd. Not only will they work on memorizing a super important Bible passage, but they’ll be learning how to apply it to their lives, learning to let the Good Shepherd guide and comfort them, to follow him, and give him all the praise he deserves.

**Person 1:** That sounds like a really amazing VBS!

**Person 2:** Yes! It’s going to be an great week for the boys and girls who attend. But it’s not for another \_\_\_\_\_\_weeks.

**Person 1:** Sooo. . . . *(Hesitating)* Do you think there’s somewhere we can store this hay?

**Person 2:** \_\_\_\_(NAME of Person 1), we just talked about this! We are not turning the church into a sheep farm. It’s a VBS theme.

**Person 1:** I know. I know. But, hear me out. What if we use the hay to embellish our set a little? We could put some cardboard sheep over there, make some fake fencing over here. . . .

**Person 2:** I like it! *(Making a note on the clipboard and beginning to walk away)* I’ll put you down for being in charge of the decorations!

**Person 1:** *(Following Person 2)* Wait a minute! What about the hay?

*Exit stage.*

# Emerald Crossing Promo Skit

## WEEK 2 – Volunteers

***Props: VBS Clipboard***

***Costumes:***

***Person 1 is wearing VBS T-Shirt, flannel shirt over top (unbuttoned) straw hat***

***Person 2 is wearing normal clothes***

*Person 1 is on stage, making notes on the clipboard as Person 2 walks in, with a purpose, sees Person 1 and exaggeratingly tries to back away.*

**Person 1:** *(Looking up and seeing Person 2)* Oh, \_\_\_\_(NAME)! I’m so glad I caught you! I wanted to ask if you’d be willing to volunteer for VBS.

**Person 2:** *(Avoiding eye contact)* Umm, VBS. Yeah, I don’t know about that.

**Person 1:** VBS is a really big and important week for our church. Not just our kids, but boys and girls from the community will be coming to hear the life-changing message of Jesus. We kick off the day one lesson teaching boys and girls how they can cross from lost to found by becoming followers of Christ. Eternities can change because of what the kids hear at VBS. I’d love to have you as a classroom assistant.

**Person 2:** Umm. I think I might be out of town that week.

**Person 1:** You’re out of town \_\_\_\_(NAME and DATE of VBS)?

**Person 2:** Did I say out of town? I meant work. I think I work then.

**Person 1:** You work at \_\_\_(TIME of VBS)?

**Person 2:** Ugh. I’m actually allergic to *(glancing around for inspiration)* kids . . . and laughter. . . possibly cardboard.

**Person 1:** Allergic to cardboard? I’m getting the impression that you don’t want to sign up to volunteer for VBS.

**Person 2:** VBS just isn’t my thing. I’m sorry, but five days of babysitting kids just isn’t my idea of fun.

**Person 1:** Wait! Did you say *babysitting*?

**Person 2:** Yeah. I mean, we all know that VBS is pretty much just a babysitting gig where we tell the kids a Bible story while the parents get a free date night. Like I said, not my thing.

**Person 1:** I don’t think you fully understand what happens at VBS. Everything in our Vacation Bible School is designed so boys and girls can hear the life-changing message of Jesus and then be discipled in God’s Word. We’re in the Bible, studying God’s truth. Sure, we play games and have lots of fun, but even the games we play are designed to help us reinforce the day’s lesson. By the end of the week, boys and girls will have heard that there is a God who cares for them and offers salvation to them.

**Person 2:** Will they hear how they can believe in Jesus and receive the gift of eternal life?

**Person 1:** Absolutely! They will learn how God is the Good Shepherd who wants to lead, guide, and care for them. Trust me when I say, VBS is *not* anything like babysitting.

**Person 2:** Oh. I thought you all just let the kids run around and have fun all week.

**Person 1:** No way! We have just a few hours that week to teach boys and girls the truths of God’s Word, and we aren’t wasting a minute!

**Person 2:** Wow! When is it again?

**Person 1:** *Emerald Crossing VBS* takes place on \_\_\_\_\_\_(DATE and TIME). Are you maybe reconsidering being allergic to cardboard and children?

**Person 2:** Yeah. *(Slightly embarrassed)* I think I was mistaken. If you still have some openings, I’d love to be a part of VBS. I want to do whatever I can to make sure boys and girls hear about Jesus and how they can follow him.

**Person 1:** Wonderful! I’ll put you down for helping in \_\_\_\_\_ (TEACHER’S NAME) classroom.

**Person 2:** Do you still need more volunteers? I mean, something as big as VBS must take a lot of volunteers, right?

**Person 1:** *(Looking at clipboard)* It sure does! We still need quite a few volunteers.

**Person 2:** *(Reaching for the clipboard)* I’ll get them for you.

**Person 1:** You will?

**Person 2:** Yeah. I’ll get your volunteers. People need to know how important VBS is. Once they realize they have the opportunity to help disciple kids, I’m sure we’ll have more volunteers than we know what to do with.

**Person 1:** Okay. Thank you. You can have people sign up to help by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (INSERT YOUR SIGN-UP DETAILS).

**Person 2:**No problem. I’ll be back in just a few minutes with a list full of volunteers.

**Person 1:** It might take some time to find all the volunteers we need.

**Person 2:** Trust me. I’ve got this. People will want to be a part of the amazing Kingdom work that happens during VBS, I just know it. *(Begins jogging off stage, calling for someone)* Hey! *\_\_\_\_\_\_*(NAME OF CHURCH PERSON), I want to talk to you about VBS!

**Person 1:** Wow! I hope all of the volunteers are that excited to serve.

*Share a personal testimony from a VBS worker at your church if desired or Exit Stage.*

# Emerald Crossing Promo Skit

## WEEK 3 – Pray for VBS

***Props: papers with names of VBS registrants, glue gun, paint roller***

***Costumes: VBS T-shirt or regular clothes***

*Person 1 is looking around with the papers in his/her arms, waiting for Person 2. Person 2 runs in frantically, holding the glue gun and paint roller.*

**Person 2:** I’m here! I’m here! *(Out of breath)*

**Person 1:** You made it! Thank you for coming!

**Person 2:** Absolutely. *(Panting slightly)* I’ve got my glue gun *(holds it up)* and my paint roller. *(Holds up other hand)* We can fix whatever the VBS emergency is!

**Person 1:** It’s an emergency, alright!

**Person 2:** Just tell me what to do.

**Person 1:** *(Handing half of the stack of papers to Person 2)* I need you to help pass these out.

**Person 2:** Seriously? Passing out papers is the VBS emergency?

**Person 1:** Well, yeah.

**Person 2:** You called me, all frantic, saying we forgot to do the most important thing for VBS. I rushed over here, and the emergency is passing out papers?

**Person 1:** Yes! *(Gesturing to the papers)*

**Person 2:** Really?

**Person 1:** Did you even look at the papers I just handed you?

**Person 2:** No. I was too busy catching my breath. *(Looks at papers)* Oh. I take it back.

**Person 1:** Thank you. Now, will you help me? I just can’t believe we forgot this part. This is the single most important thing we can do for VBS, and I want our church to do it well.

**Person 2:** Agreed. So, what’s the plan? How are we passing these out?

**Person 1:** Well, I printed off enough copies for everyone at church to take one home.

**Person 2:** And we’ve got, what \_\_\_\_\_\_ (DAYS/WEEKS) until VBS starts?

**Person 1:** Yes. So, if everyone takes home their list . . . .

**Person 2:** Then that’s a lot of prayers for our VBS kids.

**Person 1:** Exactly! Praying for the hearts of the boys and girls that God is bringing to VBS next \_\_\_\_\_(MONTH OF VBS) is huge! It’s the most important thing we can do to prepare for VBS. Yeah, we want epic decorations and lots of yummy snacks. We want fun crafts and high-energy games. We want to do all the VBS things well, and trust me, there’s still plenty of those details left to do. But praying for the kids? That’s so much more important than all of that other stuff.

**Person 2:** So, when I give people the paper with all of the names of the boys and girls who are coming to VBS, what should I ask them to pray for?

**Person 1:** Ask them to pray for their hearts. The kids are going to hear some really important lessons about their sin and their need for the Savior; they are going to learn about how to follow God and live for him. Some of the kids will hear the gospel for the first time, and others might be ready to respond. Other kids might learn what it means to let God guide them or how he cares for them. We don’t know what each child needs to hear, but we can trust that God has already been— and will continue—to work on their hearts.

**Person 2:** And we want to ask our church family to pray over this list of names every single day leading up to VBS, right?

**Person 1:** At least! I mean, we for sure want them praying every day leading up to VBS, but it would be great if they prayed after VBS ends too! Who knows which children will need those continued prayers?

**Person 2:** Yes! Okay, before we pass these out, though, can we stop right now and pray? Really kick off praying for our VBS?

**Person 1:** Great idea!

*Pray over the VBS students or invite your pastor to pray. Following the prayer, pass out the lists, making sure everyone gets a paper, then challenge them to pray for the VBS students each day leading up to VBS. Pass out Praying for You postcards that people can fill out and return to you to mail to the children.*

# Emerald Crossing Promo Skit

## WEEK 4 – One Week Until VBS

***Props: binoculars, notebook, and pen***

***Costumes***

***Person 1 is wearing a shepherd costume***

***Person 2 is wearing a VBS shirt or regular clothes***

*Person 1 is walking around with binoculars, looking at stuff then making a note in his/her notebook when Person 2 walks up and taps him/her on the shoulder.*

**Person 2:** *(Taps Person 1 on the shoulder)*

**Person 1:** *(Jumping, frightened)* AGHH!! *(Clutching hand to heart.)* You scared me!

**Person 2:** So I see. What are you doing?

**Person 1:** Well, before you walked up and scared me half to death, I was just making sure everything was ready for VBS.

**Person 2:** With binoculars?

**Person 1:** Yeah. I’m making sure everything is ready and that there aren’t any dangers anywhere.

**Person 2:** What do you mean by dangers?

**Person 1:** *(Emphatically drags Person 2 by the hand to another section of the stage and points to a random spot on the ground.)* Like that.

**Person 2:** Like what? The carpet? Is the carpet a danger?

**Person 1:** Well, it could be. I am making a list of anything that could be a potential danger for the kids at VBS. I don’t want anything to frighten or injure them.

**Person 2:** We definitely don’t want kids to get hurt at VBS. We have policies in place to hopefully prevent anything from happening. But let me see your list just in case. *(Takes list from Person 1 and reads.)* \_\_\_\_\_(NAME of PERSON 1), while I appreciate your dedication to the kids at VBS, I don’t think any of these things are going to frighten the boys and girls.

**Person 1:** Really? *(Grabbing list and pointing exaggeratedly)* You don’t think Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_’s mustache is frightening? And all the red markers up in the craft supplies? I just don’t think it’s worth the risk. We need to make some changes and make them quickly. We only have a few days left.

**Person 2:** *(Confused)* Okay. What’s going on? What’s all this really about?

**Person 1:** *(Sighs)* I’m just… well, I was reading over the lessons so I would be prepared, right? And it had all of this stuff in there about sheep. Sheep really benefit when they have someone to guide them. They need help protecting themselves. I mean, did you know if a sheep falls on its back, sometimes it can’t get itself back up? And that got me thinking about our sheep, I mean our VBS kids, and how we have to protect them!

**Person 2:** Did you read all of the day 3 lesson?

**Person 1:** Almost. I read most of the intro.

**Person 2:** That’s why I love this year’s VBS so much! The world is a crazy place for our kids, but during VBS, they will learn about the Good Shepherd who cares for them. God can guide them down the best paths in life, keeping them away from the things that will harm them. I can’t wait for our kids to learn all about the Good Shepherd and how to follow him!

**Person 1:** It sounds like it’s not just the kids who have a lot to learn during VBS.

**Person 2:** VBS is truly going to be an amazing week for our church.

**Person 1:** Do you think everything is ready?

**Person 2:** Just about! (*Provide any VBS information, reminding people of start times and last-minute tasks*.)But, do you know what we can do to make sure everything is really, truly ready?

**Person 1:** No! What?

**Person 2:** Keep praying!

**Person 1:** That sounds like a good plan! We’ll keep praying for our VBS and all that the boys and girls are going to be learning!

*Exit stage*

# Emerald Crossing Promo Skit

## WEEK 5 – After VBS

***Props: guitar or ukulele***

***Costumes: VBS shirts***

*Person 1 is walking around strumming and singing a sad VBS song, then   
Person 2 enters.*

**Person 1:** *(singing)* VBS is over . . . I wish there was a do-over. For now, I am so sad . . . Thinking of all the fun we had.

**Person 2:** Hey, \_\_\_(NAME of PERSON 1), are you okay? Your song sounds a little sad there.

**Person 1:** No. *(Sniffling loudly)* I’m not okay.

**Person 2:** What’s wrong? Are you just sad that VBS is over?

**Person 1:** I’m not *just* sad. I’m super sad. VBS is over, and I have all of these big, sad feelings. And you know how the boys and girls learned a lot about King David this week? Well, I don’t know if you know this or not, but David wrote a lot of songs of praise. And sometimes his songs of praise were sorrowful ones called laments. So, I’m writing a VBS lament. *(Resumes singing and playing)* Lesson time was great . . . lots of snacks were ate.

**Person 2:** I know you’re bummed that VBS is over. Same here. But there were a lot of amazing things about VBS we can be thankful for.

**Person 1:** *(Begrudgingly)* I know.

**Person 2:** There were \_\_\_\_ kids (NUMBER of KIDS ATTENDED)whoheard the gospel this week and learned all about how to follow the Good Shepherd, letting him lead, guide, and provide for them.

**Person 1:** Yes, and the boys and girls raised \_\_\_\_\_\_ dollars (AMOUNT RAISED FOR MISSION OFFERING)for our missions offering going to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(WHERE MONEY IS DONATED).

**Person 2:** And we passed out about a million high fives as we shared the love of Jesus with the boys and girls.

**Person 1:** *(Cheering up)* I know. It was a truly amazing week—the best week ever! *(Sighs)* But it’s over now. *(Starts playing again.)*

**Person 2:** Hey! There’s still more we can be thankful for!

**Person 1:** *(Excitedly).* Really?

**Person 2:** Of course! Think about all of the amazing volunteers who helped make VBS possible!

**Person 1:** Yes! There were so many helpful people! *(To the congregation)* Thank you to all the craft workers, classroom helpers, snack workers, recreation volunteers, and all of our great leaders! And a big thank you to our VBS director for all the work he/she put in. We truly couldn’t have done it without you.

**Person 2:** Though our amazing volunteers make VBS possible, without God, this VBS truly would not have been possible. Lord, thank you for letting it be such a great VBS last week!

*Optional—use this time to pray over VBS, thanking God for all he did and is continuing to do.*

**Person 1:** Uh-oh, I’m getting sad again. *(Starts strumming)*

**Person 2:** Well, do you remember what we talked about on day 4 of VBS? *(Person 1 sadly nods head yes)* Being grateful! God blessed our VBS in so many ways. *(Share a short testimony or two of amazing things that happened during VBS.)* So instead of being sad about VBS ending, we should focus on being grateful because it was such a wonderful week. Let’s give God praise for being so good to us.

**Person 1:** *(Perking up)* You know what? You’re right! I’m still a little sad because VBS is over, but I choose to be grateful for all of the good times during VBS!

**Person 2:** That’s the attitude. You can make a song of VBS praise instead!   
Plus . . . there’s always next year.

*Exit stage*

# Emerald Crossing Wrap-up Skit

## VBS Family Ceremony

***Props: note cards***

***Costumes: VBS T-Shirt or shepherd costumes***

*Person 1 carries index cards, walking on stage with Person 2, when Person 1 stumbles—very exaggeratedly—dropping the index cards.*

**Person 1:** Oh no! *(Frantically gathering the cards and putting them in order)* Oh no, no, no!

**Person 2:** *(Trying to help pick up cards)* It’s fine. Take a breath.

**Person 1:** No, it’s not fine. My notes aren’t in order.

**Person 2:** Your notes? Well, that’s okay. Just wing it.

**Person 1:** Wing it? How on earth am I supposed to wing it? *(Looking at the congregation)* Look at all of those parents out there! There is no way I can tell them about VBS without my notes!

**Person 2:** Why not? You were at VBS. Just tell the parents what we did.

**Person 1:** *(Still trying to put cards in order)* Do you know how long I spent preparing my notes for today?

**Person 2:** Why don’t you start by telling the parents about what their kids learned this week, as we took an Irish adventure through Psalm 23.

**Person 1:** Well, yeah. Psalm 23 was an amazing passage to study. Through David's life, we learned all about how God can be our Shepherd and how he wants to guide us, provide for us, and protect us.

**Person 2:** I loved how the boys and girls worked on memorizing Psalm 23. *(Consider having children recite the memory verses here.)*

**Person 1:** Yes! All of those kids hiding God’s Word in their hearts is amazing!

**Person 2:** And the crafts and science experiments this year were super fun! *(Talk about or show a craft from VBS.)*

**Person 1:** I loved how even the games and snacks tied back to the lessons. Like the recreation game where \_\_\_\_\_(FAVORITE GAME and HOW IT REINFORCED THE LESSON). Every part of VBS was intentional.

**Person 2:** Don’t forget about the mission offering and how many boys and girls came to VBS this week!

**Person 1:** Yes! We raised \_\_\_\_\_(AMOUNT RAISED FOR MISSION OFFERING)for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(WHERE MONEY IS DONATED).And we had \_\_\_(NUMBER OF KIDS) join us this week to learn about the Good Shepherd.

**Person 2:**It was a fabulous week. I’m so glad all of our volunteers served this week, and that all of these families joined us.

**Person 1:** Me too! I wish all of our VBS friends would join us every week.

**Person 2:** Why don’t you invite them?

**Person 1:** That’s a great idea! *(Addressing the families)* We’d love to have you join us each week \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(SERVICE TIMES).

**Person 2:** Hey! Looks like you didn’t need your notes after all.

**Person 1:** You’re right! I just needed to share with the parents how great our week was at *Emerald Crossing*. There’s just one thing that we still haven’t shared.

**Person 2:** What’s that?

**Person 1:** Pictures! We took so many great pictures at VBS, and they can do a much better job than I can, with or without notes, showing what a great time we had at VBS. Let’s check it out.

*Exit stage and show VBS picture slide show*