

Cabin Devotions

Day 1: Building Community

Create a worship center with scriptures, candles, and construction paper fish. Hang a fishing pole on the wall over the worship center with a bent paperclip for a hook. Have pencils available.

Ask campers to share testimonies of a way they've used their gifts, or goals they have for sharing their gifts. Have them write down additional gifts they would like to develop on construction paper fish. Hang each of the fish from the hook on the pole.

Offer prayer asking God to bless the gifts of each one as they work together

Day 2: Christian Values

Prepare a worship center with a variety of items of which some could be considered of more value than others. Add a picture of Jesus. Have a pitcher of water, a glass, and ice cubes handy.

Say something like: Some of the things on the table could be considered valuable. We have learned the value can depend on the need at the time.

Of all the values common to Christians, no three are more fundamental than understanding God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. What connection, if any, do you see between those three and the objects on the worship center? (creation, basic needs, gifts) Why is there only a picture of Jesus and not one of God or the Holy Spirit?

Whenever we find something we can't see or picture, we make comparisons. (Show a pitcher of water)

All week we will be talking about water—the properties of water, the use of water, the value of water. But water, like other substances in creation, can be found in a variety of forms. (Show ice cube.) What has to happen to water to get it into this form? What's the other form of water—the one we get when water is heated? (Steam)

Think of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit in water forms. God would be the living water (pour water), Jesus would be the visible, solid form (show ice), and the Holy Spirit could be represented by the steam or water vapor— always there, but hard to see. You can't touch it, but it rises up and changes

Water takes on a variety of forms—snow, hail, sleet, rain. It may tumble down a waterfall or shoot up from a geyser Water is everywhere and can be found in our tears of joy or sadness.

We come in many forms just as the water does. God created us with gifts and uniqueness to share with others. What do you see in a friend or cabin mate that you value?

Close with prayer asking for the blessings of God, the friendship of Jesus, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Day 3: Restoration Principles

Worship Center: Poster showing water cycle with connections to Christ (prayer, Spirit...). Add items that remind the campers of their heritage. Include a picture of Christ.

Share stories of memories they

have of learning something about the church or God or Christ from parents or grandparents.

Offer prayers thanking God for people who through the centuries have kept the story alive.

Day 4: Peace and Justice

Ask the campers to identify what was most moving in the day and to explain why. This time can also be used to process anything that was disturbing that has not been addressed. End with a prayer for peace in their hearts, hope for their future, and justice on their minds.

Day 5: Community Responsibility

As the campers gather for this last cabin devotional experience, ask them to bring their votive candles, Prepare a worship center with a lighted candle and a pitcher of water. Place a shallow metal pan on the table.

Talk about the theme for the week, River of Life, and some of the symbols used to explore that theme. Pour water into the metal pan from the pitcher as you talk about the symbolism of water. Then ask each one to light their votive candle from the worship candle and place it in the pan of water.

As you look at the burning candles, read short scriptures related to water and light. Those used during this week could be used.

Give campers an opportunity to share what is on their heart and mind this last night. One by one dip the candle wick into the water to extinguish the flame. Be sure each has their own candle to keep. Close with prayers.