



This Mission Handbook Belongs To:

Crew #

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Daily Schedule

Sunday

12 to 2 p.m.	Check-in
3 p.m.	Kickoff program
4 p.m.	Adult meeting (21 and older)
5 to 6:30 p.m.	Dinner
5:30 p.m.	Program team meeting (for people interested in being in dramas, reading Scripture, etc.) Worship team meeting (for people who'd like to sing or play an instrument during the program music times)
7 p.m.	Evening program, meet crews, receive work site assignments Youth group devotions immediately following evening program (find a place and meet in the same spot every night)
11 p.m.	Lights out

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

6:45 a.m.	Wakey-Wakey!
7 a.m.	Breakfast, prep time (lunches, tools, water, supplies)
8 a.m.	Morning program, then depart for sites
3:30 p.m.	Return to the lodging facility; check-in (progress reporter, work director, devotion leader); free time

4

3:30 to 5:30 p.m.	Camp store is open
5 p.m.	Dinner
5:30 p.m.	Program team rehearsal
6 p.m.	Worship team rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Evening program Youth group devotions immediately following program
11 p.m.	Lights out (midnight on Friday only)

Tuesday

4:15 p.m.	Adult meeting (21 and older)
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Wednesday

6:45 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Same as Monday
12:30 p.m.	Return to lodging facility, group free time, dinner on your own
7:30 p.m.	Evening program with Variety Show; youth group devotions immediately following program
11 p.m.	Lights out

Saturday

7 to 8 a.m.	Continental breakfast
7 to 9 a.m.	Pack belongings and load vehicles, clean your room, contact person checks out with the office, receive Care Cards when you're all checked out

Please read this before the end of the day Sunday. If you have any questions, please see your youth leader or camp leadership.

Your Emotional Safety Matters!

What you're about to read is important. Really important. Not just because it's the way things are or because the world is full of weirdos. It's important because your emotional safety reflects God's love and concern for you. God made you in his own image, and he wants others to treat you with that reality in mind. So now...read on.

- Safety isn't just physical safety while working. Equally important is your emotional safety at camp.
- Please don't ever leave the work site without an adult—for any reason. If you do need to leave the site, you must be accompanied by a camp adult.
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings. It's best not to walk off by yourself or be separated from your crew. Know where the rest of your crew is at all times.
- If anything ever makes you feel uncomfortable or is inappropriate, please let the adult on your crew, your youth leader, or a member of the Red Shirt staff know immediately. We'll address the situation right away!

Shower Schedules

- For everyone's safety, participants age 17 and under have separate shower times from participants who are 18 and older. It's about safety, respect, and proper boundaries.
- Shower schedules are posted on every sleeping room door and at every shower area in the building. They're everywhere! Please strictly abide by that schedule!
- If people aren't abiding by the schedule, please notify a Red Shirt staff member of the appropriate gender, and they'll assist in enforcing the schedule. Please **DO NOT** become impatient and simply begin showering when a person 18 or older is present. This won't be tolerated.

Code of Conduct for All Participants

To Provide the Best Experience, All Trip Participants Agree to the Following:

Group Mission Trips looks forward to providing a safe, fun, and memorable mission trip experience. Each participant is responsible for acting in a way that is respectful to God, ourselves, and others and assures everyone has a positive experience. All participants are required to follow these behavioral guidelines.

Expected Behavior:

- Be respectful of others and property.
- Be responsible for your words and actions.
- Dress and behave modestly to show respect to God, other participants, the community, and its people.
- Follow the designated shower times, scheduled lights out, room assignments, and quiet times.
- Do not use cell phones, gaming devices, or anything else causing a distraction on work sites or during worship programs. Understand there is no security for valuables.
- Follow directions from adult leaders, other adult participants, Group Mission Trips staff, and lodging representatives.
- Be alert to potential safety risks and take action to prevent injury to other participants and yourself.

Prohibited Behavior:

- Endangering the health and safety of yourself, other participants, residents, partners, staff, or volunteers.
- Entering areas of the lodging facility that are not assigned to you or leaving the lodging facility or work site without permission.
- Damaging property.

- Using profanity, inappropriate language, or displaying clothing or other personal items with offensive content.
- Inappropriate physical contact, comments, gestures, references, pictures, or videos.
- Illegal activity, possession, or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, firearms, weapons, or any object that may cause harm to another or make another person fear their safety.
- Using tobacco, e-cigarettes, or vape pens in vehicles, on school or church grounds, at the work site, at the lodging facility, or in neighboring residents' yards.
- Bullying, violence, acts of aggression, discrimination, or language that is attacking or degrading toward any other person.

How behavioral guideline violations will be handled:

Camp leadership will:

- **Gather information from any party involved regarding the specific violation in question.**
- **Inform the group leader(s) of any participant(s) involved in the allegation of a violation.**
- **Act as a mediator and advise group leaders of involved parties on any consulted solutions and potential communication process with participant(s) in question, other leaders, and/or parents.**

Disciplinary decisions are at the camp director's or camp leadership's final discretion after consulting with the group leader.

Failure to adhere to these behavioral guidelines may result in warning, correction, dismissal, or legal action as necessary. We reserve the right to dismiss from camp a participant whose conduct is severely disruptive or creates physical harm to self or others.

In the event of a dismissal, there will be no reimbursement of fees or of any travel expense required by a guardian to pick up the participant if required.

Your signature verifies that you have read, understand, and agree to this Code of Conduct.

Your Signature

Your Name

Church Name

Church Location

(city and state)

Return signed Code of Conduct
to Youth Group Leader

Tear Out and Turn In

Let's Talk!

(NOTE: The adult will lead this activity.)

Now that you've found your crew, find a spot nearby and make yourselves at home! Take some time to learn your crew members' names and where they're from. (Allow time.)

Before we learn about and choose our crew roles, let's discover what we all have in common. We need someone who has a watch to time us. (Find someone who has a watch.) When I say go, we'll try to find out how many things we ALL have in common. Obvious things such as "We're all human beings" or "We all breathe air" don't count! Let's find things that aren't so obvious, such as movies or music or food we all enjoy; for example, "We all like Mexican food" or "We all water ski."

I need one person to be the recorder to jot all this stuff down. (Select someone who'll write things down.)

When I say go, we'll have five minutes to try to figure out how many things we all have in common. Our recorder will jot it all down. Our timekeeper will let us know when five minutes are up. Ready? GO! (After five minutes, have the recorder add up the items you listed to see how you did.)

Now we'll discover the different crew roles and each choose one for this week.

Crew Roles

It's Time to Get Moving!

Look at the different crew roles and responsibilities that follow. In these roles, you'll have the opportunity to serve not only this community but your crew members, too! To do this, each crew member will select one service role for the week. Every role must be covered. Six people, six roles.

Easy enough, right?

(NOTE: If your crew has only five people, one person will be both the progress reporter and the organizer.)

No role is more important than another, so no matter which role you choose, you'll be a key part of the crew.

Together, we'll have an immeasurable impact on the people, neighborhoods, and organizations we serve. Think through which roles best reflect who you are and how you enjoy serving others. The crew will work together to figure out who will fit best in each role.

If you're unsure what to choose, think about the following:

- Have you been in any service roles similar to these before?
- What are your interests and abilities?
- Would you like to explore a new skill or experience?

Please join me in prayer: God, give us direction on how you want us each to serve this week. Guide us to work together as a crew so we can let everyone around us know how great you are. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Now, let's choose our roles!

The Basics

- **Break Maker:** Gathers lunch items and drinks for the crew
- **Devotion Leader:** Leads the crew's daily devotions
- **Progress Reporter:** Reports to staff each day about the project progress
- **Organizer:** Keeps the crew packet and first-aid kit
- **Quartermaster:** Gets extra tools and ladders the crew may need
- **Work Director:** Oversees the crew's work to complete the project

All the details you'll ever need

Break Maker

The break maker gathers lunch items and water for the crew. They also help schedule break times and make sure the crew drinks plenty of water.

Here's how we handle water jugs and coolers. Today during check-in and when your group moved into the lodging facility, the Red Shirt staff helped your adults label the coolers and water jugs that your group brought. They were placed in the designated area by the lunch line. Once crew assignments were posted, the adult on your crew should have placed a water jug and cooler under your correct crew number in the lunch-line area. This is the water jug and cooler you'll use throughout the week. If this hasn't been done yet, please go with your adult leader tonight to make sure the water jug and cooler are in the proper place.

- During breakfast, pack your crew's lunch in the cooler. After morning program, load the cooler and water jug into the vehicle. (Hint: The jug is outside and pre-filled—don't forget it!)
- You get to set the time for lunch and breaks, and you're the water police. Insist that everyone drinks plenty of water each day!
- Remind everyone to clean up after lunch and breaks each day.
- If your crew has extra food, keep it for use later in the week or offer it to your resident. Unopened items in good condition can be returned to the lodging facility and turned in to your Red Shirt staff. Staple items like bread and peanut butter should be kept and used by the crew until finished, rather than given to residents each day.
- **Check now: Does anyone have a food allergy? If someone has a peanut allergy, ask how peanut butter should be handled for the week. Extra bags are available at the lunch line.**

- When you return after work each day, clean out your cooler and dump out the water. Store the cooler and water jug in the same place you put them tonight so they're accessible the next morning.

The Bottom Line: The break maker enjoys serving others.

Devotion Leader

The devotion leader keeps the crew focused on connecting to Jesus by leading prepared daily devotions. They also encourage the crew to share God Sightings.

- Lead daily devotions at your work site, using the devotions in this Mission Handbook.

(Hint: Get your whole crew involved and talking; don't do all the talking yourself.)

- If a second crew is at your site, you may do devotions either together or separately. If three or more crews are at your site, you should do devotions in your own crew and not combined with the others. The small-group nature of the devotions helps people open up and share more.
- After work each day, you'll report to the MC at the progress-reporting area. Tell the MC how your devotions are going, and share any God Sightings from the day.

God Sightings are about what God is doing at your site or anywhere at camp. You might be invited to share your God Sighting at the evening program.

The Bottom Line: The devotion leader enjoys helping people connect to Jesus and is comfortable sharing matters of faith, leading small-group discussions, and praying.

Progress Reporter

The progress reporter reports to Red Shirt staff each day about the crew's project progress.

(Remember: If your crew has five people, one person gets to be both the organizer and the progress reporter!)

- Check the quality of your crew's work each day.
- At the end of each day, report your crew's progress to camp staff at the check-in table.
- When you check in, report if your crew will need help finishing the project or if you'll finish early and can help another crew. If you finish early, you may get to help at another work site! Check the camp office for reassignments.

(Hint: Always check with staff about reassignments. Don't reassign yourselves to another location on your own.)

- On the last day at your work site, report if trash needs to be picked up (if your crew can't bring it back). Report any ladders and unused materials left at the site that need to be picked up by camp staff.

The Bottom Line: The progress reporter enjoys working with people and communicating important work site information.

Organizer

The organizer keeps the crew packet and first-aid kit.

(Remember: If your crew has five people, one person gets to be both the organizer and the progress reporter!)

- Coordinate your crew's departure each morning, making sure crew members know where to find their vehicle.
- Please lead your crew through the Tailgate Safety Meeting when

you arrive at your work site on Monday morning. The Tailgate Safety Meeting starts on page 24.

- Keep track of the crew packet you'll receive later tonight.

(The crew packet includes your work description, emergency information, and more.)

- Be responsible for the first-aid kit, and keep it well stocked throughout the week. (Extra supplies are located in the camp office.) You'll get your first-aid kit later this evening.
- Return your first-aid kit at the end of the week. If you don't turn it in, you'll be charged \$6. In other words, we really need these back!

The Bottom Line: The organizer enjoys accuracy and attention to detail, and likes seeing the crew grow closer together.

Quartermaster

The quartermaster gets extra tools and ladders the crew may need.

- Once the organizer on your crew receives your crew packet a little later tonight, check out the Quartermaster Tool Inventory section, and work with your crew to inventory the tools you'll need to complete your project. (The full tool list that your youth group should have brought is on page 21.)
- After taking inventory of the tools your crew brought, determine which additional tools and ladders are needed for each job you'll be doing at the work site.
- Each day before the morning program, request and pick up extra tools from the tool room.
- Make sure all the tools are clean and accounted for.
- All about ladders:
 - Tomorrow morning before the program, request and pick up

ladders from the tool room.

- If a ladder is too big for your vehicle, request delivery from the tool room staff.
- If you're using a tall extension ladder, please use it as soon as possible and return it so other crews can use it.
- Return borrowed tools and ladders during the week as soon as you no longer need them.

(Hint: Before leaving the work site each day, meet with the work director to determine which additional tools your crew will need the next day.)

- On the last day, return all borrowed tools and ladders to the tool room.

The Bottom Line: The quartermaster enjoys supporting others and can be counted on to follow through with getting the tools and ladders the crew has requested.

Work Director

The work director oversees the crew's work to complete the project.

- Coordinate the crew's efforts.

(Hint: You're not the boss or dictator; you're a coach and facilitator. Hey, that rhymes!)

- When you receive the work description tonight, carefully read it with your entire crew. (The organizer will receive the crew packet with the work description later tonight.)
- Work with the progress reporter to check the daily progress of the crew's work.
- Encourage good work and help resolve problems.
- Help the quartermaster determine which tools are necessary.

- Report every day to the materials check-in table in the tool room. That's where you'll order extra materials, if needed.
- If you request materials, be sure to pick them up the following morning from the tool room before the morning program. The tool room opens at 7 a.m.
- Refer to the Work Director Materials Checklist below for everything you need to know about ordering materials.
- At the end of your project, return unused materials and unopened paint to the tool room. Leave partially used materials with the resident. If the materials are too big for your vehicle, report this to the tool room staff or your site coach for pickup.
- Note: Group Workcamps encourages a youth to be your crew's work director. Come on—you can do it!

The Bottom Line: The work director enjoys coordinating everyone's skills and working with people. They have some home-repair skills and the ability to guide and direct the work (without being bossy).

Work Director Materials Checklist

Everything you need to know about ordering additional materials.

- Determine the exact color or size (length, depth, and width) of the materials you need. If you're not sure, bring a sample from your work site for the Red Shirt staff to match. You also can ask your site coach to help with sizes and kinds of materials for you to request. However, you, not your site coach, will place the order.
- Report your needs to the materials check-in table in the tool room each day when you return to the lodging facility. Your site coach won't do this for you. Please report on time—we don't want to miss your materials order!
- Only materials that are absolutely necessary will be ordered. Remember to do only the work listed on your work description.

- Pick up your materials from the tool room the next morning before the morning program. If materials are too big to fit in your vehicle, request delivery from the tool room staff. Please don't call the lodging facility from your work site requesting new materials unless it's an emergency. If the materials aren't immediately available, work on a lower-priority project, or do work the resident needs around the house or yard.

For the Adult—We Think You're Great!

You have an important job—and when we say important, we mean very important. While you're working alongside your crew to complete a project, youth will look to you for guidance and support, regardless of your skills or crew role...because you're the adult. (Pretty cool, huh?) They can't complete the project and grow closer together without you! Check out these tips for being a great adult on a great crew:

- Smile a lot. Welcome crew members every morning at the program. (Get your coffee first, if necessary.) Be positive and loving. Yes, you pretty much set the tone for your crew.
- Your can-do attitude toward the project builds confidence in teenagers. (You are pre-authorized to fake it!)
- If things go wrong (and they just might), calmly work together for a solution...with a positive attitude.
- We hereby deputize you as the safety officer at your site. (Sorry, no orange sash is available.) If you ever see anything unsafe, please intervene **immediately**.
- If the workers slow down and the work isn't getting done, give kids a little boost. (Pep talks are great. Treats are better.)
- Crew members can do their specific roles. Your words of encouragement and pats on the back develop good young leaders. This will impact them more than you'll ever know.

- Remember the important spiritual aspect of camp: Ensure that devotions take place on your site every day.
- During crew devotions, listen more than you speak. A big part of the learning process is when kids figure out the truth on their own. And, hey, you might learn a thing or two!
- If someone gets hurt, administer first aid and call 911, if necessary. Always call the camp office if someone gets hurt.
- Never leave the crew on the site without a camp adult. (The resident doesn't count as a camp adult.)
- If you ever need anything, contact your friendly Red Shirt staff. We're here for you, and we're all in this together.

Quartermaster, use this handy list to tally the tools your crew will need (refer to your crew packet).

caulking gun	paint roller extension
chalk line and chalk	paintscraper or wire brush
chisel	paint tray
circular saw	paintbrush
clamp	pencil
digging bar	post hole digger
drill bit kit	pry bar
drop cloth	rags
dust masks	safety goggles
electric drill and bits	screwdriver
extension cord	shovel
extra drill battery (with a charger)	spray bottle
ground fault interrupter	square
hammer	star bits
jigsaw	tape measure
level	tool pouch or bucket
paint bucket hook	utility knife
paint buckets	work gloves
paint roller	wrench/socket kit
paint roller covers	

OK, Almost Done!

Now that everyone knows their crew role, write your members' names next to their crew role!

Break Maker:

Devotion Leader:

Progress Reporter:

Organizer:

Quartermaster:

Work Director:

Before you go back to the program...

Make sure:

- Each person has a role and understands what they're doing.
- The break maker has verified with the adult in your crew they have their water jug and cooler in the designated place by the lunch line.
- Break maker has filled out the lunch order form for Monday and noted any dietary restrictions.

Have a great week!

Tailgate Safety Meeting

1. Be Aware of Your Surroundings: Dogs, Snakes, and Insects

Complete a visual inspection of the resident's property, especially the work area. If the resident or neighbors have unfriendly-looking dogs, request they be secured or put in a safe place. Ask the resident if he or she knows of any areas where snakes or biting insects have been noticed. Look for thick vegetation or woodpiles where snakes may be hiding, and avoid those areas. Look carefully for wasp nests and cracks or spaces in the building where wasps are entering or exiting. Obtain wasp spray from the tool room to take care of any bees or wasp nests. Don't spray insects while they're flying.

2. Don't Work Alone

Be aware of your surroundings and know where the rest of your crew is at all times. Use the buddy system! A camp adult must always be present. The resident does not count.

3. Electricity

Find the location where the power supply enters the house. Approach this location with extreme caution, avoiding it if possible. Never touch or lean over the power line, even if it appears to be insulated. Never touch open wires. Watch out for low or hidden wires.

When repairing drywall, always make note of any and all wires, light switches, or outlets before removing old material or installing new material. When repairing or replacing skirting, always check for wires under the trailer, along the edge you're attaching to, before nailing or screwing in the new material.

Ask the resident if the circuit breaker for that area of the house can be switched off before working there. Ensure that all power tools and extension cords are protected with a functional ground fault interrupter (GFI) outlet or GFI-protected circuit breaker. Do not operate a power hand tool or extension cord if the ground pin from

the three-pronged power plug is missing or has been removed. Do not, under any circumstances, attempt to make any electrical repairs.

4. Power Tools

Before work begins, physically inspect all power tools that will be used. Inspect cords for any exposed wires, nicks, or cuts. Keep power cords away from the path of drills and saws. Do not carry equipment or tools by the cord. Disconnect tools from the outlet by pulling on the plug, not the cord. Ensure that all safety features of the tool are in working order. When in doubt, consult a site coach before using the tool. Adult supervision is required at all times when using power tools.

Always wear safety glasses when within 5 feet of an operating power tool, even if you aren't the operator. Never use corded power tools around puddles, in the rain, or near other wet conditions. Never replace drill bits or blades while it's plugged in. Use sharp blades; dull blades are dangerous. Avoid using handsaws. You can use power drills to drive screws if you are under 16 and have adult supervision. You must be 16 or older to use drills for drilling holes. To use power saws, you must be 18 or older, and the adult on the crew must supervise.

When using power saws, follow these steps:

- Clamp the workpiece so you can keep two hands on the tool.
- Use sawhorses! The power saw may offer the ultimate in portable convenience, but that doesn't mean it's safe to cut lumber braced against your knee.
- Cut outside the sawhorse edges, never between the two horses' rails. That reduces the chance of the blade binding.
- Set the blade depth so the tips of the teeth just barely protrude past your workpiece's thickness (this applies to table saws, as well). That minimizes the hazard of accidental blade contact with your sawhorse.

5. Digging

If your work description includes digging (i.e., post holes for porches or fences), inspect the property first. Try to identify where underground utilities (such as water, gas, electricity, TV, and phone lines) enter the house—and from which direction they cross the property. Avoid digging in these areas, when possible. If digging in these areas is required, consult a site coach and dig very slowly, being careful not to damage the underground utility.

6. Lead-Based Paint

When unsure, we assume that all paint currently on your work site is lead-based and must be treated accordingly. It's important to make sure your crew has safety glasses, dust masks, disposable gloves, drop cloths, and spray bottles. Follow step-by-step instructions for preparing the area and disposing of paint chips.

Note: Poisoning through lead-based paint requires contact with leaded materials over an extended period of time; however, it's still important to take precautions to avoid any contact with these materials. Proper disposal of paint chips also is important.

7. Chemicals

Know what chemicals you're working with, and don't mix them. Specifically, bleach and TSP don't mix well with anything, so if you're using either of those, use it alone with nothing else. When using harsh chemicals, always wear rubber gloves and safety goggles.

8. Ladders

No matter if the ladder is your own, a resident's, or a borrowed one from the community, it's important to carefully inspect the ladder for safety and ensure it's not broken. Use ladders, not objects, to climb. Always inspect the ground on which you place extension ladders, as they'll often slide on loose dirt, smooth or uneven surfaces, and slopes. When in doubt, assign a crew member as a "spotter" to hold the ladder base to ensure its stability. Place

the base of the ladder about one-quarter of the ladder's height from the house. (For example, if the distance from the ground to the highest point of the ladder is 10 feet, place the bottom of the ladder 2.5 feet back from a point directly under where the ladder rests on the eaves.)

To raise a ladder, have a partner brace a foot against the bottom rung. Lift the top above your head and walk the ladder into position. Don't place a ladder near a door unless you lock the door. Never place ladders around a blind corner. If you're using both hands to work, hook one leg over a ladder rung. Never overreach! Keep your hips between the ladder rails. Don't stand on the top step. Don't move the ladder while you're on it.

Completely open step ladders and lock them in open position. Make sure all four legs are touching the ground. Keep tools in a belt or bucket strapped to the ladder. Never leave tools on the ladder. When climbing up or down, face the ladder. Don't use a step ladder as a straight ladder. Extension ladders should extend a minimum of 3 feet above the roof line when used to climb on or off the roof. Don't use extension ladders that have only one foot attached.

Safety First!

Safety is a priority at camp. We need to ensure the safest possible conditions at each site. Please acquaint your group with basic safety practices:

- Always wear your seatbelt!
- Wash tools when you're finished with them, but don't use too much water.
- Wear protective clothing: hats, gloves, long-sleeve shirts, long pants, and closed-toed shoes.
- Drink adequate liquids. Bring water jugs.
- Wear sunscreen.

- Plan your work so your crew is in the shade during the hottest parts of the day, if possible.
- Avoid a careless attitude. Accidents are often caused by crew members' inattention.
- A professional staff member inspects every work site prior to each Workcamp. Group Mission Trips doesn't accept projects that appear to be dangerous.
- Only adults listed by their churches as "designated drivers" may drive to work sites.
- Wear a face mask when scraping paint, using power tools, sweeping, sanding, or engaging in any activity that generates dust or other airborne pollutants. Face masks keep dust out of your lungs.
- Wear rubber gloves when using harsh chemicals, and avoid unventilated areas.
- Each crew must have a first-aid kit with emergency care instructions, including phone numbers for medical facilities.
- Watch out for small children who may be in the way.
- Be aware of weak or unsafe structures (roofs, ramps, porches, floors), and make sure you avoid them.
- Watch out for holes in the ground.

Keep your work area clean:

- When you're finished with a tool, return it to the designated area.
- Immediately place all trash in containers or piles.
- Place all broken glass in metal or heavy cardboard containers, never in plastic bags.

- Immediately remove protruding nails.
- Immediately clean up spilled paint.

Heavy objects:

- Know how much you can lift safely and comfortably.
- Get as close as possible to the object you're lifting.
- Plant your feet firmly, shoulder-width apart, with one leg slightly in front of the other.
- Bend your knees no more than 90 degrees.
- Keep your back straight.
- Grip the object firmly, and lift with your legs.
- Never carry heavy objects alone if you can't see around them. Clear the path first.

About Youth Group Devotions

Right after the evening program, meet with your group in the same place.

Spend 20 to 30 minutes on youth group devotions.

Use the devotions in your Mission Handbook as a guide to pray together and to discuss the daily theme from your church's perspective. Use any extra time for your own youth group info and announcements.

Share the leadership so everyone plays a role in devotions.

Have your group sit in a circle. If your group is large, form several smaller circles, each including leaders. However you do it, make sure people are facing one another. That leads to great conversations and prevents the leader from becoming a lecturer.

When a question is asked, allow plenty of time for people to respond. How they respond or what order they go in is up to you. Sometimes it's fun to have people share with a few people around them, then take some highlight answers from the whole group.

Have fun as you grow closer to Jesus and one another!



ILLUMINATE

OPENING

(You'll need the lantern you received at the Adult Meeting and some tape. Please return tape to camp office at the end of the night. Campers will need their glow sticks and index cards from the program, as well as their Mission Handbooks.)

(Leader's words are in bold.)

Tonight was a big night. New faces, new crews, new energy. You might be feeling a mix of excitement, nerves, or even wondering what the rest of the week will bring. Let's take a few moments to talk about your crews, what project you'll be working on this week, and what you think so far.

(Let campers share answers.)

Next let's talk about what it means to illuminate, or to bring light where it's needed most.

(Turn on your lantern and set it up in the middle of your group.)

When this light shines, even in total darkness, it stands out. It doesn't take away all the darkness instantly, but it changes the space. That's what John 1:5 tells us: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

That light is Jesus. And this week, that's also our mission.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

John describes Jesus as the Light. Not just a flicker or a spark, but the light that darkness can't beat. Everywhere Jesus went—to the hurting, the lonely, the overlooked—he illuminated hope. That same light lives in us.

This week, every paint stroke, conversation, and act of kindness is a way to reflect that light. But sometimes, darkness tries to creep in...maybe through frustration, exhaustion, or comparison. The good news? The darkness can't win. Jesus already conquered it.

- What do you think “light” represents in your own life?
- When have you seen someone “shine,” even when things felt dark?
- What's one way we can bring light to the people we'll meet this week?

(Allow time for discussion.)

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: MY LIGHT CARD

In the program today, you wrote on an index card how you want to be the light this week. Take out your card and look at what you wrote. Take a minute to think. Why did you choose those words? What does that look like in action?

Now, turn to the person next to you and share what you wrote. Be honest. Maybe you're confident, or maybe you're not sure how it'll happen. Both are okay.

Everything you wrote represents all the ways God's light will shine this week through us. (Allow time to share.)

PASS THE LIGHT

Starting with the person on my left, hold your card and raise your glow stick.

Then say one word that represents how you want to shine this week. It's okay if you have the same word as someone else.

(Allow time to share.)

Imagine what this camp, this town, could look like when these lights shine together. Let all these lights serve as a powerful reminder that when we shine together, the darkness doesn't stand a chance.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for bringing us together tonight as one family.

We know that some moments this week will feel messy or tiring. But remind us that your light never fades. Help us shine with kindness, patience, and love—even when no one's watching. Let our light reflect your light. Amen.

(Turn off the lantern.)

Please tape your card into your Mission Handbook. We'll need it again later in the week.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Here's some important information you need to know for tomorrow: Grab your Mission Handbook and turn to page 5, to the section titled "Your Emotional Safety Matters." Will someone please read that section aloud while we follow along?

(Pause for reading.)

We want everyone to have a great week, and that can happen only if we understand and live out those words. If anything or anyone makes you uncomfortable this week, please talk to an adult right away.

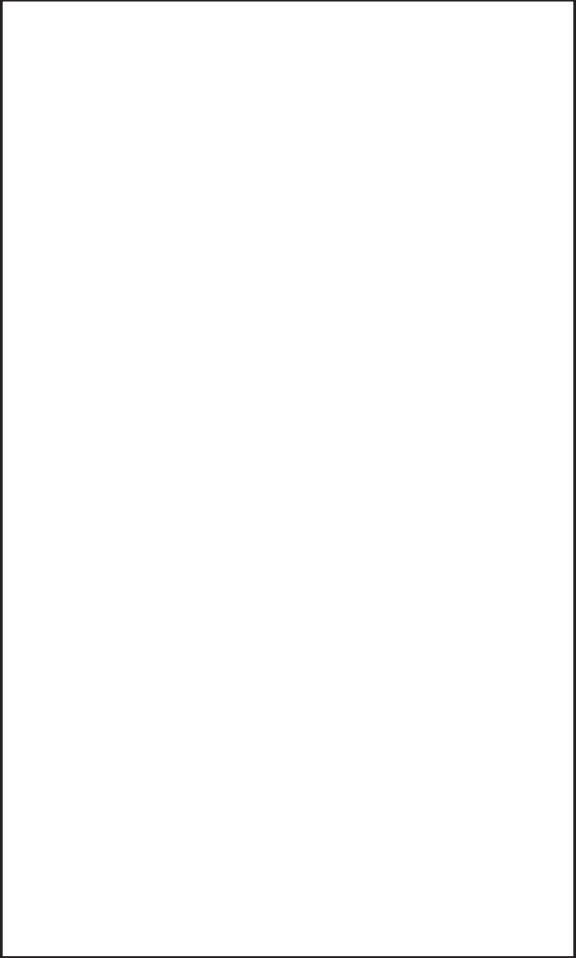
Everyone needs to know about these four important camp locations:

- 1. Cafeteria**
- 2. Tool room**
- 3. Main entrance and check-in table area**
- 4. Emergency meeting place (usually out front or in the largest parking lot)**

If your group isn't yet familiar with these locations, go on a brief group tour of the facility right after devotions tonight.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Make sure everyone knows how to get their tools, supplies, and lunches in the morning.**
- **Lights out tonight is at 11 p.m. Tomorrow is a big day!**
- **In your rooms tonight, an adult should point out the fire exits.**
- **Share announcements related to your group.**
- **Wear camp T-shirt tomorrow morning.**
- **Crew role check-in**
 - **Break Maker – knows where to pick up lunch and place coolers**
 - **Quartermaster – knows the tool room location and how to check out tools**
 - **Work Director – knows the check-in location and how to order materials**
 - **Progress Reporter – knows the check-in location and what to report**
 - **Organizer – knows the office location and has the first-aid kit and crew packet**
 - **Devotion Leader – knows the check-in location**



Monday First Focus

The definition of doubt is “a feeling of uncertainty or a lack of conviction”.

Where in your life do you feel uncertainty, fear, or a lack or conviction? Do you have doubts about your faith, God, and the Bible? Are you uncertain about your friends, family, and school? Do you doubt yourself, your abilities, or your plans for the future? Write anything that comes to mind below.

Sometimes doubts can feel really dark. But remember, the Bible says:

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” John 1:5

Take a moment to pray. Ask God to illuminate your doubts.

Notes to the Devotion Leader

Thanks for choosing to be your crew's devotion leader! Here are some suggestions that will help you prepare and lead devotion time each day.

Crew devotions should be fun, not a pain! They should take about 15 to 20 minutes.

Gather everyone together and find a comfortable place to sit in a circle. Start your time together with a prayer. Thank Jesus for being present, for strengthening your relationships with grace, and for your crew members, resident, and project this week.

Because you're the devotion leader, we're confident you'll do a great job leading the experience with your crew each day.

The devotions are designed so your crew can have a conversation together. You simply invite people to join the discussion. You're leading a fun experience, not an awkward Sunday school lecture!

Most of these questions don't have a "right" answer. We want people to be able to talk about what they think. Let the Bible speak for itself, and let the crew interact with one another and wrestle with their faith.

One final and important thought: You aren't alone as you guide the crew devotions. Jesus is present and at work in your life—and in the lives of your crew members. Relax, smile, and trust Jesus!

JESUS ILLUMINATES OUR FEAR TO REVEAL HIS TRUTH

This morning we talked about our doubts. Let's start our crew devotions by getting to know each other better—and doubting each other—with a game of Two Truths and a Lie. Each person will think of two true statements about themselves and make up one lie.

We'll go around the circle, and each person will share their three statements. The rest of us will try to discover which one is the lie. You can write down your statements in your Mission Handbook.

(Give everyone a turn to share their statements.)

That was fun! How did it feel when you were the one sharing your statements? Was it easy or difficult to tell the lie?

(After each question, allow time for sharing.)

How did it feel when you were guessing, especially when we don't know each other very well yet? Did you feel certain about your guesses, or did you doubt that you were right?

Let's talk about our work project. Do you feel confident that we'll complete everything, or do you have any doubts?

What would help you feel more certain about our ability to finish our project well?

Sometimes we feel like doubting means our faith is weak or we will fail. But the Bible tells us about people who doubt. Let's read what happened to Peter in Matthew 14.

(Either read the passage yourself, ask for a volunteer to read it, or go around and have each person read a verse or two. Whatever

your crew feels comfortable with!)

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

Matthew 14:22-26

- **Why do you think the disciples responded the way they did?**
- **Did they have any reason to believe the person they saw was Jesus?**
- **If the disciples had known it was Jesus walking toward them, do you think they would have responded differently? How?**

This morning, our MC shared a story about a time when they doubted their faith.

Would anyone here like to share a story about a time when they doubted their faith? (Allow time for sharing.)

Also this morning, we wrote some things in our Mission Handbooks that we are doubting. How can Jesus meet you in those doubts? (Allow time for sharing.)

This week, when we feel doubtful about completing our project, our own abilities, something going on at home, or even our faith, remember: Jesus is with us in our doubts, and we can count on him to help.

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for bringing our crew together. Please help us turn to you when we aren't confident, when we're unsure, and even when we're scared. Give us what we need to complete our project this week! Amen.

(Break maker: Don't forget to fill out the lunch order form with your crew for tomorrow.)



TRUTH

OPENING

(You'll need your lantern. Place it in the center of the circle, but keep it turned off.)

(Leader's words are in bold.)

When it's dark, what happens to our minds? We start to imagine things that might not even be there. Fear thrives in the dark, because we can't see clearly. But when the light turns on, things that seemed scary often aren't so bad after all.

(Leader slowly turns on the lantern.)

Like this lantern, Jesus shines light into our fear—not to embarrass us or expose us, but to reveal his truth.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Let's read Matthew 14:32-33. (Have a volunteer read the passage aloud.)

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Matthew 14:32-33

When Jesus got into the boat, the storm stopped. The disciples' fear turned into worship, because they saw the truth: Jesus is God, and he's with them. Sometimes fear covers up truth like clouds cover the sun. But when Jesus shows up, he calms the storm inside us.

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: FEAR FLIP

Think of something you've been afraid of...but make it something you can laugh about. Maybe it's spiders, the dark, forgetting your homework, running out of snacks, that one creepy doll your grandma has. Got one? Turn to page 43 in your Mission Handbook and write down your fear.

(Allow time.)

Now here's the fun part. I want you to do a Fear Flip. Simply flip your silly fear into a fun truth statement that reminds you of God's light and presence. Here are a few examples:

- I'm afraid of spiders. - **TO** - But God is bigger than anything that crawls in the dark.
- I'm afraid of running out of snacks. - **TO** - But Jesus said he's the Bread of Life, so I'll never go hungry.
- I'm afraid of embarrassing myself. - **TO** - But God uses imperfect people all the time, so I'm in good company.

Take a minute and come up with your own Fear Flip. It can be funny, weird, or sincere. Just make it real to you. Write it below the fear you just wrote down in your Mission Handbook.

(Allow about 2 minutes.)

Who wants to share their Fear Flip?

(Allow time for sharing.)

Fear doesn't always have to be heavy. Sometimes Jesus brings light by helping us laugh at what once scared us, reminding us

that he's bigger, stronger, and always with us. Whenever you feel afraid, try a quick Fear Flip.

SCRIPTURE ILLUMINATIONS

To help turn fear into truth, let Jesus illuminate the moment with joy. On page 44 in your Mission Handbook is a list of Bible verses. These are just a few verses that illuminate truth when we face fear or doubt.

Read through the verses and circle the one you connect with the most. Then turn to the person next to you and answer these questions:

- 1. What fear does this verse speak to?**
- 2. What truth does it reveal about who Jesus is?**
- 3. How can I carry this truth into my life?**

(After 5-7 minutes, gather back together.)

Let's go around and share which verse you chose and the truth that it illuminated.

(Allow time for sharing.)

When fear or doubt creep in, remember: Jesus' light doesn't make fear disappear instantly. It reveals truth that's stronger than fear. Here's how you can live that out this week:

- **Let Jesus illuminate your doubt. Don't hide it. Pray about it. Go back and read the verse you circled.**
- **Ask for clarity. Sometimes the answer isn't instant, but the presence of Jesus brings peace.**
- **Tear out the verses and place them where you'll see them often. Then, when you feel afraid, read through them and remember that Jesus always reveals his truth.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, you are the Light that breaks through every storm. Thank you for seeing us in our fear and not turning away. Help us bring our doubts into your light and trust that you're big enough for our questions. Reveal your truth to us, calm our hearts, and teach us to walk by faith, not fear. Amen.

(Turn off the lantern.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Variety show audition forms must be signed by an adult in your group who has seen and approved the act. Forms are available in the camp office and are due back there by 5 p.m. tomorrow. Auditions are tomorrow night.**
- **Continue adding to the camp's community gift.**
- **Add any announcements specific to your group.**
- **Lights out is at 11 p.m.**
- **Have a great night!**

Write down your fears

Verses to reflect on:

- Matthew 14:32-33 — “Jesus calms the storm.”
- Isaiah 41:10 — “Do not fear, for I am with you..”
- 2 Timothy 1:7 — “For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power..”
- Psalm 27:1 — “The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?”
- John 8:12 — “I am the light of the world..”
- Joshua 1:9 — “Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you.”
- Philippians 4:6-7 — “Do not be anxious about anything..”
- Psalm 56:3-4 — “When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.”
- Romans 8:38-39 — “Nothing can separate us from the love of God.”

Tuesday First Focus

The definition of sin is “where we fall short of God’s perfect standard”.

When you think about God being perfect, what do you picture?

Is it easier for you to admit your own sin, or point out sin in other people? Why?

Where do you see yourself falling short of God’s perfect standard?

Tuesday First Focus

What areas of your life feel dark, or like you want to hide them?

What would change if you allowed Jesus to shine light on those dark areas?

JESUS ILLUMINATES OUR SIN TO REVEAL HIS GRACE

Let's start with a challenge! Who thinks they're a great artist? Whether you think you are or not, let's put that to the test. Everyone grab their Mission Handbook and a writing utensil. Turn to the back cover of your Mission Handbook, the blank white page. Hold it on top of your head. We're all going to draw the same picture, without being able to see what we're doing. You have one minute to make your very best drawing of...a paint brush, paint bucket, and hammer. No peeking! On your mark, get set, go!

(Set a phone timer for 1 minute. Everyone draws while the paper is on top of their head, so they can't see what they're doing. At the end of 1 minute, have everyone show their drawing. Vote on whose looks best.)

I think it's safe to say that none of our drawings could be described as perfect. Today we've been talking about sin—falling short of God's perfect standard. Anytime we talk about sin, I think of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3. Let's read that chapter now:

(Go around the circle and have everyone read a few verses.)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, 'Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.'"

To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' 'Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to

the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

And the LORD God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”

So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 3

Now let's answer these questions:

- 1. What standard, or instruction, did God give Adam and Eve?**
- 2. How did they fall short of that standard?**
- 3. Do you think God knew that Adam and Eve would disobey his instructions? Why or why not?**
- 4. How did God treat Adam and Eve after they disobeyed him? Does any part of God's response surprise you?**
- 5. Why do you think God made clothes for Adam and Eve?**
- 6. How does the Genesis story affect us today?**

(Allow time to share.)

Romans 5:12 says:

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

Romans 5:12

As a crew, we have a goal in the form of a project for our resident. None of us could do this job on our own, and we must work together. How might we fall short as a team this week?

(Allow time for responses.)

We won't be perfect this week. How should we treat each other when we mess up or make mistakes?

(Allow time for responses.)

Although we know we won't be perfect, I hope we can follow God's example and take care of each other when we mess up.

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for this crew. Thank you for putting us together and giving us this project. Help us work hard, help each other, and show each other grace when we make mistakes. Amen.

(Break maker: Don't forget to fill out the lunch order form with your crew for tomorrow.)



GRACE

OPENING MOMENT

(Leader's words are in bold.)

Tonight's drama featured a girl who knew about Jesus but was still caught in sin. **Maybe you've been there: knowing who Jesus is but still messing up, still feeling guilty, still wondering if his light, his grace, really covers you.**

(Leader places the lantern in the center of the circle.)

The truth is, Jesus doesn't wait for us to be perfect before offering grace.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Grace isn't something we earn; it's something we receive. That's what makes it so powerful. John 1:16 says, "Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace."

That means grace upon grace. Never-ending. Always enough.

Turn to the person next to you and answer these questions:

- **When have you felt like you didn't deserve God's grace?**

- **What do you think it means that grace and truth came through Jesus, not through rules or religion?**
- **How does it feel knowing that you can't earn Jesus' love but only accept it?**

(Allow time for sharing.)

Does anyone want to share their answers?

(Allow time for sharing.)

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: GRACE REMINDER

Go ahead and pick up your sticker from the cross. Take a close look. Hold the sticker in your hand. This is more than just a word. It's a symbol of what Jesus did for you. He took what was dark and gave you something light. Jesus took away all your sins and gave you forgiveness.

Please sit quietly for 1-2 minutes, holding the grace sticker. Silently talk to Jesus. Tell him how you are broken. Tell him how you need his grace.

(Allow a few minutes.)

Let me pray for us all: Dear Jesus, thank you for taking away our sins and giving us grace. Amen.

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: BROKENNESS BRINGS LIGHT

Tonight you left something at the cross. Something dark that represented sin, guilt, or regret. Now you're holding a sticker that says grace. Go ahead and set the sticker to the side.

I'll give everyone a glow stick. Don't crack it yet; just hold it.
(Hand out glow sticks.)

This glow stick represents you. Right now it's dark. It's whole, but it's not shining yet. Just like us. Sometimes we look fine on the

outside, but inside we're struggling with sin, guilt, or pain. The only way for this glow stick to shine is for it to be broken. In the same way, Jesus was broken for us, and through his brokenness, we find life, light, and grace.

When we admit that we need Jesus, when we bring our brokenness to the cross, his light begins to shine through us.

(Invite everyone to gently crack their glow stick. Don't crack it too hard, as it may leak.)

Let the light remind you that even in your brokenness, Jesus' grace shines brightly. Place the sticker where you'll see it all week—maybe on a water bottle, Bible, or phone case—as a reminder that grace sticks with you. And carry the glow stick as a reminder that Jesus' light shines brightly.

Grace doesn't just cover our past. It changes how we live today. When you really believe that Jesus forgave you, it changes how you treat others, how you see yourself, and how you handle failure. Grace also means you can start fresh. You don't have to stay stuck in who you were.

CLOSING PRAYER

Grace isn't just something that Jesus gives. It's an invitation into a relationship with him. Jesus doesn't only want to forgive you; he wants to know you. Some of you may have known about Jesus for a long time, but tonight you might realize you've never really accepted his grace for yourself. Some of you might never have said, "Jesus, I want a real relationship with you."

This is your moment. You don't need to have everything figured out. You just need to say yes to Jesus and his grace. Remember: Grace doesn't erase your story; it redeems it. Tonight you're not defined by what you left at the cross.

You're defined by the grace you received.

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, we're all sinners. Help us accept your grace and forgiveness. Thank you for loving us even when we don't deserve it. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Review tomorrow's free-time plans. Remember, you'll need to be back for the program at 7:30 p.m. It starts with the variety show. If someone in your group is in the show, be back by 7 p.m. or earlier.**
- **Keep writing Care Cards! The Care Card rack will come down Friday at midnight.**
- **Share announcements related to your group.**

Wednesday First Focus

The Bible says in Matthew 6:21, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Use these prompts to figure out where your treasure is. Be honest!

List the top three ways you spend your free time.

List the top three ways you spend your extra money.

Who are the three people you choose to spend the most time with?

What are the major goals you're working on right now?

If someone gave you \$1,000 right now, how would you spend it?

If you were granted three wishes, what would you wish for?

What do your answers reveal about your heart?

JESUS ILLUMINATES OUR HEART TO REVEAL HIS HOLINESS

In honor of tonight's variety show, does anyone have a hidden talent they'd like to share to start off devotions?

(Allow time for sharing.)

What's a not-so-hidden talent you have—something you're great at or love? Let's go around the circle and have everyone share.

(Allow time for sharing.)

This morning we talked about what's in our hearts. Something in your heart led you to serve on a mission trip this summer. Let's face it: We could be spending our time in so many ways that don't include hard work, cafeteria food, and traveling in vans for hours. So, what brought you here this summer? Why are you here? If you've been on mission trips before, what keeps you coming back?

(Go around the circle and let everyone share.)

We often think the things we love and care about come easily. But we've all made sacrifices to be here, whether it's a sacrifice of money, time, or even comfort. What have you had to give up to be here this week?

People who haven't been on a mission trip don't always understand. When you go back home, how will you explain your week to a friend?

(Allow time for sharing.)

Matthew 6:21 says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

While we’re working hard to change our resident’s home this week, God is working to change our hearts. In the space below, draw a heart and write a word or two about what you think God is growing in your heart this week.

(Allow time for reflection.)

Does anyone want to share what they wrote?

(Allow time for sharing.)

Thank you for sharing. Opening our hearts to each other is how our crew grows stronger together.

Let’s pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for the ways you’re growing our hearts this week. Help us grow in faith, compassion, and service as we learn more about you and each other. Help our residents see you in our service. Amen.

(Break maker: Don’t forget to fill out the lunch order form with your crew for tomorrow.)



HOLINESS

OPENING MOMENT

(Leader's words are in bold.)

As we settle in tonight, I invite you to take a deep breath. You've had a full day, with lots of work, lots of laughter, and maybe moments that stretched you. But let's quiet our minds and open our hearts to what Jesus wants to show us.

Tonight's theme is simple but powerful: Jesus illuminates our hearts to reveal his holiness. When Jesus' light shines within us, it's not to shame us or expose us. It's to heal us, forgive us, and make us holy, more like Jesus.

(Leader places the lantern in the center of the circle.)

This light represents Jesus. The true light that never fades. When Jesus shines into our hearts, he doesn't just reveal who we are; he reveals his holiness.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Earlier tonight, we looked at Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

David had really messed up. He wasn't pretending to be holy; he was broken. But in that brokenness, he asked God to create something new. What an amazing thing about Jesus! He doesn't just fix us; he renews us. He doesn't just clean the surface; he illuminates the heart.

And when God's holiness fills that space, shame turns into healing, guilt turns into grace, and darkness turns into light. Holiness is about presence, not perfection. It's about letting Jesus live within you, so his light shows through your life.

Now think about John 1:5: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

That means no part of your heart is too dark for Jesus to reach. His holiness shines even in the places you try to hide. When Jesus illuminates your heart, he helps you see not only what needs healing but also how deeply he loves you. The light of Jesus' holiness is healing, not harsh. It doesn't push you away; it pulls you closer.

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: JESUS, ILLUMINATE MY HEART

Close your eyes and place your hand over your heart. No one's watching you. This is between you and Jesus.

Feel your heartbeat. If you can't feel it on your heart, find your pulse on your neck or wrist. Do you feel it? That's the rhythm of a life God designed—a life he wants to illuminate.

Continue to feel your heartbeat as I pray: Dear Jesus, illuminate our hearts. We aren't perfect. Reveal what's hidden. Forgive what's broken. Heal what hurts. Shine your light in our hearts and reveal your holiness.

Take a few moments to silently thank Jesus for something he has shown you tonight.

(Let silence fill the room for 30-45 seconds. Then continue praying.)

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine within us so your holiness isn't just something we talk about but something we live out every day. Amen.

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: HOLINESS IN OTHERS

Thanks for praying with me. We've been talking about how our hearts change when we let Jesus into it.

Now consider the following questions:

- **How does your heart change when you let Jesus illuminate it?**
- **How do you see the hearts of other people who are close to God?**
- **What is it about them that reflects God's holiness?**

(Pause after each question for reflection.)

Think of someone whose heart reflects the light and holiness of Jesus.

- **How can you be like them in the ways you live and love?**

(Pause for reflection.)

I just asked you to think of someone whose heart reflects the light and holiness of Jesus. Maybe you thought about a friend, a leader, a parent, or someone else who inspires you to walk with God.

I'm going to give you each a postcard. On it, write a note to that person. Write a few sentences thanking them for the way they shine Jesus' light. Tell them how they've helped you see Jesus more clearly. It doesn't have to be long. You can even draw a picture. Think of this as a Care Card for them. Just something to say, "Thank you for inspiring me." Make sure their name is on it. If you don't know their address, it's okay.

(Allow a few moments to write letters.)

When you're done, I'll collect them. I'll give it back to you when

you receive your Care Cards. Then, when you get home, hand it to that person, or send it to them if they're in another city or state. Let your words be a light to them, just as they've been a light to you.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let's close in prayer: Dear Jesus, you are holy. Thank you for shining your light into our hearts tonight. Thank you for loving us even when our hearts wander. Help us live in a way that reflects your love, so others can see you in us. Keep our hearts open to your light this week. In your holy name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You have only two more days to write Care Cards!
- In tonight's program, we heard from the summer Staff who run this camp. If you're interested in being a summer staffer for Group Mission Trips, attend tonight's informal Q&A session. (The time and place should have been announced at the program.) To apply for summer 2027, you must be at least one year out of high school. In other words, you'll need to have graduated this past spring.
- If any adult wants more information about serving at a Workcamp or Week of Hope as a volunteer, worship leader, director, or MC, stop by the camp office any time this week for more information.
- Follow @groupmissiontrips on Instagram and tag us in your story for a chance to win Teddy and Fluffy stuffed animals.
- Share any announcements related to your group.

JESUS ILLUMINATES OUR STORY TO REVEAL HIS PURPOSE

This morning we wrote down some highs and lows of our lives in timeline form. Let's list some highs and lows of our work project so far this week. Think back to Sunday night, when we got our crew packet and had our first glimpse of our project, all the way to now.

Let's start with lows, so we can end on a high note. What are the lows or hardest times of our work project?

(Allow time to share.)

Moving on to the good stuff: What are the highs or best parts of our work project?

(Allow time to share.)

Has anything happened so far that started as a low but turned into a high?

(Allow time to share.)

As a crew, how did we handle the highs and lows together?

(Allow time to share.)

Near the end of a project, sometimes the highs and lows feel bigger and more serious. How can we support and celebrate each other today and tomorrow?

(Allow time to share.)

This week, we're not just completing a project. We're getting closer as a crew, and sharing our stories is a big part of that. Look

back at your First Focus timeline from this morning. Let's go around the circle and have each person share one low point and one high point from their timeline.

(Allow time for everyone to share.)

Will someone please read Proverbs 19:21 aloud?

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21

Prevail means God's plan wins; it always comes out on top.

What can this Bible verse teach us about the highs and lows in our stories?

(Allow time to share.)

When something unexpected, uncomfortable, or bad happens in your life, how do you respond? How does your faith show up in those moments?

(Allow time to share.)

How can we turn to God in the highs and lows of life?

(Allow time to share.)

Thank you all for sharing your stories with our crew this week. Let's end in prayer.

Dear Jesus, thank you for each person's story. We know that you are working in and through us this week. Please help end the story of our work project on a high note. Amen.

(Break maker: Don't forget to fill out the lunch order form with your crew for tomorrow.)



PURPOSE

OPENING MOMENT

(Leader's words are in bold.)

Tonight we saw how **Jesus illuminates our life to reveal his purpose. We also went to the cross and picked up a pin. It's simple but symbolic. This pin (hold up the pin) isn't just a decoration or a keepsake. It's a reminder that Jesus' light lives in you. Every time you look at your pin, remember: The light you carry represents Jesus' purpose in your life, even when you can't fully see it.**

(Pause. Slowly turn on the lantern.)

Just like this lantern, your light matters. It may flicker at times. It may feel small compared to the world's darkness. But even the smallest light can pierce the darkest night.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Each of us has a story, with moments of joy and moments of pain. Maybe your story includes disappointment, loss, or mistakes you wish you could erase. But here's the truth: Jesus doesn't waste any part of your story. The same light that shines in your victories also shines through your brokenness. Sometimes the cracks in our lives let Jesus' light shine the brightest.

Think about it. The people who inspire us the most aren't perfect. They let Jesus' light shine through their scars, their struggles, and their faith. You may not realize it, but your story can be the light that helps someone else find their way to Jesus.

Jesus talked a lot about what it means to live in the light. One of the clearest ways he showed us that was through love. Listen to what Jesus said in Matthew 22:37-39:

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Matthew 22:37-39

Jesus says our greatest purpose is love—loving God with everything we have and loving others the same way God loves us. When you love others, you reflect Jesus' light. When you forgive someone, you reflect his light. When you share your story, even the hard parts, you reflect his light.

Jesus' light isn't just something we keep inside. It's something we live out. And the beautiful thing? When you love others, your story begins to shine brighter than you ever could have imagined.

ILLUMINATE ACTIVITY: JESUS, ILLUMINATE MY STORY

Now we'll make this personal. Think about how your light, your story, and your love can shine beyond tonight. Hold your pin in your hands and ask Jesus, "How do you want me to shine my light to others?"

Look around the circle. Each pin represents a different story. Some of you have walked through pain. Others are still searching for purpose. This is the power of Jesus' light. It doesn't just shine in you; it shines through you. And when you come together, God's purpose becomes something the world can't ignore.

Tonight your challenge is to light it forward. Right now, think about some people back home. Maybe someone who's struggling, lonely, or has drifted from faith.

Now move to a quiet spot near the lantern or off to the side. Open your Mission Handbook to page 72 and follow the directions. You'll have a few minutes.

(Allow 5-7 minutes of sacred time. Soft music can play.)

Come circle up again. Does anyone want to share what they wrote? You don't need to mention any names or your full story.

(Allow time for sharing.)

Tomorrow, or when you return home, when you serve, speak, laugh, or listen, remember what you wrote. Use your story, your words, your actions, and your love to help someone else see Jesus, especially someone you just wrote about tonight.

Don't hide your light or feel ashamed because you think your story is too messy or too small. When you return home, display your pin so others can see it. Tell your story and share Jesus' light. The same God who spoke light into darkness wants to speak purpose into your life and use it to bring light to someone else.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let's pray: Jesus, thank you for being the light that never fades. Tonight you reminded us that your light shines through every part of our story, even the broken parts. Help us see your purpose in all things and give us courage to let your light shine to others. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Because tomorrow is the last day at our work sites:

- **Quartermasters need to return borrowed ladders to the tool room. Or talk to your site coach about picking them up from your site.**

- **Remember to pick up your group's ladders from the tool room tomorrow night.**
- **Organizers must turn in your first-aid kit tomorrow when you return from working.**
- **Share announcements about packing up tomorrow night. Make a plan, because tomorrow night will be a little crazy!**

Friday First Focus

Service is defined as the action of helping or doing work for someone. Make a list below of the people who helped you get to Workcamp this week.

As we have worked hard on our projects this week, we didn't do it alone. Make a list below of the people who helped you at your work site this week.

In what other areas of your life do others help or serve you? Think about school, work, clubs, sports, hobbies. List those people who serve you below.

How can you show appreciation to the people who have served you this week and beyond? Brainstorm some ideas below.

Take a few minutes to pray for the people you have listed here. Thank God for them and their service towards you!

JESUS ILLUMINATES OUR SERVICE TO REVEAL HIS GLORY

Can you believe this is our last crew devotions? We've learned and grown so much this week. As we've let God illuminate our fear, our sin, our heart, our story, and our service, we've learned more about ourselves, our crew, and God.

What have you learned about God this week?

(Allow time to share.)

What have you learned about yourself this week?

(Allow time to share.)

We've spent so much time serving others this week. As we learned this morning, service means an action that helps other people. After you return home, what are some ways you can continue serving others?

(Allow time to share.)

Every night, we've heard people share God Sightings, or times they recognized God in action here at Workcamp. Let's write down any God Sightings we've had this week. Then we'll go around and share.

(Allow time for writing God Sightings. Devotion leader: Please choose one God Sighting from your crew to share with the MC at check-in today!)

We wouldn't be here without our residents. So after our crew devotions today, let's thank our resident for letting us serve and for opening up their home.



GLORY

OPENING MOMENT: REMEMBER THE LIGHT

(Leader's words are in bold.)

This week we talked about **light**. About how Jesus shines in the darkness and how we each reflected his light throughout this week. You were the light. You showed up for each other. You served families. You smiled when you were tired. You prayed when you didn't know what to say. You helped others see Jesus.

(Turn on your lantern.)

Even though our mission trip is ending, this light isn't. It goes home with us. It keeps shining wherever we go next.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: THE LIGHT GOES WITH YOU

Listen to what Jesus says in Matthew 5:14-16: "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 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."

When we first arrived at camp, we talked about how Jesus is the light, using our theme verse of John 1:5. But now, Jesus says **WE**

are the light. That's what this week was all about. Not just serving Jesus but reflecting him.

Light is contagious. When one person shines, that helps others shine too. Now it's your turn to carry that light back home: to your schools, families, and friends.

The mission doesn't stop here; it just moves locations.

Discussion:

- What's one moment this week when you saw Jesus' light shine in you, your crew, or the people you served?
- What's one challenge or dark moment you faced, and how did God's light show up in it?
- What do you think it will look like to "keep shining" after we leave this place?

ILLUMINATE CARD REFLECTION

Take out the index card you wrote on the first night. Read it again. Think about this week. How did you live that out? Did it go the way you imagined, or did God surprise you?

Now think about one word or short phrase that describes how God illuminated your week. It might be something he taught you, something he revealed, or a way he used you.

Let's go around the circle and have each person read their original card and then say their new word or phrase.

(Allow time for sharing.)

All our actions this week came together to illuminate this community.

GROUP PRAYER: LET IT SHINE

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for the way your light has filled this week—through laughter, hard work, and moments that

changed us. Help us remember that the light you've placed in us doesn't fade when we leave here. Give us courage to shine in the places that need you most. May our hearts stay bright with your love. Amen.

SEND-OFF THOUGHT

You came to this community this week to shine. But God's light shining through you will change everywhere you go next. I encourage you to keep your index card and Grace sticker somewhere visible, maybe on a mirror, in a journal, or tucked into your Bible. Also put your pin somewhere you'll see it daily. Let it remind you that the light you carried this week is still shining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Make sure everybody knows the procedure for loading and checking out tomorrow. If you haven't notified the camp office about your checkout time, be sure to do so before going to bed. In the morning, a staff member must check you out before you hit the road.
- Before leaving, you can pre-register for next summer's mission experience with Group Mission Trips! No deposits are required until the end of October. Check with the camp office if you need a copy of the 2027 catalog.
- The Group Mission Trips team is dedicated to bringing you the best mission trip experience possible. If you'd like to provide feedback about this week, you can fill out a camp survey at gmt.camp/feedback. We want to hear about everyone's experience—youth and adults! Plus, you could be one of the five survey respondents to receive a \$100 gift card! (See page 94 for more details.)
- Share announcements related to your group.
- Thank everyone for an amazing week!

Adults...Look Here for Important Adult Information!

Please read these pages before Sunday dinner and use them as a handy reference throughout the week. If you have any questions, please see the director. Our mission is to serve others through home repair and community service experiences that transform communities and help participants, residents, and partners grow closer to Jesus.

Welcome!

- You made it to camp! Well done! This will be a powerful week of unforgettable service and spiritual growth. Your role as an adult at camp is crucial to the experience for the teens you brought—as well as for every young person here. So have fun and, at the same time, please take your responsibilities seriously. We're honored to partner with you to serve teenagers and the community.
- Group Workcamps is part of Group Cares, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. With humble beginnings going back to the early 1990s, Group Mission Trips has been working with and helping communities across the United States and the world. As the non-profit mission ministry of Group Cares, we work hard to bring meaningful service to the communities we assist. Since our beginning, thousands upon thousands of mission trip participants have racked up millions of volunteer hours serving people in need.
- All these years later, one constant remains true: We strongly believe in providing opportunities for teenagers to encounter Jesus through serving others, either in their own back yard or halfway across the globe. The Group Mission Trips legacy of lasting impact continues...

You're Not "Just a Chaperone"—You're a Key Youth Ministry Leader!

And because you're so amazing, we're gonna need your help with a few things.

- Focus on Jesus, please. The #1 goal of the entire week is to connect people with Jesus in the context of serving others. That includes youth and adult participants, the people we're serving, the community...everyone we encounter!
- There are so many things to do... Where do I start? Our priorities for the week are in numerical order:

#1—Faith-Building Activities. Ensure that crew devotions take place every day. And please help get your students to programs and youth group devotions on time.

#1—Safety. This must be part of everything!

#1—The Work. The service we're doing for people is the visible expression to this community of our faith in Jesus. James 2:22 says it best: *"You see that (Abraham's) faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did."*

As you may have noticed, all the priorities are #1 because they're mutually important.

- Safety, Safety, Safety. We know this was part of the three #1 priorities above, but just to drive the point home, please be alert for potential safety risks this week. Make sure your crew members eat well and drink plenty of fluids. Review the Tailgate Safety Meeting (starting on page 24) on Monday morning.
- Know the code. We know signing the Code of Conduct is about as memorable as signing the privacy policy at your doctor's office. However, the Code of Conduct contains the basic rules we all live by for one week. Encourage your youth and adults to follow the Code of Conduct. It's all about respect. When we stick

to our agreement about how to act on the trip, we show respect and love for other campers, for people we're serving, and for people from the community.

- One big, happy, interdenominational family. Here at camp, we focus on what we have in common as Christians, not on the doctrinal differences that separate one church from another. As an adult, you can model the “one happy family” approach for your youth group.
- Encourage people around you. Encourage teenagers and adults when you see them doing things right. Spend more time accentuating the positive, and you won't have to spend nearly as much energy correcting the negative. Even when you must intervene in a situation, a kind and gentle approach is always more effective than shaking your finger at someone.
- Crew coaching. On your work site, you're the encourager and teacher. Let your crew members take the lead in making decisions; they'll learn and grow. Each crew member selects an important crew role, so let youth perform those roles and learn from their experience. Please don't choose the role of work director or devotion leader for yourself; youth will learn a great deal serving in those roles. (Even though you're not the work director or devotion leader, you're still the adult, and teenagers will look to you for leadership in those areas while on the work site.)
- Being a youth ministry leader = Being a role model. Remember, you're a role model 24 hours a day, so please be a positive one! If something goes wrong—and it probably will—use it as a “teachable moment” to show others how to make the best of any situation.
- Be an “appropriate” youth ministry leader, please! Being a leader is serious business. Don't participate in sexual misconduct—defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Even friendly hugs can be mistaken, so don't assume physical contact is okay.

Emotional Safety

IMPORTANT: Tell your students and adults to talk with you immediately if they experience sexual misconduct. If they're uncomfortable talking with you, they may go to another adult in their group, an adult leader on their crew, or a Red Shirt staff member. Report the incident to the director or camp leadership, who will investigate it. An investigation will determine the seriousness of the situation. Action will be taken to ensure the problem is resolved—whether clearing up a misunderstanding, removing someone from camp, or contacting local authorities.

We Want the Buck to Stop with You.

- Everyone at camp has signed the same Code of Conduct. Please take your job seriously as the primary enforcer of these standards within your group.
- If you experience Code of Conduct violations or other problems with someone from outside your youth group, talk with that person or their youth leader directly.
- The adults from your group will handle discipline issues with your students.
- The director and the Red Shirt staff are available to assist you.

If the Buck Doesn't Stop with You...

- If the Code of Conduct isn't followed, the director will choose how to handle the issue, which may include:
 - talking with the participant and adult leader (when possible) to correct the behavior,
 - removing from camp any camper who poses a danger or threat to others, calling the police, and investigating sexual misconduct allegations.

- If a camper is removed, the adult contact person is responsible for making the arrangements. Group Workcamps will not pay any costs related to removing a camper from camp.

Medical Issues

- The adults from your group will manage medical issues of your adults and students.
- When someone is injured at the work site, the adult on site should assess the situation.
 - If the injury is severe, the adult should call 911 immediately. Local authorities have been notified that we're working in the area and are aware that emergency health care may be needed.
 - If the injury doesn't require a 911 call but does need medical attention, make plans with the camp office to have the injured person transported to a hospital or other appropriate health-care facility. The adult should not leave the site unless another adult participant or Red Shirt staff member is present (the resident or another local adult does not qualify.)
 - If the injury is minor, treat it at the site. Each crew is provided with a small first-aid kit containing basic supplies such as bandages and first-aid cream.
- Camp staff is available to arrange transportation for injured participants at the lodging facility or work site. They will notify the group leader as soon as possible if anyone from their group has been taken to a health-care facility.
- If a visit to the hospital is needed, maps and emergency phone numbers are in the crew packets and in the camp office.
- If you have an emergency, always notify the camp office.

Getting to Your Work Site

- If you're a driver, you'll receive driver information and directions to your site in the crew packet at the Sunday night meeting.
- If you're not a driver, you'll learn your transportation arrangements at the Monday morning program.

Forming Crews and Getting Work Site Information

- Prior to the Sunday evening kickoff program, the crew lists will be posted. Each person has a crew number.
- During the Sunday evening kickoff program, each crew will get together to meet and to select roles for the week.
- At the end of this program, each crew will receive a crew packet with project instructions and other important information.

If You Finish Early at Your Site...

- Please stay at the site until at least 3 p.m. If you arrive at the lodging facility before 3, we won't be ready for you.
- In the spirit of serving, take advantage of the time you have with your resident.
- Please don't do construction projects that aren't listed on the work description; however, you can find out what else the resident needs. Maybe it's housework, yard work, or even meaningful conversation. Model Christlike servanthood and do whatever you can.
- Each day during check-in, your crew's progress reporter should inform camp staff of your crew's overall progress. At some point during the week, your crew could be reassigned to assist another crew or to begin a new project.

Get to Programs... Every Time and on Time

- Program attendance is crucial to the overall camp experience. These are key parts of the spiritual-growth process, so all scheduled activities are required. Every year, youth workers thank us for the effective programs.
- Our programs are designed for teenagers from all Christian denominations, and we use interactive and experiential activities to communicate the truth of God's Word.
- You can follow up with your group each night in your youth group devotions.

Meeting with Your Own Group During Camp

- You can meet with your youth group for any reason during any free time.
- Each group also meets immediately following the evening program for youth group devotions. This is an important time to help your young people understand their experience through the eyes of your faith tradition. You'll dig deeper into the daily theme and build lasting relationships within your group.
- The most private location is often outside. Typically, our lodging facilities don't have enough space to assign exclusive locations for each group.

Skill Levels and Completing Your Project

- Your crew is assigned to a specific project based in part on the skills you and your crew members indicated on your Participant Info forms before camp. If you don't know how to do a project, someone else on your crew probably does. There's a good chance you'll learn a lot this week—especially from your crew.
- If your crew gets a project that's over everyone's heads, ask other adults or your site coach for direction and advice. Also,

consult the Home Repair Guide in your crew packet. If you didn't get one and need help, please ask your site coach.

- To benefit your resident, please seek help if you need it to complete your project. Let's all work together to get the job done right!

Work Site Preparation

- Well before any of us arrives at a camp location, residents and homes have been screened for appropriate work and safety.
- Directions to the work site have been created and verified. Tasks have been identified. Materials have been delivered to the site. A bright "Group Workcamps" sign has been put on the house in a visible place.
- Residents have been briefed on the work to be done, and we've requested their presence during camp.

Thank Heaven It's Eleven! (BEDTIME)

- Lights out is at 11 p.m., and that goes for everyone. It's about safety and respect. So make sure everyone is in your room with lights out by 11.
- Again, the buck stops with you. Simply put: It's your job to ensure your group is all present and in your sleeping room at 11 p.m. Please help everyone at camp by making this happen on time, every night.
- One exception to the above rule is Friday night, when lights out is extended to midnight.

Wristbands

- For additional safety, we've provided a colored wristband for every participant. This helps with the shower schedule, as well as the general security of the lodging facility. Adult bands are

neon blue. Youth bands are neon yellow.

- Please ensure that every person in your group always wears the appropriately colored wristband throughout the week. If someone loses their wristband, please have your group leader come to the office for a replacement.

Info Center

- Please check the Info Center at least once a day for messages or packages for your youth (or yourself).

Wednesday “Hooray, It’s a Half Day!” Info

- On Wednesday you’ll finish working and cleaning up your site by noon, eat lunch, and then return to the lodging facility. (Do devotions at the site.) Be sure work directors, progress reporters, and devotion leaders check in.
- Camp staff will be ready for your return beginning at 12:30 p.m.
- At the Info Center, find details about local activities your group can do.
- There’s no evening meal at the school on Wednesday. Enjoy the meal out with your group.
- Plan your afternoon so you can return for the evening program, which includes the variety show. It’s an evening you don’t want to miss!

Wrapping Up on Friday

- On your last workday, bring back any whole, unused materials. Return all tools and ladders by 5 p.m. on Friday.
- Don’t stay at your site after 4 p.m. on Friday to complete your project. Work hard to be finished before then. We want to make sure everyone is back to the lodging facility for showers, dinner, and the evening program.

Checking Out on Saturday (BOO-HOO!)

- Saturday breakfast is from 7 to 8 a.m. If you're planning to leave before 7, please let us know at the camp office. Each group needs to report a departure time so we'll have staff ready to help you. This list will be available by Thursday.
- Each group must check out of your rooms with camp staff.
- Rooms must be left in the same condition you found them (or better). Simply go to the camp office when you're ready to leave. As soon as your checkout is complete, you'll get your Care Cards, and it's bon voyage!

Helpful Information for Your Group

- Looking for camp photos, program elements, and a community service award? Be sure to check with your trip leader after camp.
- Next year's camp locations are now available! You received a 2027 catalog at check-in. If you'd like to register your group while you're at camp, fill out the registration form and turn it in to the camp office.
- Check out the camp store! Hours are posted in the "Daily Schedule" section of this handbook. Items can still be purchased outside of those hours through the camp office.
- If you'd like to be part of Group Mission Trips Red Shirt staff next year, grab an interest card at the Info Center and fill it out. See details on page 92.

Bring a Group Mission Trip to Your Community

- If you'd like to help bring Group Workcamps or Week of Hope to your town or city, please fill out the "Host a Mission Trip in Your Community" form located at the Info Center. You can either turn it in at the office or mail it back to Group Mission Trips.

Join Our Team

- If you'd like to be part of Group Mission Trips Red Shirt staff next year, grab an interest card at the Info Center and fill it out. There's no obligation; it just indicates your interest. You'll be contacted when next year's applications go live. We'll be highlighting these opportunities during the Wednesday evening program, and you can talk to your director or MC any time. Director, MC, summer staff, camp volunteers, site writing, and setup roles are available, as well as positions at our other Week of Hope mission experiences.
- Jot down your name and contact info, and we'll send you some information after camp. You also can apply starting in October by visiting GroupMissionTrips.com and clicking "About Us" and then "Join Our Team."

Your best summer ever.

Each year, we hire the greatest college-age young adults and students from across the country who get paid to travel the country, serve communities, and make lifelong friends. After training in Colorado, you and a small crew will hit the road to lead mission trips in cities like Charleston, Nashville, and more.

What you'll do:

Be a "Red Shirt" staffer—help run mission trips for up to 400 students, handle logistics, and create an unforgettable experience while showing the love of Jesus. Use your passions to launch you into further leadership, career, service, or ministry opportunities.

Why it's awesome:

- Travel to new places
- Make a real impact
- Build leadership + resume experience
- Competitive pay
- Housing + most meals covered

When:

Memorial Day through early/mid-August

What we need:

College-age leaders (1+ year out of high school) who work well on a team. Spend your summer leading service projects and outreach. After 2 weeks of training in Colorado, you'll travel the U.S. helping run mission trips each week.

Learn more & apply:

groupmissiontrips.com/recruit



Want to Stay Connected?

Your story matters.

We'd love to hear about the life-change you experienced at camp!

Tag us on your favorite social media platform. Find us using the following handles:



Group Mission Trips



@groupmissiontrips



@groupmissiontrips



Group Mission Trips

Post-Trip Resources

Looking for camp photos, program elements, and a community service award? Be sure to check with your trip leader after camp.

We want your feedback!

We want to know what you think about your camp experience. On the last night of camp, you have an opportunity to fill out a survey. You'll also receive an email after camp with a link to the survey. Please fill it out—your opinions really matter to us! **Plus, five survey respondents will be randomly selected to each receive a \$100 VISA gift card!**



gmt.camp/feedback

EST'D 1960
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RURAL KING[®]
AMERICA'S FARM & HOME STORE

Thank You to Rural King!

A huge thanks to Rural King for their generous support of our program this year! We're honored to partner with organizations that believe in making a difference and help us continue empowering young people to make a difference through service, love, and compassion.

Rural King — America's Farm and Home Store — has been serving communities since 1960 with a strong commitment to faith, family, and service, values that match our heart at Group Mission Trips. Learn more about them at ruralking.com, or if you know anyone looking for a career with a company that shares our heart for faith and service, check out their team opportunities at ruralking.com/careers!



Teddy & Fluffy Giveaway Drawing

Register for a 2027 mission trip before October 31, 2026, and your group will be entered into a special drawing for 100 sets of these guys! So if your group wants its own Teddy and Fluffy, be sure to register early!

NEW Referral Program for 2027

For every group you refer that registers, your group and theirs each receives a free registration. *See groupmissiontrips.com/referral for full details.

TWO THINGS TO DO FOR SERIOUS MEDICAL EMERGENCIES:

1. Call 911.
2. Call the camp office.

Basic Steps

1. An adult should assess the situation.
2. If emergency care is needed, call 911. After calling 911, call the camp office to notify staff. The camp office number is located in each crew packet. Write it down on this page so you'll have it, if needed.

Camp office:

3. If it's not an emergency:
 - » Provide appropriate first-aid care. Each crew has a first-aid kit with basic supplies, and each youth group should have brought a larger first-aid kit for each vehicle.
 - » Contact the camp office. The staff can assist in transportation, if necessary, and will coordinate notification of the youth leader and any other issues.
4. Never leave youth participants at a work site without a camp adult, which can be either an adult participant or a Red Shirt staff member. Local adults and residents are not camp adults. If you need to leave the work site for any reason, a camp adult must stay with the rest of the crew. If there aren't any other camp adults, the entire crew must leave together.
5. Directions to the hospital are located on the emergency information page in your crew packet and at the camp office.