

Island Sunset

Nightly devotions include an activity to create a net (except the first night). This will be done in the midst of conversation centering on the day's happenings. This net will be used in the closing worship of camp. Counselors will need to practice this skill before leading it. Counselors, remember this is the time for campers to share with each other and for you to facilitate discussion. When possible, ask campers to take the lead in prayers and scriptures.

Opening Night

A Haere mai I Tahatai...Come Ashore

Select a variety of Tahitian names that may be selected (internet search). Provide a way for campers to make nametags. Have them explain why they chose that name, based on the meaning of the name. Ask each person to share what gifts they bring to camp both physical and spiritual ones.

Share: Doctrine and Covenants 161: 1b

Claim your unique and sacred place within the circle of those who call upon the name of Jesus Christ. Be faithful to the spirit of the Restoration, mindful that it is a spirit of adventure, openness, and searching. Walk proudly and with a quickened step. Be a joyful people. Laugh and play and sing, embodying the hope and freedom of the gospel.

Closing: Close with a prayer that includes asking God to help them make everyone welcome and for all to feel comfortable with sharing gifts.

Day One: Te Tereraa....Journey

Give each camper a piece of string or hemp. Give an additional piece of string or hemp at each question:

What did you leave behind?

What did you keep?

Where do you want to go?

What do you want to discover?

Share: Doctrine and Covenants 161:7

The Spirit of the One you follow is the spirit of love and peace. That Spirit seeks to abide in the hearts of those who would embrace its call and live its message. The path will not always be easy, the choices will not always be clear, but the cause is sure and the Spirit will bear witness to the truth, and those who live the truth will know the hope and the joy of discipleship in the community of Christ. Amen.

Closing: Ask a camper ahead of time to close with a prayer for their continued journey this week.

Day Two: Te Ite Matamuar'a...Discover

Give two additional strings or hemp to campers.

Have them describe the most beautiful place they have ever been

Ask them to tell what they have discovered about themselves today.

Read Matthew 5:3-10 again.

What did you discover about yourself in the Beatitudes?

Which of the Beatitudes would be most difficult for you?

Which would be the easiest?

Share: Doctrine and Covenants 161:5

Be respectful of tradition. Do not fail to listen attentively to the telling of the sacred story, for the story of scripture and of faith empowers and illuminates. But neither be captive to time-bound formulas and procedures. Remember that instruction given in former years is applicable in principle and must be measured against the needs of a growing church, in accordance with the prayerful direction of the spiritual authorities and the consent of the people.

Closing: Tonight close with a conversational prayer. Ask campers to each complete the phrase: "God, today I discovered _____ about myself, Thank you."

Day three: Oraraa Varua...Spiritual Quest

Tonight could be a late night and campers may have been sharing a great deal by this point. Respect the previous sharing and keep it simple and quick tonight

Give two additional strings or hemp to campers.

What was the high point of your day?

What are your hopes for tomorrow?

Share: Doctrine and Covenants 161:3d

Understand that the road to transformation travels both inward and outward. The road to transformation is the path of the disciple.

Closing: Close with a prayer of affirmation of God's unconditional love and God's desire for each of them to experience the joy and hope that comes from Christ.

Day Four: Te Amuiraa Taata... Community

Counselors: Be aware of the emotional needs of campers on this closing night. Focus on the journey you have had together and how you can remain community after camp.

Have campers join their nets together with additional string or hemp.

What it has meant to be a part of this community?

Have they remembered their prayer partners through the day?

Invite them to reflect on the week.

Share: Doctrine and Covenants 161:3a-c

a. Open your hearts and feel the yearnings of your brothers and sisters who are lonely, despised, fearful, neglected, unloved. Reach out in understanding, clasp their hands, and invite all to share in the blessings of community created in the name of the One who suffered on behalf of all.

b. Do not be fearful of one another. Respect each life journey, even in its brokenness and uncertainty, for each person has walked alone at times. Be ready to listen and slow to criticize, lest judgments be unrighteous and unredemptive.

c. Be patient with one another, for creating sacred community is arduous and even painful. But it is to loving community such as this that each is called. Be courageous and visionary, believing in the power of just a few vibrant witnesses to transform the world. Be assured that love will overcome the voices of fear, division, and deceit.

Closing: Invite campers to join in prayer for one another and their prayer partners.

Note: The net will be used during NetWorks tomorrow. Eventually campers will get back part of the net to take home as a reminder of commitments made.