

ON THIS ROCK



2019 SUMMER YOUTH WEEKS

CHURCH GROUP DEVOTIONS

**“AND I TELL YOU, YOU ARE PETER, AND ON
THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH...”**

MATTHEW 16:18-19

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CHURCH GROUP DEVOTIONS

Materials Needed

Groups will receive student workbooks on Monday. Please provide all other listed items for your group. Don't forget to bring printed lyrics and/or PowerPoint lyrics as well as a projector if you plan to sing worship songs during your church group devotion time.

Pre-camp:

Bible

Camp forms*

Caswell Guest/Counselor Registration Form (sent to you by North Carolina Baptist Assembly)

Parent Connection Piece

Behavior contract (optional, sample included)

Materials needed for your preparation activity (optional)

**These items can be found in the Summer Youth Weeks camp materials that were emailed or on the camp webpage at www.BeDoTell.com. (For more information on obtaining these materials, please contact the Youth Evangelism & Discipleship Office at (800) 395-5102 ext. 5566 or Youth.Disciplemaking@ncbaptist.org.)*

Monday:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens, pencils

Stained glass pieces

Glue

Plexiglass (given at meeting)

Tuesday:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens, pencils

Wednesday:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens, pencils

Thursday:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens, pencils

Friday:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens, pencils

Stained glass panel you made during
Monday's church group devotions

"Power blocker" plug picture

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QUIET TIME SUGGESTIONS

Each morning, you will find quiet times in the student workbooks. This is a very important part of the day for students as well as adult chaperones. As some groups struggle with the timing of the morning quiet times, the following are a few suggestions to help your group get the most from their quiet times:

- Take your entire group to one spot, say some introductory words, then have students scatter to do their quiet time individually. When they finish, have them come back together and discuss the quiet time as a group.
- If your church has assigned each chaperone to pray for six or eight youth, use these groups to ensure that quiet times are being done. Have each chaperone take their individual group to a specific place and have students do their quiet time.
- Sometimes timing your quiet times can be a challenge if your group is staying in a cabin and cooking your meals. To ensure that your group does the quiet time each day, set a specific time for breakfast, which will allow plenty of time before or after breakfast for quiet times.
- Please encourage your group to leave the barracks, cabin or wherever you are staying. This will prevent them from going back to bed instead of doing their quiet time.
- Adults, please set a good example for your youth. Quiet times are also for adults.
- Your group will be going home on Saturday, and it is still important for everyone to have their quiet time that day. Each leader should find the method that makes this possible for his/her group. Perhaps you can gather your group before you leave and have your quiet time together.

Studies show it takes a person 21 days of repeating a task to develop a habit, and we want to encourage students and adults to make a habit of spending time with the Lord each day. We provide 30 daily devotions in the student workbook and issue a “30 Day Challenge” to spend time alone with God for 30 straight days. Please encourage students and adults to continue their daily devotions when they return from Caswell and to email Merrie Johnson at BeDoTell@ncbaptist.org to let her know when they have completed the challenge.

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CHURCH GROUP DEVOTIONS

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PRE-CAMP DEVOTION FOR YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS

This will take place at the meeting you have for students and parents to review the rules and details of the trip before you leave for camp. Encourage parents to participate in this devotion so they will get a better idea of what will be discussed at camp. This will help parents know how to pray for their student while he/she is away.

Be sure to personally review all of the camp guidelines **before** this meeting. Remember that two **notarized** copies of the participants' forms are required for each person attending camp (chaperones included). It would be helpful for secure notaries to be at the meeting to ensure you have the forms properly prepared and turned in **before they leave the meeting**. If possible, you may want to mail out copies of the form to parents, along with all of the camp guidelines and dress code information, a few weeks beforehand so they have time to fill it out. Be sure to have extra forms available at the meeting. Providing the dress code early can help parents shop for proper bathing suits, etc. You will still need to go over the dress code and guidelines at this meeting. **It may help to have access to a copier in order to make copies of insurance cards to be attached to the forms.**

Another option is to have parents and students sign an additional form that spells out behavior expectations for the week and expected consequences. This allows you to explain exactly what is expected as well and gives you some protection against potentially angry parents if they do not like the fact that their student got in trouble for failing to meet those guidelines. This does not have to be long or complicated. Some use a one-page agreement with guidelines written out along with consequences. It can even be somewhat humorous as long as it is clear. An example is attached below.

In an effort to allow parents to stay connected with your group's experience, consider ways that your youth group could record and share their Caswell experience. Try to keep parents connected with the group while they are at camp. Be sure to let parents know that they can go to [Facebook.com/bedotell](https://www.facebook.com/bedotell) to stream the Caswell evening worship services online. Other connection ideas include creating a social media hub (Facebook page, Instagram account, etc.) just for camp. Some groups plan to design a bulletin board, and others plan to recap their camp experience during a weekend service by sharing stories and pictures. This pre-camp meeting is a great time to help students plan how they will share the story of their Caswell experience with your church when they return. You may even wish to put together a leadership team of students to work on this task.

If your group has items they want to use at Caswell, be sure to have those items at this meeting. This may include (but is not limited to) phone/electronics bags (if you collect phones/electronics during Caswell), drinking cups or water bottles, mail bags, banners, offering containers, etc.

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Materials Needed:

Bible
Caswell Guest/Counselor Registration Form (sent to you by NCBA)
Parent Connection Piece
All Other Camp Forms
Behavior contract (optional)
Caswell items to personalize (optional)

What needs to be covered in the meeting:

Instructions for the week.

1. Review the Caswell guidelines including dress code and camp rules.
2. Make sure all campers have the participants forms signed and notarized (adults included) by student's parents.
3. Make sure all chaperones have completed background checks.
4. Make sure parents have emergency contact numbers.

Give an overview of the 2019 Youth Weeks Missions Offering

The offering for 2019 will be used to provide meals for children in Haiti through the House of Abraham and Servants With a Heart. Everyone at camp will have opportunities to pack food bags during the week and to participate in a financial offering to provide this food. The offering will be taken on Thursday evening. Your group will need to decide whether to build an offering container to collect an offering during the week, or have each youth give individually during the offering time.

Be sure to share what your expectations are as the group leader for the week!

Camp Item Preparation (optional)

As students and parents arrive, have them prepare any item that your group may personalize to use at Caswell. This may include (but is not limited to) phone bags, drinking cups or water bottles, mail bags, banners, offering container, etc.

**Some groups collect participants' phones so they can be less distracted on the trip. A phone bag is merely a personalized baggie to keep their phones in while they are with leaders until the phones are returned. If use is permitted throughout the week, these personalized bags allow for easier distribution and let you know whose phones may not have been turned back in when requested.*

Begin the meeting on time: There is much to cover in this meeting. Be sure to be respectful of the participants' time so you can keep them connected while making sure to relay all of the important information, which also allows you to collect forms and information you need from the participants. It is your choice whether or not to cover the guidelines and information before or after the devotion.

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Ask: Are you ready for camp? I want you to know you have been prayed for since last August. The staff and Caswell Committee have been planning, praying and preparing for your arrival. God is up to big things and we hope you are ready to be a part of it.

Say: We are very excited this year to be studying the church. At camp we will look at the beginning of the church, the importance of the church and why we are important to the church. Basically, we will look at five major functions of the church. There are many others but for the purpose of camp this year we are focusing on worship, discipleship, evangelism, missions and fellowship.

Ask: What do you think about when you think of the word or hear the following words?

Worship _____

Discipleship _____

Evangelism _____

Missions _____

Fellowship _____

Say: Interestingly enough, these five functions of the church translate into five purposes of our Christian life.

Ask: Think about it — what is the church without people? _____

(Give them a chance to answer)

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Say: It is just a building where there once was a church. There are church buildings standing empty all over Europe and also in the United States. Many of these churches have closed or are closing because people are not living out — nor have any clue of — their purpose. Remember, we (Christians) are the church.

This week at camp, as a whole, we are going to focus on the church, but during quiet times we are going to look at ourselves because, again, we are the church. How do we strengthen both ourselves and the church? After all, it is a double-edged sword.

WRAP-UP

Say: In our quiet times we are going to use worship, discipleship, evangelism, missions and fellowship as an outline for our personal time with God. During our quiet time, we will ask ourselves to think about the following statements/questions in these areas:

Worship — What you offer

Discipleship — What you do about it

Evangelism — The Christian's "show and tell"

Missions — Seeking with a vision to serve

Fellowship — How you are involved and how you involve other participants

Read Matthew 16:13-19

Ask: Why do you think Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

Say: Here is a little insight — Caesarea Philippi was a place of idol worship. It was a huge cliff with caves and holes cut into it for idols and other gods to be displayed. There was also a river that flowed out of the mouth of the cliff where people would make sacrifices to their gods. This is the place Jesus asked his disciples this question.

This is also the place where He told Peter (v. 18) "...on this rock I will build my church."

This sounds crazy, right? There is so much more to the story. At camp this year it is going to be so exciting as we dive deeper into the beginning of the church and the purpose of the church.

The question you should ask yourself as you prepare for camp is found in v. 15 when Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" In the short time we have left, think about how you would answer this question. How your answer could shape not only your Caswell experience but your entire life as well.

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FINAL WORD TO PARENTS

Say to parents: We want this week to be truly life-changing for your kids. We ask that you pray over them and our trip before, during and after this week at camp. We know that sometimes you will have conflicts before you leave and that they may leave chores undone and many messes (physical and emotional/spiritual) when they leave. If at all possible, try to address these **before** they leave so there isn't a battle soon after they arrive home. Many of you whose students have attended Caswell in the past know that they often come home tired and maybe even a little grumpy because of fatigue. Please don't let this hurt the incredible work that God is going to do this week. Address issues as you need to, but be sure to add in a little grace and time so that the growth that starts at Caswell can continue.

Pray: For the youth and their families. Ask God to do things even greater than we can imagine this week at Caswell.

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MONDAY DEVOTIONS

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MONDAY DEVOTION: OUR CHURCH'S CALL TO WORSHIP

Each night at church group devotions, have the youth bring their Bibles, student workbooks and pens/pencils. If you have someone who can lead in worship, provide the words with a projector, or bring printed copies of the song lyrics.

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Romans 12:3-8

Materials Needed:

Bibles
Student workbooks
Pens, pencils
Stained glass pieces, glue and plexiglass (given at meeting)

Reminders & Announcements:

Along with announcements that you may have for your group, it is a good idea to remind students of the following information each evening. With this being the first night and setting the stage for the rest of the week, you may want to encourage them to get some rest and to respect others who may be tired. If you can help set strong expectations on the first night, it can help the rest of the week go more smoothly.

One of the most important instructions you can give is to your “new to Caswell” students. Let them know you are here for them and they can ask questions if they don’t know “the routine” of Caswell and expectations for your group.

- Give any specific instructions that relate to your group.
- Review camp program times and food packing times.
- Remind youth of their missions offering.

QUIET TIME INSTRUCTION

Say: Tomorrow morning and each morning this week, all Caswell campers will start their day with a “quiet time.” This is a time for you to be alone with God for a few minutes and have a one-on-one conversation with Him. You will need your Bible and your student workbook for quiet time. Tomorrow morning during your quiet time, you’ll begin thinking about how important you are to the church. You’ll find the quiet time section in your student workbook.

(If you have a specific place or time designated for your students to have their quiet times, be sure to remind them of that now and at the end of this time together.)

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DEVOTION

Daily Review (Optional Lead In)

Leader's note: *Each night it may be good to spend a few minutes reflecting on the day — a “Daily Review.” If a reflection starts to be something embarrassing to someone, be sure to move on quickly. Also, if someone shares a decision they made for Christ that they did not make publicly in the worship service, please be sure to share it with the BeDoTell staff before the week's end so the student can receive follow-up materials. You can use the decision card forms in their book and turn it in to one of the staff. Celebrate every decision!*

Say: Each night at this time we want to take a moment to review the day. I want to remind you to be positive during this time. It is meant to be a time of fun and celebration, so do not share anything that could cause embarrassment or hurt. With those guidelines firmly in place, let's begin.

Ask: How has Caswell started off for you?

- Is there something you already heard that helps you see that God wants to do great things this week?
- Is anyone a little confused about something and have a question that the answer may help clarify things? If you want to ask me privately later, that is OK. We just want you to get the most out of this week and want to help you.
- Has anyone already experienced a “God moment” that you would like to quickly share? (A God moment is where you have witnessed God working in a situation or a person.) We are expecting MANY God moments this week and want to share those moments as a time of encouragement for all of us.

Say: Each night as we begin our devotion time, I am going to review our Scripture and remind us of the reason for this devotion time.

Read: Matthew 16:18

“And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

Say: As we wrap up each day with our church group devotion, I want to encourage you to really listen so that you can hear what God may be telling you. (Pray to ask God to help everyone listen to His message at this time.)

STAINED GLASS ACTIVITY

Very Important Leader Note: *The pieces of stained glass that your students will choose may be sharp. Remind them to be careful with these. Also, please do not allow your students to take any extra pieces of stained glass with them. This is mainly for safety reasons; we do not want any students to be injured by glass pieces in their rooms. Please return any extra pieces of stained glass to the BeDoTell staff for us to use in future weeks.*

Activity: Have each student choose one piece of stained glass from the bag of stained glass pieces. Have some say why they chose that piece. Then glue the pieces of stained glass to the piece of plexiglass. You may allow the students to randomly place the pieces on the plexiglass, or if you or one of your students has an artistic bent, arrange the pieces to make some sort of design. However, do not spend too much time on the arrangement or be too rigid in the making of your “masterpiece.” This is meant to be a positive activity. The visual of different pieces coming together to make a masterpiece is more important than what the finished product looks like.

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Say: Each of these pieces by themselves has beauty. However, when they come together, they can create something even more stunning. The biggest and most intricate stained glass windows are all made up of smaller pieces that come together to create a masterpiece. Those impressive stained glass windows (and our very own “masterpiece” here) are great illustrations of our church and the entire body of Christ. The blending of many smaller pieces to make something greater than the individuals themselves. Some individuals have a large presence and others are more subdued; however, each individual brings a different element to the masterpiece that God desires to make us into as a group.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul illustrates this concept in another way.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

“12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free — and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

15 Now if the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ And the head cannot say to the feet, ‘I don’t need you!’ 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

Say: This week we will be looking at the church. The church is not a building, but the people who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. All of us make up the church as a whole and have the opportunity to serve Him through our local church. Part of our exploration this week is to see how God has uniquely shaped our local church to serve the community where He has planted us.

The church is often referred to as a body. Have you ever heard a church referred to as a “body of believers?” The passage we just read explains why. We come together with our unique spiritual gifts — the things we are passionate about, our abilities, personalities and experiences — to work together to be the hands and feet of Jesus where we live and throughout the world.

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When part of our physical body isn't functioning or healthy, the whole body suffers to some extent. In the same way, when part of our church body (those who have been given gifts by God in order to serve Him) isn't present or healthy, then the body of Christ suffers to some extent. Every member of the church is important to the work of Christ, just as every part of our physical body is important.

This is also illustrated in the stained glass masterpiece we assembled. Each of us — our gifts, hearts, abilities, personalities and experiences (positive or negative) — come together to depict God's work in the world through His church. He takes all of the unique aspects of each of us and blends them together into one cohesive portrait of His work here and around the world.

This week, as you explore how God has gifted and called you to serve Him, consider your role in the church and how you can use those gifts to help make the body of Christ complete.

REFLECTION/WRAP-UP

Say: At the end of each church group devotion, we'll take a moment to silently reflect on the day and Scripture. Turn in your student workbook to "Today's Church Construction" (this section will appear at the end of each day's section of the workbook). Take a moment to read the Scripture silently and write down your thoughts.

Pray: After giving your group several minutes to complete their reflections, if appropriate, let some students share what they wrote.

Close in prayer.

STUDENT WORKBOOK MATERIAL

TODAY'S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION: Our Spiritual Gifts

Read: Romans 12:3-8

"3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Answer the following questions and give examples.

- Do I see any of these gifts in my life? Which one(s)?
- Am I sharing this/these gift(s) with my church for it to be a more complete body? If so, how?
- What areas do I need to improve on?

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TUESDAY DEVOTIONS

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TUESDAY DEVOTION: OUR CHURCH'S HEART FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, Acts 18:1-4, 20:33-35, Exodus 31:1-11

Materials Needed:

Bibles
Student workbooks
Pens/Pencils

Reminders & Announcements:

- Give any specific instructions that relate to your group.
- Review camp program times and food packaging times.
- Remind the youth of their missions offering.

DAILY REVIEW

(Optional Lead In)

Say: Each night at this time we want to take a moment to review the day. I want to remind you to be positive during this time. It is meant to be a time of fun and celebration, so do *not* share anything that could cause embarrassment or hurt.

With those guidelines firmly in place, **ask:**

- What was something funny you experienced today?
- What was something you witnessed today that made you feel good?
- Were there some decisions made today that we can celebrate?

Leader's note: *If a reflection starts to become potentially embarrassing to someone, be sure to cut it off quickly. Also, if someone shares a decision they made for Christ that they did not make publicly in the worship service, please be sure to share it with the BeDoTell staff before the week's end so the student can receive follow-up materials. You can use the decision card forms in their book and turn it in to one of the staff. Celebrate every decision!*

DEVOTION

Read: Matthew 16:18

"And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Say: As we wrap up each day with our church group devotion, I want to encourage you to really listen so you can hear what God may be telling you. *(Pray to ask God to help all listen to His message at this time.)*

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Get to the Heart

Ask: What do we mean when we say something like, “I have a heart for _____” or “_____ really has my heart?”

Say: Typically, we are talking about something or someone we are passionate about. It can be something we are really motivated to do.

Last night we talked about what our spiritual gifts are, how God uses those to build up the church and how they lead us to worship God. We all have different spiritual gifts and we also have differing interests and passions. Some of us are passionate about athletics, music, people, church, etc.

Ask: Who would be willing to share about your interests and passions? Raise your hand and complete this sentence: “I love to _____.”

Say: As a church, our core passion is for Jesus. We want to worship Him, serve Him and see His kingdom grow here on earth. But we also have other passions and interests God wants us to use to serve Him.

Ask: What are some interests and passions we may share as a youth group or as a church? Raise your hand and complete this sentence: “We love to _____.”

Say: The pieces of stained glass in the window we made were chosen by each of us to represent us individually. They came together to make our “masterpiece.” It is important to realize that God created us and crafted us in such a way that we have our own interests and passions. Just as God wants us to use our spiritual gifts to serve Him and the church, God also wants to use the interests and passions we have.

Read:

Acts 18:1-4

“1 After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3 and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. 4 Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.”

Acts 20:33-35

33 “I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. 34 You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. 35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

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Ask: According to these verses, how was Paul using his passion to serve God and the people around him? (*He was using his skill and passion for tentmaking to spread the gospel – Priscilla and Aquila became disciples of Jesus, and he used the money from tentmaking to supply for the needs of missionaries around him and to “help the weak.”*)

Say: I want you to be thinking and praying about how God may want to use your interests and passions for His work in our world.

REFLECTION/WRAP-UP

Say: Turn in your student workbook to “Today’s Church Construction” for Tuesday. Take a moment of silence to read the Scripture and write down your thoughts.

Pray: After giving your group several minutes to complete their reflections, if appropriate, let some students share what they wrote. Close in prayer.

STUDENT WORKBOOK MATERIAL

TODAY’S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION: Our Heart

Read: Exodus 31:1-11

“1 Then the Lord said to Moses, 2 ‘See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills — 4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, 5 to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts. 6 Moreover, I have appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamak, of the tribe of Dan, to help him. Also I have given ability to all the skilled workers to make everything I have commanded you: 7 the tent of meeting, the ark of the covenant law with the atonement cover on it, and all the other furnishings of the tent — 8 the table and its articles, the pure gold lampstand and all its accessories, the altar of incense, 9 the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, the basin with its stand — 10 and also the woven garments, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests, 11 and the anointing oil and fragrant incense for the Holy Place. They are to make them just as I commanded you.”

Answer the following questions and give examples when appropriate:

- God gave these people interests and passions and special skills and called them to use them for His work. What interests and passions do you have?
- Are you using these to help build the Church and bring people closer to God? If so, how? If not, how could you?
- Are there interests and passions we share as a church that we need to use more for God? If so, what are they and how could we use them?

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WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS

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WEDNESDAY DEVOTION: OUR CHURCH'S UNIQUE ABILITIES TO EQUIP FOR EVANGELISM

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, 25:14-30, 5:14-16

Materials Needed:

Bibles
Student workbooks
Pens/Pencils

Reminders & Announcements:

- Give any specific instructions that relate to your group.
- Review camp program times and food packing times.
- Remind the youth of their missions offering.

DAILY REVIEW

(Optional Lead In)

Say: Each night at this time we want to take a moment to review the day. I want to remind you to be positive during this time. It is meant to be a time of fun and celebration, so do *not* share anything that could cause embarrassment or hurt.

With those guidelines firmly in place, **ask:**

- What was something funny you experienced today?
- What was something you witnessed today that made you feel good?
- Were there some decisions made today that we can celebrate?

Leader's note: *If a reflection starts to become potentially embarrassing to someone, be sure to cut it off quickly. Also, if someone shares a decision they made for Christ that they did not make publicly in the worship service, please be sure to share it with the BeDoTell staff before the week's end so the student can receive follow-up materials. You can use the decision card forms in their book and turn it in to one of the staff. Celebrate every decision!*

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DEVOTION

Read: Matthew 16:18

“And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

Say: As we wrap up each day with our church group devotion, I want to encourage you to really listen so you can hear what God is telling you. (Pray to ask God to help all listen to His message at this time.)

Read: Matthew 25:14-30

“14 Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

19 After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

21 His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

22 The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

23 His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

24 Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

26 His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

28 So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

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Say: This parable tells us the master gave according to each servant's ability — basically their ability to manage money. These were investors for the master who knew how to make money for him.

Ask: What happened to the ones who used their abilities to help the master? What about the one who did not?

Say: This parable may seem a bit harsh, but the message is clear — God wants us to use our abilities to serve His kingdom.

Say: Have you ever wondered why there are so many churches? In many towns in North Carolina, there may be two or three churches within a block or two of one another. Every church has its own unique abilities it should use to serve God.

Say: Each church is a different size, has different types of buildings and possessions, and has different talents and skills within the church. Have you ever thought about the size of your church as an ability?

Ask: What may be a unique ability of a smaller church? *(One possible answer is more personal discipleship for teenagers, as Bible study classes may be smaller and have more time to spend with adult mentors.)*

Ask: What may be a unique ability of a larger church? *(Maybe a larger church has the ability to sponsor its own missionary or church overseas.)*

Say: I wonder if you have ever thought of our church's building as an ability. What abilities does our building give us? What about our location in our community? That is a unique ability given to our church.

Ask: What other unique abilities has God given us that we can use to serve?

Say: While all of the stained glass windows made this week at Caswell are completely different, each one is a masterpiece. Each reflects the unique makeup of each church. Each one has a different ability to tell the story of how God is working in people's lives.

Say: One thing you may not know much about yet is how churches partner together. Many Baptist churches in North Carolina are part of a local association — that is a group of churches that pool resources together to do bigger things for the kingdom. Most churches that come to Caswell participate in the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and they give money to something we call the Cooperative Program. This money gives us abilities beyond ourselves — it gives us the ability to do bigger things together. The Cooperative Program helps fund missions and ministries all over the world, even our time here at Caswell. Isn't that amazing?

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REFLECTION/WRAP-UP

Say: Turn in your student workbook to “Today’s Church Construction” for Wednesday. Take a moment of silence to read the Scripture and write down your thoughts.

Pray: After giving your group several minutes to complete their reflections, if appropriate, let some students share what they wrote. Close in prayer.

STUDENT WORKBOOK MATERIAL

TODAY’S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION: Our unique Abilities

Read: Matthew 5:14-16

“14 You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Answer the following questions and give examples when appropriate:

- Do you have any abilities you are “hiding under a bowl” as the parable says? If so, what are they?
- How could you use these abilities so that the world might see them and glorify God because of them?
- Are there unique abilities we have as a church that we need to use more for God? If so, what are they and how could we use them?

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THURSDAY DEVOTIONS

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2019 SUMMER
YOUTH WEEKS

THURSDAY DEVOTION: OUR CHURCH'S PERSONALITY FOR MISSIONS

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, 1 Samuel 16:7, Philippians 2:2-4

Materials Needed:

Bibles
Student workbooks
Pens, pencils

Reminders & Announcements:

- Give any specific instructions that relate to your group.
- Review any of the program times and your food packing times.

DAILY REVIEW

(Optional Lead In)

Say: Each night at this time we want to take a moment to review the day. I want to remind you to be positive during this time. It is meant to be a time of fun and celebration, so do *not* share anything that could cause embarrassment or hurt.

With those guidelines firmly in place, **ask:**

- What was something funny you experienced today?
- What was something you witnessed today that made you feel good?
- Were there some decisions made today that we can celebrate?

Leader's note: *If a reflection starts to become potentially embarrassing to someone, be sure to cut it off quickly. Also, if someone shares a decision they made for Christ that they did not make publicly in the worship service, please be sure to share it with the BeDoTell staff before the week's end so the student can receive follow-up materials. You can use the decision card forms in their book and turn it in to one of the staff. Celebrate every decision!*

Read: Matthew 16:18

"And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Say: *As we wrap up each day with our church group devotion, I want to encourage you to really listen so that you can hear what God is telling you. (Pray to ask God to help all listen to His message at this time.)*

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DEVOTION

Read: 1 Samuel 16:7

“But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’”

Say: This verse clearly tells us that God looks deeper than our physical appearance. He looks at our heart. This could also be thought of as the inner essence of who we are, our personality. Just like people, churches also have personalities. Churches are made up of all sorts of people. However, while not all members of a church are exactly alike, most people tend to worship with people who are like them and with whom they can relate. Just look around Caswell this week. While each church is made up of unique individuals, you can often detect a type of personality from the other groups here. Some are very friendly and welcoming, while some tend to keep to themselves. Some are kind of loud and really want you to know they are here, while some are quieter and more reserved.

That is probably even true in our youth group. While we are all unique individuals and some of us are more unique than others, our overall group does have a personality all its own.

DEEP DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

Leader’s Note: *Instead of some kind of game or other activity, tonight we hope your group will go a little deeper in discussion. We hope that the following questions will help them realize what type of personality they display and how that can benefit or distract them from their mission.*

Ask: How would you define the personality of our group? How would people describe our youth group?

Leader’s Note: *Give the students a few minutes to answer the question without much prodding if possible. If you need to pull out some answers, then do so. When students share what they believe is the group’s personality, ask the student why they believe that is the personality of the group. Ask the others if they agree, but protect the student who shared from being bashed by others who may disagree with him/her.*

Ask: How can the personality of our group/church be a positive aspect in reaching out to our community? How is who we are personality-wise a unique opportunity to reach out?

Leader’s Note: *Give time for good honest discussion. If they or you believe a personality change is needed, use that to segue into the next question.*

Ask: Does our group/church need a personality change? If so, in what way?

Leader’s Note: *This does not need to degenerate into a “bash the church” session, so guard against that. However, if students recognize that maybe they are not very outreach-oriented or welcoming to outsiders, then this may be a great point of realization.*

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Ask: How about you personally? Do you think the personalities of the individuals in our group help shape the personality of us collectively?

Leader's Note: *Once again you will need to guard against this becoming an attack on any individuals. It is intended for them to realize how their personality, attitude, outlook, etc. affect how the personality of the total group is shaped.*

Say: When you look at the stained glass we made on Monday, you can see how unique it is and how unique we are. Just as it represents us, our personality is our representation to the world of who we are.

REFLECTION/WRAP-UP

Say: Now we are going to take this in a personal direction. How about your personality? Does it reflect a life where Jesus is in control? We talked on Monday night about how the church is one body made up of many members. We are each those members. Who we are personality-wise does have an impact on the total group. Now we are going to take a moment to do some personal reflection.

Turn in your student workbook to “Today’s Church Construction” for Thursday. Take a moment of silence to read the Scripture and write down your thoughts.

Pray: After giving your group several minutes to complete their reflections, if appropriate, let some students share what they wrote. Close in prayer.

STUDENT WORKBOOK MATERIAL

TODAY'S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION: Our Personality

At the beginning of tonight’s Church Group Devotion, you were reminded that God looks at our heart — the essence of who we are. When God looks at your heart, what do you think He sees?

Read: Philippians 2:2-4

“2 Then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Answer the following questions and give examples when appropriate:

- Does the above passage reflect my attitude/personality?
- Does my attitude/personality help or hurt our group/church on mission?
- Do I need any type of “personality change” to be more effective on mission? If so, what changes do I need to make?

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FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

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FRIDAY DEVOTION: OUR CHURCH'S LIFE EXPERIENCES AND FELLOWSHIP

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, Hebrews 12:1-3, Peter 1:3-7

Materials Needed:

Bibles

Student workbooks

Pens/Pens

Stained glass panel you made during Monday's church group devotions

Picture of power blocker

Reminders & Announcements:

- Give any specific instructions that relate to your group especially as they relate to packing, cleaning and travel home.

DAILY REVIEW — FINAL EDITION

(Optional Lead In)

Say: For one last time we want to take a moment to review the week. I want to remind you to be positive during this time. It is meant to be a time of fun and celebration, so do not share anything that could cause embarrassment or hurt.

With those guidelines firmly in place, **ask:**

- What was something funny you experienced today?
- What was something you witnessed today that made you feel good?
- Were there some decisions made today that we can celebrate?

Say: Let's review all of the decisions made that we can celebrate!

Leader's Note: *Be sure if a reflection starts to be embarrassing to move on quickly. Also, if someone shares a decision they made for Christ that they did not make public in the worship service, please be sure to share it with the BeDoTell staff before the week's end so the student can receive follow-up materials. You can use the decision card forms in their book, and since it is the end of the week, please email the name and information to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BeDoTell@ncbaptist.org).*

Celebrate all decisions made from the week!

Read: Matthew 16:18

"And on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Say: As we wrap up each day with our church group devotion, I want to encourage you to really listen, so you can hear what God is telling you. (Pray to ask God to help all listen to His message at this time.)

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DEVOTION

Read: 1 Peter 1:3-7

"3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."

Say: The things we experience in our lives, positive and negative, shape who we are. The same is true for our group/church. The experiences we have allow us deeper insight into many areas through which to do ministry.

STAINED GLASS ILLUSTRATION

Leader's Note: *Bring to the devotions the stained glass panel you made as a church during devotions on Monday and refer to it during this time.*

Ask/Say: Remember when we made this Monday night? We took pieces of broken glass and put them together as a creative and beautiful stained glass masterpiece. The church — all of us — are broken and different. Some of us have really rough edges. Some have a bigger presence than others. However, when God takes all of these and puts them together as His church, each is important and can be used by Him to present a beautiful representation of His love and plan for us and the world. Our experiences, both as individuals and as a church, help make us who we are. Let's look at this a little deeper.

Ask: Leading up to Caswell, what are some unique experiences our church has had, both positive and negative?

Ask: How can these be used for ministry?

Ask: What about this week at Caswell? Has your experience this week changed you? If so, how? How about our church group?

Ask: How can we use what we have experienced this week to build fellowship and our mission to our community?

Read: Hebrews 12:1-3

"1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

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Say: Let's face it. After a week like Caswell, we often have great intentions of allowing Jesus to do great things through us. Then, once we return home, we get caught up in other things such as sin. This trips us up, and we stop allowing Jesus to complete the mission He has called us to. This passage tells us to "keep our eyes on Jesus." That means we should remember what He has done for us and not grow weary. Hopefully, our stained glass masterpiece can help serve as a reminder to you.

Make it personal — don't let the power be blocked!

Say: While the beauty of a stained glass creation is always there, it is much more brilliant when light shines through it. When the light is blocked, the true glory of the masterpiece is lessened. In the same way, we, the church, are most beautiful when the power of God shines through us.

Leader's Note: *You can easily illustrate this by holding up your church's stained glass creation and allowing light to shine through it. Then block the light from passing through with something. You may want to experiment a little with how best to do this before this session to see how to make the illustration most effective.*

Instruct the students to turn in their books where they will find a picture of an outlet safety plug.

Say: If you have little kids in your home, or have been in a home with young children, you have probably seen safety outlet plugs. They are designed to keep a child from sticking something into the outlet and accessing the electrical power that is there.

This is a positive thing as we do not want children shocked or electrocuted. However, in a negative way, we tend to allow things to block the power of God from working in our lives. The power is there. God doesn't go away, but we often turn away or allow something to come between us and His power.

Ask: What are some things that prevent you from allowing God to show off the brilliance of His power through you? Is it your social media presence? Is it websites you frequently view? Is it some type of substance abuse? Is it sports or a job? Is it your friends, including your boyfriend or girlfriend? Some of these things aren't bad in themselves, but they become negative when they distance us from God and block out His power in our lives.

Say: On the picture of the outlet safety plug, write down the thing or things you feel may hinder you from living in the full power of God when you get home from Caswell.

Leader's Note: *Present the big picture of the safety outlet plug in this packet to the students.*

Ask: What are some things that could hinder us from allowing God's power to show off in a brilliant way through our group when we return from Caswell?

Leader's Note: *Write them on the picture. You may want to put this up in a prominent place in your church group meeting area and encourage students to prayerfully work to keep this from happening in their lives and in your church group.*

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REFLECTION/WRAP-UP

Say: Now is the time to take a moment to do some final reflections of the week. Turn in your student workbook to “Today’s Church Construction” for Friday. Take a moment of silence to read the Scripture and write down your thoughts.

After giving your group several minutes to complete their reflections, if appropriate, let some students share what they wrote. Close in prayer.

CLOSING/CLOSING PRAYER

Leader’s Note: *During this time, share any final reflections you may have for your group. Encourage them that even when they may feel they have drifted from God, you and your church are still there for them. Let them know your love for them doesn’t end when you pull out of the front gate of Caswell.*

Cover your group in prayer as you prepare to depart from Caswell. This could include the laying on of hands or a special commemoration for your graduating seniors and/or your student leaders. If your group is mature enough, it may even be a good time to have those who are facing some big challenges at home come forward to be prayed for. (Do this part ONLY at their request. Do not embarrass anyone or betray confidences.)

STUDENT WORKBOOK MATERIAL

TODAY’S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION – Our Experiences

Read: 1 Peter 1:3-7

“3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

Answer the following questions and give examples when appropriate:

- What are some things you have experienced in your life that could be helpful in ministering to others?
- How can I use these experiences? Who do I know right now that could benefit from hearing how God has worked in my life?
- What have I experienced this week that God can use to help me live out His mission for my life? How can He use it?
- List here any potential “power blockers” in your life that may prevent you from living out His mission for your life. Ask God to prevent them from getting in the way of your relationship with Him and the flow of His power through you.?

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HOME CHURCH SHARING SERVICE

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HOME CHURCH SHARING SERVICE

This is a sample service during which you can share with your home church how God worked in your group while at Caswell.

Pre-Service

Before the service would be a great time to play the Caswell soundtrack* and show a slideshow of pictures from the week of camp. This may be a good time to share about your stained glass masterpiece, or you may wish to do so during the testimony or commitment time.

Opening Prayer — Student

Scripture Reading Theme Verse — Student

Choruses*

Missions Offering Emphasis

Consider including our camp mission offering emphasis in this service. If the emphasis at Caswell has inspired your church leadership to do a similar project, this would be a good time to encourage the rest of the church to take part in that project.

Theme Song from Camp*

Testimonies and Sharing Time

Allow students and chaperones to share what they learned and how God spoke to them during Caswell. It may be best to select who will speak in advance. One other option is to do video testimonies to play at this time — these testimonies could even be filmed at Caswell.

Call to Commitment

This would be a great time to encourage camp participants to commit again to living out what they learned at Caswell. It would also be a great time to encourage the other church members to commit to pray for and continually disciple these camp participants. ONE KEY COMMITMENT could be a mission that your group/church plans and executes in the way that only your group is SHAPED to do.

Closing Chorus*

Closing Prayer — Pastor

*Camp music is available online at www.BeDoTell.com.

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SAMPLE COPY
CASWELL YOUTH WEEK, (DATE)

- I. THOU SHALT FOLLOW ALL DIRECTIONS GIVEN BY THE TRIP CHAPERONES/CAMP RULES. INCLUDING DRESS CODE, PHONE AND ELECTRONICS USAGE RULES.
- *II. THY BODY SHALT NOT LEAVE THE SPECIFIED AREAS ON WHICH THE GROUP IS RESIDING, RECREATING WITHOUT BEING ACCOMPANIED BY A CHAPERONE.
- *III. THY BODY SHALT NOT BE IN THE RESIDENCE ROOM OF THE OPPOSITE SEX (CAMP RULES) NOR SHALT THY ENTER INTO THE BUILDING OF ANOTHER GROUP WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND APPROVAL BY CHAPERONES FROM THAT GROUP.
- IV. THOU SHALT NOT SMOKE, CHEW, NOR DIP TOBACCO, NOR USE A PLANT OF ANY KIND IN THIS MANNER DURING THE TRIP. NEITHER SHALT THY VAPE NOR USE ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC CIGERETTE TYPE DEVICE.
- *V. THOU SHALT NOT CONSUME ANY BEVERAGE NOR ANY OTHER CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE WHICH MAY ALTER THY BEHAVIOR PATTERNS. ANYONE WHO HAS NEED TO PARTAKE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS MUST HAVE THEIR PARENTS NOTIFY TRIP CHAPERONES BEFORE THE TRIP OF THE TYPE OF DRUG AND SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATION. CHAPERONES WILL HOLD AND ADMINISTER SAID MEDICINES.
- VI. NO FIREWORKS SHALT THY BUY OR BURN.
- *VII. THY SHALT NOT STEAL, NOR SHALT THOU BORROW FROM THY NEIGHBOR WITHOUT THY NEIGHBOR'S PERMISSION.
- VIII. THOU SHALT NOT TREPASS ON THY NEIGHBOR'S BODY OR SELF-ESTEEM. THIS INCLUDES ANY INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT.
- IX. THOU SHALT REPORT ANY INJURY IMMEDIATELY TO A CHAPERONE.
- X. THOU SHALT BE ON TIME TO ALL EVENTS AND ENJOY THYSELF.

REWARDS FOR FOLLOWING COVENANT RULES:

1. An enjoyable trip free from hassles from chaperones.
2. An abundant dose of praise and thank yous.
3. The opportunity to take advantage of all the special things planned for you.

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATIONS:

Small violation = A reprimand from a chaperone.

Repeat violation = A call to parents.

Several violations = Collect passage home and forfeiture of all unused trip privileges and funds.

SEVERE CLAUSE: A severe behavior or a violation of starred rules may result in a Youth being sent home on the first offense.

I have read and I understand the above covenant and agree to follow the behavior guidelines listed.

(Youth Signature)

I have read and understand the above covenant and agree to be supportive of the chaperones taking responsibility for the enforcement of these guidelines.

(Parent Signature)