

DAY 3

2-Together with Christ

Day Three Schedule

- 7:30 Sound of the shofar (horn): Morning Devotions
8:00 Breakfast
8:30 Cabin Clean-up
9:00 Camp Gathering I: Jesus Calls His Disciple-Ordination
9:30 The Marketplace
10:30 Camp Gathering II: Jesus Blesses Children-Blessing Children
11:00 The Marketplace
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Rest Time
2:00 Camp Gathering III: Jesus' Baptism - Baptism & Confirmation
2:30 Camp Swim/Water Activities
3:30 Camp Gathering IV: Jesus Heals the Sick-Administration
4:00 Free time with The Marketplace open
6:00 Camp Gathering V: The Wedding Wedding Feast (evening meal) Wedding Celebration (evening activity)
9:00 Camp Gathering VI: The Last Supper Communion (campfire)
10:00 Cabin Devotions (discuss Evangelist Blessing)
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Activity Explanations

Morning Devotions

Explain to the camp the night before about the differences in the day three schedule. Ask them to wait at their cabins until they hear the sound of a shofar or other horn calling them to prayer. At the sound of the horn, each cabin should step outside and begin their day together with prayer. After their prayer they should follow a specified route to breakfast. Along the way each camper should pass a silent scene of Jesus

and two of his disciples. They might be praying in a grove, talking on a hillside, or fishing on a lake. Before going into breakfast, the campers should find a place where they can wash their hands with a bucket of cold water. This could be done outside the dining hall or somewhere along the route. Before everyone leaves for the next activity take time to discuss what the campers have seen and experienced already this morning. Explain to them that today's activities will help take them back to Jesus' time. They will be given opportunities to feel what it might have been like to walk and talk and learn from Jesus. To help the campers relate Jesus' ministry to life today, emphasis will be placed on the parts of his ministry that have become sacraments in our church today.

Camp Gatherings

Camp gatherings will be held six times during the day. During each gathering a few actors will portray an activity in Jesus' life. The connecting sacrament in our church today will also be acted out and talked about. Campers should be pulled from the group and used as "extras" in each vignette. A short opportunity should be given for campers to ask questions and discuss the sacraments and events.

Gathering I

Part 1: Vignette of Jesus calling disciples

Part 2: Ordination and calling of people to ministry today

Part 3: Questions/discussion

Gathering II

Part 1: Jesus blesses children

Part 2: Blessing of children in our church today

Part 3: Questions/discussion

Gathering III

Part 1: Jesus' baptism

Part 2: Baptism and confirmation in our church today

Part 3: Questions/discussion

Suggested location: lake, river, beach, or swimming pool. Campers should be dressed in swim wear.

Gathering IV

Part 1: Jesus heals the sick

Part 2: Administration by Elders in our church

Part 3: Questions/discussion

Suggested location: lake, river, beach, or swim pool

Gathering V

Part 1: Questions/discussion

Part 2: Wedding Ceremony

Part 3: Wedding Feast

Part 4: Wedding Celebration

Gathering VI

Part 1: The Last Supper

Part 2: Communion

Part 3: Testimonies/sharing

Suggested location: campfire

Evening Devotions

Since the sacrament of the Evangelist Blessing does not directly correlate with one specific event in the life of Jesus, it will be discussed as a part of the cabin devotions.

The Marketplace

The Marketplace activities will take the place of classes for the day. They should be crafts and activities which might have been done in Jesus' time. The marketplace can be set up in one area with several activities to choose from or scattered throughout the camp at appropriate locations. To keep all the activities close together, a large tent could be rented, a big shelter or building could be used, or fly tents could be borrowed from family and friends and setup with a different activity under each one.

The Marketplace can be designed as centers where everyone can roam between activities freely, or you may wish to have campers sign up for specific activities during this time. How you choose to set up your marketplace will depend on the size of your camp, the help you have available, and the activities you choose.

Possible Marketplace activities:

- archery
- basket weaving
- bread making
- candle making
- carpentry
- carving
- fire building
- fishing
- games
- jewelry making
- music
- outdoor cooking
- pottery
- rope making
- soap making
- story telling
- weaving

Camp Gathering I

Vignette: Jesus Calls His Disciples

Use the following scripture as a narration for the Biblical vignette. Have characters act their parts as the verses are read. Do not be afraid to use female campers for male characters. If available, set the scene near a body of water and use a boat for the fisherman.

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people. “And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets.

Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

—Mark 1.16-20 NRSV

Called Into Ministry

Read the following to the campers: *Christ calls each person to bring ministry to those around them. The church helps and guides you as you learn about Christ and Go. There are persons in the church who are called to bring specific ministry to others. The Community of Christ believes that these persons are called, through the Holy Spirit, to carry out specific responsibilities. A person called into priesthood ministry works with the church community and the administrative officers of the church,*

Sacrament of Ordination— Calling People to Ministry

Have priesthood members demonstrate an ordination. They may want to explain, step-by-step, the sacrament of ordination.

1. Ordinand sits on a chair in front of the congregation.

2. At least two persons with the appropriate priesthood authority stand and place their hands on the ordinand's head. One person offers the prayer of ordination.

3. The spokesperson acknowledges the ordinand's call to the specific office and prays for their ministry.

4. The ordinand is welcomed into the priesthood ministry.

5. Use the following questions to aid in the understanding of priesthood ministry.

- How did Jesus call his disciples into ministry?

- How is a person called into the priesthood ministry in the Community of Christ?

- What importance is the ordination to the priesthood call?

Camp Gathering II

Vignette: Blessing of Children

Use the following scripture as a narration for the Biblical vignette.

People were bringing little children to (Jesus) in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it. "And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. —Mark 10:13-16 NRSV

The characters of Jesus, at least one disciple, an adult, and at least one child should be acted out as the scripture verses are read. Other disciples, adults, and children can be added if available.

Sacrament of Blessing Children

Use the following questions to guide the campers through a short discussion of how we bless children in the Community of Christ today. Let campers share their various experiences. As they do so have a few campers act out the different situations as they are described. Congregations may have wonderful traditions they can share. The use of a doll, a small child, and a chair will be helpful.

1. What sacrament in our church today reflects Jesus' attitude toward the children?

2. How have you seen this sacrament performed in your congregation?

3. Which priesthood members can bless children? (*Elders*)

4. Who can be blessed? (*'Children under 8 years old*)

5. What is the purpose of blessing children today?

6. As witnesses of a blessing what is your part in the child's life?

Sample situations:

1. The parents give their baby to the Elders. One of the Elders holds the baby, while the other one places his or her hands on the baby and prays. The family members stand close by.

2. The blessing is for an older child so the child sits in a chair. The Elders stand beside the child and place their hands on the child's head during the prayer of blessing. The child's family members stand close by.

3. One parent sits in a chair and holds the baby or child. The Elders stand beside the chair and place their hands on the child's head during the prayer of blessing. Other family members stand close by.

4. One of the Elders sits in a chair and holds the baby or child. The other Elder places his or her hands on the child while kneeling next to the chair. The parent(s) stand behind the chair and place their hands on the Elder's shoulder. Other siblings stand close by.

Camp Gathering III

Vignette: Jesus' Baptism

Use the following scripture (Mark 1:1-11 NCV) as a narration for a vignette set near water:

Narrator: This is the beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as the prophet Isaiah wrote.

Isaiah: *(In costume, reading from a scroll)* I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way." "This is a voice of one who calls out in the desert..."

John: *(In costume, walking into a body of water?)* Prepare the way for the Lord. Make the road straight for him,

Narrator: *(John baptizes one person after another, in biblical costume, without speaking)* John was baptizing people in the

desert and preaching a baptism of changed hearts and lives for the forgiveness of sins. All the people from Judea and Jerusalem were going out to him. They confessed their sins and were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothes made from camel's hair, had a leather belt around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. This is what John preached to the people

John: There is one coming after me who is greater than I; I am not good enough even to kneel down and untie his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

Narrator: *(Jesus enters the water and is baptized by John,)* At that time Jesus came from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan River. *(Pause, while Jesus begins to leave the water)* Immediately, as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven open. The Holy Spirit came down on him like a dove, and a voice came from heaven.

Voice of God: You are my Son, whom I love, and I am very pleased with you.

Baptism and Confirmation

If arrangements have been made to have campers in swimwear, have them enter a shallow area of the pool, lake, or other appropriate body of water. Make sure a lifeguard is present,

Explain to the campers that to understand the act of baptism, they are going to "act out" baptism. Encourage the campers to dunk themselves under the water to feel the cleansing of the water. Don't force anyone into the water. Do not spend too much time on this activity. Move the campers out of the waters to a dry area where they can dry off and discuss baptism and confirmation.

Have a priest or elder who has performed a baptism share some of the following thoughts:

1. Baptism in the church has many meanings, including: entrance into church membership; remission of sins; act of repentance; commitment to Christ; covenant with God; expression of faith; gateway to salvation; demonstration of God's love; new birth and new life; obedience to God's command; recognition of accountability.

2. Although the procedures have evolved over the years, adherence to specific words makes baptism one of the few occasions in which prescribed statements or prayers are used in the church. (Doctrine and Covenants, section 17: 7, 21)

3. The church requires that persons have reached "the age of accountability." This is specified in the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants. This age was determined to be age eight in Joseph Smith's revision of Genesis 17:7.

Have two Elders who have performed a confirmation, demonstrate and explain the steps in a confirmation.

Share the following information with the campers:

1. Confirmation, or baptism of the Holy Spirit, may either follow baptism (by water) immediately, or after a period of time, depending upon circumstances.

2. Confirmation is administered by the laying on of hands. The candidate sits in a chair as two elders lay their hands' on the candidate's head, one offering the prayer of confirmation. There are no prescribed words for the prayer.

3. Confirmation has two important meanings: entrance into full membership; and reception of the Holy Spirit.

Taken from *The Sacraments*, by Peter A. Judd, Herald House, 1978

Questions for Discussion

1. Which of the meanings of baptism appeals to you? Which do not? Why?

2. What really happens during baptism? How is someone different after they are baptized?

3. What do you see as the difference between baptism and confirmation?

4. What is the importance of the act of laying on of hands in the confirmation? What does it symbolize?

5. What really happens during confirmation?

6. What does it mean to you to "receive the Holy Spirit"?

Camp Gathering IV

Vignette: Jesus Heals

Use the following scripture as a narration for the Biblical vignette while the actors pantomime the actions. Do not use real mud and spit on the eyes. The characters can include Jesus, the blind man, several disciples, the Pharisees, the parents, and assorted crowd members. The setting should be near water if possible.

Scene One: Jesus, two disciples, the blind man. *As Jesus walked along, he saw a man (blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered "Neither this man nor his parents sinned" ... When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man 's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam." ... Then he went and washed and when he came back he was able to see.*

Scene Two: Neighbors, the blind man

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him" He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash,' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

Scene Three: Neighbors, the blind man, the Pharisees, and the parents

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ...The Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight... The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself" —John 9:1-21 NRSV

Administration to the Sick

Use the following questions to gather information from the campers that relates to their understanding of this sacrament. Discuss details briefly and simply. For example, when someone mentions the bottle of oil, spend a few minutes talking about symbolism, the prayer of invitation to the Holy Spirit, consecration of the oil. Show a sample as you talk. Elders who relate well to youth could be present for this activity.

1. Who do you know that has been administered to when sick?
2. What were the circumstances?
3. Who was present?
4. What priesthood offices were represented?
5. What was done?
6. What was said?
7. What were the expectations?

Discuss the following scripture as it relates to the above questions.

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

James 5:14

Camp Gathering V The Sacrament of Marriage Discussion

Compare ancient Jewish weddings to weddings of today. Characteristics of an ancient Jewish wedding include:

Betrothal Ceremony

This was the binding legal marriage ceremony. It was a ceremony performed under a canopy in the presence of a rabbi. Family members were sometimes present. After this ceremony, the bride and groom went to separate homes and did not live together for up to one year, similar to modern day engagement.

Wedding Feast

This was the celebration prior to the consummation of the marriage. Friends went to the home of the groom and escorted him to the bride's home. Then both the bride and groom were escorted to their new home where a celebration took place, sometimes lasting several days. The celebration included feasting, dancing, singing, drinking, joke telling, etc. Following this celebration the marriage was consummated and the couple began living together. Today, wedding customs include:

Engagement

This is a promise of commitment. There is no set time limit and it is not legally binding. There is no formal ceremony, although there are social celebrations and localized customs.

Wedding Ceremony

This is the binding, legal marriage ceremony. This sacrament is officiated by a High Priest, Elder, or Priest. It may be held in a variety of settings, either public or private, with any number of guests. The following guidance is from *Doctrine & Covenants 111 :2a .2d: Marriage should be celebrated with prayer and thanksgiving; and at*

the solemnization, the persons to be married, standing together, the man on the right, and the woman on the left, shall be addressed, by the person officiating, as he shall be directed by the Holy Spirit, and if there be no legal objections, he shall say, calling each by their names: "You both mutually agree to be each other's companion, husband and wife, observing the legal rights belonging to this condition; that is, keeping yourselves wholly for each other, and from all others, during your lives? -And when they have answered "Yes, "he shall pronounce them "husband and wife" in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by virtue of the laws of the country and authority vested in him: 'May God add his blessings and keep you to fulfill your covenants from henceforth and for ever. Amen."

It is usually customary to have a reception following the wedding ceremony. This may include a simple reception greeting guests and light snacks to a formal dinner and dance at a separate location.

The Wedding Ceremony

Ask a married couple to serve as the bride and groom for the rest of the evening's activities. Divide the camp by gender. In separate locations, have the females help the bride and the males help the groom prepare for the wedding feast by dressing them as much like royalty as possible. Use flowers, jewels, and formal attire. Have the males escort the groom to the bride's location then have the entire camp escort the couple to the wedding feast location.

Have the couple renew their vows in a ceremony to demonstrate the sacrament of marriage. Immediately following, have the bride, groom, and the minister answer questions about the ceremony.

The Wedding Feast

Seat the bride and groom at a head table, or other special location decorated as you would a modern-day wedding. Serve the evening meal banquet-style.

After dinner, have a dance and reception for the bride and groom. At the

dance, have the bride and groom in a receiving line to be greeted by the campers who will wish them well. Serve wedding cake, punch, mints, and nuts. Provide each camper with a special commemorative napkin with the names, dates, and location of the celebration. These may be printed or stamped.

Camp Gathering VI

Vignette: The Lord's Supper

Use the following Biblical vignette toward the end of campfire as an introduction to the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Additional lighting might be needed to see action as the campfire dims. This might be a night to have campfire inside.

Scripture: Mark 14:12-26 NCV

Narrator: It was now the first day of the Feast of Unleavened bread when the Passover lamb was sacrificed. Jesus' followers said to him:

Follower: "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover meal?"

Narrator: Jesus sent two of his followers and said to them

Jesus: "Go into the city and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. When he goes into a house, tell the owner of the house, 'The Teacher says: Where is my guest room in which I can eat the Passover meal with my followers?' The owner will show you a large room upstairs that is furnished and ready. Prepare the food for us there."

Narrator: So the followers left and went into the city. Everything happened as Jesus had said, so they prepared the Passover meal. In the evening, Jesus went to that house with the twelve. While they were all eating, Jesus said

Jesus: "I tell you the truth, one of you will turn against me--one of you eating with me now."

Narrator: The followers were very sad to hear this. Each one began to say to Jesus, "I am not the one, am I?" Jesus answered

Jesus: "It is one of the twelve--the one

who dips his bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will die, just as the Scriptures say. But how terrible it will be for the person who hands the Son of Man over to be killed. It would be better for him if he had never been born.”

Narrator: While they were eating, Jesus took some bread and thanked God for it and broke it. Then he gave it to his followers and said

Jesus: “Take it; this is my body.”

Narrator: Then Jesus took a cup and thanked God for it and gave it to the followers, and they all drank from the cup. Then Jesus said...

Jesus: “This is my blood which is the new agreement that God makes with his people. This blood is poured out for many. I tell you the truth, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine again until that day when I drink it new in the Kingdom of God.”

Narrator: After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Communion: The Lord’s Supper

As a part of tonight’s campfire, celebrate the Lord’s Supper. Have a youth share what communion means to them. Help them prepare offering these ideas: remembrance of Jesus Christ; celebration of Christ’s contemporary presence; remembrance of the baptismal covenant; repentance and forgiveness; expression of the unity of the fellowship.

Suggestions: The logistics of offering communion at campfire might be overwhelming. It might be best for campers to come forward and be served from a table by priesthood. Consider offering both the prayer over the bread and wine consecutively, and then have participants partake of bread and wine together. If using a common cup, have each person take a piece of bread and hold it till the cup is passed. Have them dip their bread into the grape juice and then eat it after they’ve passed the cup.

Sharing: Have participants share what the Lord’s Supper means to them.

Suggested Songs:

Let Us Break Together

Freely

Cabin Devotions

Supplies:

Evangelist Blessing brochures
individual blessing rolls (see #1)

basket

candle

scriptures

1. Before tonight’s devotion, the counselor or other leader should prepare a simple blessing for each of their cabin members. Each blessing should be neatly written on a piece of paper and then rolled and tied like a scroll. Be brief, honest, and encouraging. For example, you might say:

Kent, you have an enthusiastic spirit. You are always excited about things we do. You are a joy to be around I’m glad you are willing to share this blessing from God with each of us, or

Jill, you are a blessing to others when you share an attitude of listening and caring. Sometimes that is just what a person needs to help make important decisions. May God bless you with the same loving attitude.

Roll the individual blessings and tie them with ribbon. Print the name of the person on the outside of the roll where it can be seen. Place the blessings in a basket on the worship center. Stand a copy of the brochure on Evangelist Blessings where it can be seen. (These are available from the Office of the Presiding Evangelist at the Temple.)

2. Spend a few minutes talking about blessings. Include things they learned today about the baby blessing. Remind them that this covers the years from birth to age eight, the age of accountability for baptism. Pass the basket and ask each one to remove the

blessing with their name and hold it. When all are ready, open the blessings and read them silently.

3. Talk about feelings. Do not share specific information from the blessings, but discuss how we feel when someone recognizes the good in us and calls it to our attention. Do we agree with them? Do we doubt the truthfulness? Can we see the same things in ourselves that others see? How could this awareness affect the way we treat others?

4. God has provided guidance for our lives in many ways. The Holy Spirit is constantly available. But provisions have also been made for special blessings called evangelist blessings. Share the following information:

The Evangelist Blessing is available to any person in or out of the church. You must be at least eight years of age. You must have faith in God, an understanding of the meaning of making a covenant, and be willing to accept the ministry of an evangelist.

When you are ready to receive a blessing, you get in touch with an evangelist.

This person helps you prepare by reading the scriptures, praying, meditating, fasting, and other helpful things. When both of you are ready, the evangelist prepares a worshipful setting.

The evangelist asks God's spirit to bring the blessing. The evangelist is only the speaker—God gives the blessing. It has been the custom to record the blessing and give the person a copy to read again and again for strength and guidance. Each time you read the blessing, the Spirit can help you see new ideas and meanings. The blessing is not fortune telling or predictions of the future. The blessing is a way for God to keep the

connection close.

5. Ask the campers to think about what they learned as they drift off to sleep. You may want to have an evangelist available on the grounds the next day to answer individual questions. Give each one a copy of the brochure. Close with a prayer asking for God's blessing for each one.