



Kids' Kamp

Cabin

Devotions

Monday Night Cabin Devotion

Here we are at the trailhead of Kids' Kamp- the beginning of a great week where we will explore just how great our God is and how He loves us. We are going to learn how special we are to God and how He desires us to know Him.

God has blazed a trail for us to follow. He marked that trail with instructions through His word because He doesn't want us to be lost as we go. Has God's word ever helped you? <Share an experience of your own and encourage kids to share.>

We were created to desire God and conduct ourselves in a God-pleasing way. How do we know what pleases God? <Allow kids to respond.> We read His word and listen to others teach from it.

It takes more than knowing God's word to please Him.

(Have a child read James 1:22.)

God gave us a mind to know Him and to choose to obey Him; to actually do what He says.

Does anyone have a remote at home? Let's see how many different remotes types we can come up with that we have in our homes. <Allow kids to say all the remotes they can think Our mind is like our body's remote control.

What does a remote do? <Allow kids to respond.> A remote gives commands to the receiver item such as a toy, tv or whatever it goes with.

What does the receiver item do? <Allow kids to respond.> The receiver item does only what the remote of or go around and let each person mention a type.>tells it to do.

We have a mind to remotely control our conduct or the way we act. We may say we can't control many of our actions, but the truth is – we can. We need to learn to let God help us make wise choices. We can learn God's ways and pray like Jesus prayed.

Did you know Jesus prayed for you? He prayed, "Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth." John 17:17

Does anyone know what sanctify means? <Allow kids to respond.>

For God to sanctify His child means that He sets him or her apart for a very special God-given purpose. A God-given purpose! That means that if you are His child, He has taken notice of you and given you His true word that will help you learn His purpose for you. It will help you know wise choices and conduct.

John 17:17 is our Kids' Kamp theme verse and we are going to work together to memorize it. (After tonight's devotion, rip the verse portion off, hang it in your cabin and guide kids to say it together often.)

This week at camp is a good time to challenge and train your remote-mind to command your receiver-body to make God pleasing choices that bring Him honor and show kindness and love to others.

(Pray.)

Sleep well, kampers. Tomorrow we'll learn about setting up camp with Jesus.

(Note: The tear off, John 17:17, is part of the copy provided at camp.)

Thursday Night Cabin Devotions

Have you ever heard of geocaching? <Allow kids to respond.>

Geocaching is a treasure hunting game where you use a GPS to hide and seek containers with other participants in the activity. That's a fun hobby for some. Has anyone ever participated in any geocaching? <Allow kids to respond.>

To a hiker or camper, a cache (sounds like cash) is a secure place to conceal and preserve provisions along a trail to use later.

In a way, your heart is a cache for keeping God's word, His treasure, so you can rely on and use it – a heart-cache!

(Have a child read Psalm 119:11.)

We learned today of how God's word is a benchmark that we can look to so we don't lose sight of Him. So now we can take His Benchmark Verses and hide them in our heart-caches. We just need to be sure to use them.

Can anyone share a Bible verse with our group? It may be one that you just learned or one you've known for a while. <Allow kids to respond. This is an important part of tonight's devotion so encourage the kids to share. You may even start the sharing.> (Also, ask them why they memorized their verse or if it has a special meaning to them. Be encouraged to briefly discuss each verse that is shared.)

Let's all say John 17:17 together.

How about today's Benchmark Verse – can anyone say 2 Corinthians 5:17 yet?

Psalm 119:11 reminds us that if we don't know God's word, we can't do what it says.

John 17:17 tells us that it is God's word that causes us to live in His purpose.

2 Corinthians 5:17 promises us that in trusting Jesus we are made new and victorious over sin.

These are great promises. They are benchmarks that really should go in our heart-caches.

(Pray.)

Sweet dreams, campers. Tomorrow we build the fire.

Wednesday Night Cabin Devotions

Can anyone say today's Benchmark Verse, 1 John 4:19?

According to this verse, what causes us to love? <Allow kids to respond.>

God demonstrated such great love for us. And, He keeps on demonstrating His love for us!

(Have a child read Psalm 103:2.)

Why is it important to remember God's benefits and blessings? <Allow kids to respond.>

Hopefully you were watching for God's blessings today. We are going to see who can come up with the most blessings that we've received today.

(Pair the kids in 2's. Give each pair a piece of paper and have them find something to write with. On "go" have them list as many of today's blessings as they can. After 2 or 3 minutes have them stop writing and count their blessings. High-five the pair with the most blessings on their list.)

Now we are going to see who has the most different blessings on their list.

(As with the game Scategories, have a pair begin to read their list. If anyone has any of the same blessings listed, they all have to mark them off. If someone has "food" and another has "lunch", mark them off. They are basically the same. You are the judge. Have the next pair read anything they have left on their list until everyone marking off matches as they read. Have each pair continue to read only what is left on their list until all blessings are shared. Have the pairs count the remaining blessings and high-five the pair with the most different blessings.)

Good job of not forgetting God's blessings. Keep your eyes open tomorrow, too. When you notice or remember a blessing, be sure to thank God!

Even if we don't feel like it, God is worthy of our worship!

(Pray Ephesians 1:17-19 and following.)

I pray to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. God, our glorious Father, I ask that You give us wisdom and understanding that come from the Holy Spirit. Help us know You better. I pray that we may understand more clearly. Then we will know the hope You have chosen us to receive. We will know that what You will give Your holy people is rich and glorious. And we will know Your great power. It can't be compared with

Thursday Night Cabin Devotions

(You may choose to do tonight's devotion outside under the stars. Take a flashlight to read by.) I have some star trivia for you.

What is the closest star to the sun?

Proxima Centauri ***

Alpha Centauri A

Star Light: Star Bright

Hydrogen & Helium ***

Fire & Stone

Which is not a known type of star?

White Dwarf ***

Green Dwarf

300 Million

300 Billion ***

What is the brightest star in the night sky?

Sirius ***

North Star

Which star is the only star that does not move and has been used for centuries as a guide or benchmark?

North Star ***

Eastern Star

Have you ever just looked up at the stars? What goes through your mind? How do you feel when you see all those little lights in the dark sky? <Allow kids to respond.>

(Have a child read Psalm 147:4.)

Only God knows the exact number of stars and He even knows their names. How cool that is! Stars have been used for many things. Remember the star that led the wisemen to Jesus after His birth? That was a pretty special star with a magnificent purpose.

The Bible speaks of another sort of star and its purpose.

(Have a child read Daniel 12:3.)

Who does this verse compare to stars? <Allow kids to respond.>

Daniel compares people who lead others to righteousness or people who lead others to Jesus and His ways to stars. When we tell others about Jesus and live the example of Jesus, we shine His light like the stars shine light in the darkness. They stand out, don't they?

Philippians 2:15-16 says, "Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life."

Who does this verse compare to stars? <Allow kids to respond.>

Philippians compares people who hold firmly to the word of life or people who know and obey God's truths to stars. When we obey God's word, we are not only a light to others, we are a glowing honor to God.

A star gives off light because of the effect of the gasses it's made of. We are to be like those stars and give off a light as well. A child of God gives off God's light because of the effect God has on the child's life. We are to be a living star – shining the light of Jesus and leading others to Jesus. Our example should always be to represent God.

At times, a traveler will use a star as a benchmark for direction and guidance. A benchmark never changes and can always be counted on. God's word is a benchmark for us. It always leads us to please Him and make choices that are best for us.

So when you look at the stars, be reminded or challenged that you are like a star in the night when you hold on to God's truth and obey it. You are like a star when you hold forth God's word and share it.

Just think, there can be a star with your name. You!

As you go home tomorrow be sure to share God's Benchmark Verses and good news of Jesus with others.

(Pray.)

Sleep tight. Tomorrow you head out into the real Back Country Exploration.