

Christian Olympics VBS

Opening Ceremony

Setup

Gather the children in the hallway by country. Give each delegate a sign with their country's name and a flag to carry in.

The Parade of Nations

Open with the parade of nations. Each country's delegates march into the auditorium as a group, when their country is called. Countries are called in alphabetical order. They take their places together. [*Note: adults may have to help herd the children and keep them together.*]

(Suggested) Speech by the President of the Organizing Committee (VBS director)

Welcome delegates from countries across the globe. Today we have [*your number of countries*] countries represented. We know our countries by our flags [*and any other way you have chosen, e.g., the color of our headbands*]. When I call your country, show me your flags and cheer for your country:

e.g., put your countries and colors here

Australia (Blue)

Canada (Purple)

Germany (Orange)

Italy (Green)

Spain (Yellow)

The United Kingdom (Red)

Did you know that the Olympics are very much like the kingdom of God, which is made up of people from all the countries of the world? When we all meet in Heaven, there will be people from all over the world who look very different from you and I and who do not speak English! But we will all have one thing in common. Can you guess what that is? [*Allow guesses.*] We will all be children of God who successfully completed the Christian race!

Today, you have been selected to represent your country in various Olympic activities while we learn about running that Christian race. For the [*name of city*] Olympics, each country has delegates of all ages for singing, studying, crafts, and games. You will participate in activities in each of these areas with the delegates from other countries.

During the day, you will learn many things about how to be a good Christian runner, and at the end of the day, each country will compete in a final event that crosses all age groups. All winners will receive a special medal. [*Hold up sample of medal.*]

So, are you ready to compete? [*Pause for response.*] Are you sure? That sounded weak! Are you ready? [*Pause for response.*]

May we now have the torch?

The Torch Relay

An adult relays the torch down the aisle and sets it on the podium. Use a large gentleman if you can and a very small torch. This will result in giggles from all the children.

Official Songs of the Olympics (song leader)

VBS director: And now, let us sing some official Christian Olympic songs.

Song leader leads songs. Suggestions include:

Roll the Gospel Chariot
The B-I-B-L-E
The More We Read the Bible
Oh, Be Careful Little Eyes
One, Two, Three (The Devil's After Me)

The Beginning of the Olympics (VBS director)

I now declare open the Christian Olympics of [City, State]!