

2013 Youth Rally

“ Rally Time ”


IOLA BAPTIST TEMPLE
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It was the 6th inning of the World Series in 1986 when the television cameras began focusing on some of the players in the New York Mets' dugout. They started wearing their hats inside out. The Mets were playing the Boston Red Sox, and the Red Sox were leading the series 3 games to 2.

The Mets had been trailing the Red Sox the whole game until suddenly they started getting some hits. Fans were clapping, and shouting, and getting more than a little excited. Later that game, the Red Sox missed a catch, allowing 4 runs to be scored, and the Mets pulled ahead to win the game...and the "rally cap," as we know it today, gained national recognition.

Now, we aren't advocating any superstitious practices here, but I believe our youth can learn something from the "rally cap." You see, in baseball, the fans have a whole lot of "down time." They spend a large part of the game watching the players switch sides, warm up, take a few practice swings...it can get really boring! Even the players themselves have a lot of down time. Some of them hardly play a game the whole season, but that doesn't stop them from showing their team spirit and cheering on their teammates. It certainly doesn't stop the fans that are shouting, clapping, and doing the wave.

Many of our churches today seem to be trailing behind. The Enemy is scoring left and right, and we seem to be losing. It can get discouraging, and we can think, "What difference can I make." Well, get in the game! You might feel like you are "sitting in the dugout" at church waiting for your turn to play. Don't give up. Don't get discouraged. Get in the game...

It's Rally Time!

Purpose:

To motivate and encourage teens and youth pastors to get excited about the work of the gospel and to support their church to the best of their abilities.

Plan:

We will be using a baseball "Rally Time" theme to show how a little team spirit can help the turnout of a game. Whereas we realize that the work of the Lord is much more important than a silly baseball game, unfortunately we also realize that many can relate to getting excited and involved at a baseball game better than they can to getting excited and involved at church. This theme should help to make this point clear.

Procedures:

Overview:

1. 7:00 Concessions in Fellowship Hall
2. 7:20 Assemble in auditorium
3. 7:30 Introductory Skit
4. 7:35 Welcome / Singing
5. 7:40 Game time
6. 8:00 Singing / Offering
7. 8:10 Special Music
8. 8:15 Preaching / Invitation
9. 9:15 ?

Description:

Concessions in Fellowship Hall

We will have vendors carrying boxes and passing out concession items. They will be calling out advertisements (Such as, "Ice-cold pop here! Ice-cold pop!" or "Hot dogs, get your hot dogs!") Concession items include:

1. Hot dogs
2. Popcorn
3. Candy bars
4. Pop
5. Pickles

Assemble in auditorium

Organist will be playing baseball-type songs in the auditorium. Selected "fans" will be helping. Big "T" (host of the rally) will be dressed up and helping to get crowd excited. We will be giving away various gifts during this time.

Introductory Skit

(Fans are in choir loft, dressed up with signs and banners)
Announcer Steve –

“Ladies and gentlemen would you please stand and remove your hats for the singing of our national anthem, sung by Roger Collins, pastor of Iola Baptist Temple.”

(Pastor sings)

(Fans cheer and sit down)

Announcer Steve –

“Oh, man! You don’t hear that verse sung very often. That was the last verse of the song. I believe it is the fourth verse.”

Announcer Jack –

“Yeah, you don’t usually hear that verse sung.”

Announcer Steve –

“Well, let’s play some ball! Pitching for the World will be Temptation. He can really deliver, let me tell ya. And the IBTeens just haven’t been able to do much against his pitching this year.

“First up to bat will be Lizzy “Lizard Breath” Wilson. 18-year-old lefty, traded from Heritage Baptist Church in 2003. She will soon be a free agent, and rumor has it that she may be going to Oklahoma City. Let’s see what she can do in the first inning...”

(Becca walks by with sign that says, “7 innings later”

(Fans are bored. Fan 1 is covered up with a blanket and snoring)

Announcer Steve (in bored tone)-

“And that ends the 6th inning. The World leads with 3 points, Turtles: 0. It’s just not been a good year for the I.B.Turtles. It looks like they are going to lose another one.”

Announcer Jack –

“You know, Steve, it’s just not been a good year for the Turtles.”

Ann. Steve –

That’s what I said... Well, anyway, as we go into the 7th inning stretch, we will hear Valerie Randall sing “God Bless America.

Mrs. Valerie is wearing a black ribbon in memory of all the Christian P.O.W.s and those who are missing in action. Proceeds from today’s game...won’t do

anything for P.O.W.s...but the black ribbon means a lot to Mrs. Valerie!" We pray for the safe return of these soldiers.

(Valerie sings, fans stand for song, but are very quiet and disinterested. When done, the clap softly and sit back down)

Fan 2 – (looks at Fan 3)

I don't know why I bother coming. The Turtles stink! I've been a fan for years, but I don't know how much more of this I can take!

Fan 3 –

Well, at least we've got free tickets.

Fan 2 –

Yeah. Well, I'm starting to think I've got better things to do with my time...

Big "T" – (Enters the bleachers, face painted, foam finger on, etc)

Hey guys

Fans 2 and 3 –

Big "T!"

Fan 3

Why so late? I thought maybe you weren't going to show.

Big "T"

I know. I can't believe I almost missed the game. I had to go to a wedding.

Fan 3

Who got married?

Big "T"

I did. But I made it here before it was over. Now what is going on? We are 3 points behind?!

(Big "T" looks at Fan 1 and shakes his head. He hits Fan 1's hat off and Fan 1 wakes up suddenly)

Big "T" –

What are you doing? The Turtles need you! Look at that score! They are behind by 3 points. Wake up, man!

Fan 1 –

What are you talking about? They are always behind. Let's face it, Big "T," The Turtles stink!

(Fan 2 and 3's eyes get big and they scoot over a bit waiting for Big "T's" reaction)

Big "T" –

(Takes a deep breath) "1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8... I'm going to let that go this time...but only because the Turtles need me to cheer them on."

Ann. Steve –

Coming up next to bat will be Rookie Rachael Shaffer, known in the IBT stadium as "Bob." (don't ask me why). She has gotten a few hits this year and seems to have a bright future ahead of her.

Ann. Jack –

You know they call her Bob around here, Steve?

Ann. Steve –

Yes, I know that...Jack...

Big "T" –

Come on Bob! Rach. Rachmeister. Rachel Ray. Crank it out of here.

Ann. Steve –

The wind up, the pitch, and... ("Crack!") ...Whoa, that's a base hit! A base hit for Rachel Shaffer. That has got the fans making some noise.

(Big "T" jumps up and down, Fan 1,2, and 3 nod and clap lightly)

Big "T" –

Oh yeah, Oh yeah. That's what I'm talking about. Fear the Turtle. Fear the Turtle. Fear the Turrurr-tllllle!

Ann. Steve –

Zachary "Blaze" Randall (that's his real middle name by the way) is up next. He takes a few practice swings. It would be a great time for a rally. Maybe we will see the Turtles get some more hits this inning?

Ann. Jack –

Yeah Steve, wouldn't it be something now if the Turtles could get some more hits?

Ann. Steve –

(Aggravated) ...That's what I just said.

(Crack)

“O my! A nice hit for Zachary “the Blaze” Randall!
(Fans stand up and start cheering)

“Big T”

(Fans come out into the audience) “Come on people start cheering. Put on your rally caps!”

(Organ starts playing. Audience interacts.

Ann. Steve -

Now 14-year-old Isaac Wilson, also known as “I,” comes up to the plate. Turtle fans excited now, Jack

Ann. Jack –

Can you hear how excited the fans are?

“Big T”

(Up on a pew shouting) Come on “I,” load up the bases. You can do it. Come on!

Ann. Steve –

Wilson watches the first pitch. Ball one. There are no outs, two runners on. Temptation shakes off the first call. He nods for the second. I think it’s going to be a fastball and...(Crack) Base hit over third base, and the bases are loaded!

(Fans cheering wildly)

(Fans get “the wave” started)

(Get them settled down and quitted a bit)

Ann. Steve –

Time out is called. It looks like Temptation is getting a little tired. They may call up Pride whose been warming up in the bullpen.

Bases loaded for the Turtles. No outs. Top of the 7th. This might turn out to be a really good game. We now take time out for a station break...

(Turn over to host who will explain that this is our story, and we don’t know who is going to be stepping up to the plate next, but we are hoping for a grand slam).

Welcome/Songs

-Baseball Song

Take me out to the ball game
Take me out to the crowd
Buy me some peanuts and cracker jacks
I don't care if I never get back
For it's root, root, root for the home team
If they don't win it's a shame
For it's one, two, three strikes your out
At the old ball game.

-Read Christian version

-(Read some of the teen/youth worker entries)

-Rocky's version:

Take me to the youth rally
To hear the preacher preach,
For that is the very best part, you see,
I will have my Bible with me.
Well it's preach, preach, preach and then preach some more
If we go extra long its okay
For there's one, two, three points to preach
At the youth rally

Game Time

Bible Baseball

Divide the congregation into 2 sides/teams. Each church represented will pick two people from their group to "bat." All batters will come to the front and sit in the "dugout" of their team's side. Batter will be given items to wear or things to do (Wear a helmet, hold a bat, chew sunflower seeds, chew bubble gum, wear a beard (reference to the 2013 Boston Redsox), put shoe polish under eyes...)

Review the rules:

- (Identify the bases)
- Batter up will take his/her place at home plate
- Batter calls for "single," "double," "triple," or "homerun" question
- Correct answer awards appropriate base or run
- Incorrect answer is an out. 3 outs complete an inning for that team
- Receiving help from teammate will count as a wrong answer

-Player on base can call for a “steal” question at anytime before batter calls for their question.

Offering/Singing

Preaching