

Believe

Summer Staff Devotions
Camp Raybird 2001

God's Love and Grace

There is a fountain filled with blood
drawn from Emmanuel's veins
and sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains

The dying thief rejoiced to see
that fountain in his day
and there may I, though sinful too
wash all my sins away

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
shall never lose its power
'till all the ransomed Church of God
be saved, to sin no more

And since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply
redeeming love has been my theme
and shall be till I die

You are an Ambassador

We work the field of souls
Together you and I
Some fields are blooming now
Other fields are dry
We are not the same
But differences aside
We will work the field of souls
Together you and I

One is off to foreign soil
To work a distant land
Another anchors close to home
To hold a neighbor's hand
Who has served the Father most
And who has labored best
That life devoted to our God
That devotion will be blessed

One shouts the gospel in the streets
For everyone to hear
He's bold to everyone he meets
The word is loud and clear
Another cries alone and prays
In silence on her knees
Before the throne day after day
Where human eyes don't see

Personal Holiness

Search me, O God and know my heart today;
Try me, O Savior know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill thy word and make me pure within;
Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame;
Grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life, and make it wholly Thine;
Fill my poor heart with Thy great love divine
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;
I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.

O Holy Ghost, revival comes from Thee;
Send a revival, start the work in me;
Thy word declares, Thou will supply our need;
For blessing now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

We are the Body of Christ

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord
She is His new creation, by water and the word
From heaven He came and sought her, To be His holy bride
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation; one Lord, one faith, one birth
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest
And the great church victorious,
Shall be the Church at rest

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won
Oh happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly
On high may dwell with Thee

Endurance

All the way my Savior leads me
What have I to ask beside
Can I doubt His faithful mercies
Who through life has been my guide
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort
Ere by faith in Him to dwell
For I know whatever fall me
Jesus doeth all things well

All the way my Savior leads me
And He cheers each winding path I tread
Gives me strength for every trial
And He feeds me with the living bread
And tho my weary steps may falter
And my soul a thirst may be
Gushing from a rock before me
Tho a Spirit joy I see

And all the way my Savior leads me
Oh the fullness of His love
Perfect rest in me is promised
In my Father's house above
When my spirit clothed immortal
Wings it's flight realms of the day
This my song through endless sages
Jesus lead me all the way

Finishing Well

Oh my dear Timothy, Hold onto the faith
Keep your conscience pure and holy, Fight the good fight everyday
Don't give in to myths and fables, But train yourself for Godliness
You've got to be an example in your youth
You've got to be faithful to the truth
You've got to watch your life and doctrine closely
It'll save you, and those who hear you too.

Guard the trust
Hold onto the faithful Word
This you must
Guard the trust
Through the Spirit who dwells in you
Guard the trust

Oh my son Timothy, I charge you in the sight of God
Preach the word when it's convenient, Preach the word when it's not
For there'll come a time when truth is compromised
There will be teaching for itching ears
But you- be sober in all things
But you- endure hardship for the King
But do the work of an evangelist, This is my dying wish
I have fought the fight; I have finished the race
I've been faithful to Him; For I have kept the faith
Now there's laid up for me a crown of righteousness
And there waits one for all
Who love the coming of Jesus

Position in Christ

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord"

How I love to trust in Jesus
Just to trust His cleansing blood
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood

Yes, I've learned to trust in Jesus
And from sin and self to cease
Now from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace

I'm so glad I've learned to trust Him
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend
And I know that He is with me
He'll be with me to the end.

Spiritual Warfare

This is no time for fear
This is a time for faith and determination
Don't lose the vision here
Carried away by the motion
Hold onto all that you hide in your heart
There is one thing that has always been true
It holds the world together

God is in control
We believe that His children will not be forsaken
God is in control
We will choose to remember and never be shaken
There is no power above or beside Him
We know, ohhhh, God is in control

History marches on
There is a bottom line drawn across the ages
Culture can make its plan
Oh but the line never changes
No matter how the deception may fly
There is one thing that has always been true
It will be true forever

Attributes of God

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

In light inaccessible hid from our eyes

Most blessed, most glorious

The Ancient of Days

Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light

Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might

Thy justice like mountains high soaring above

Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love

To all, life Thou givest

To both great and small

In all life Thou livest, the true life of all

We blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree

And wither and perish but naught changeth Thee

Great Father of glory, Great Father of light

Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight

All praise we would render, O help us to see

Thy only the splendor of light hidest Thee

God's Love and Grace(Day 1)

Paul has just finished explaining throughout the beginning chapters of Romans why God's wrath against mankind is justified. How we are all without excuse before Him and held accountable to His standard of righteousness.

Read Romans 3:21-30

*Explain what the word 'righteousness' means to you?

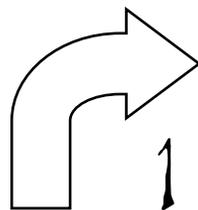
*From these verses, show:

(1) why we are all guilty

(2) what God has done

(3) Why He has done it

(4) what we have to do in response



God's Love and Grace(Day 1)

*What does it mean to you personally to be "justified by faith apart from observing the law"?

*Why do you think this is called the "Good News"?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Justification: a divine act where our Holy God judicially declares a believing sinner to be righteous and acceptable before Him because Christ has borne the sinner's sin on the cross.
Redemption: the special intervention of God for the salvation of mankind, centers in the atoning work of Christ as the price paid.

Atonement: the covering over of sin, the reconciliation between God and man, accomplished by the Lord Jesus

Memorize
3:21-24 :))

2

God's Love and Grace(Day 2)

Read Romans 5:1-11

*What do you think it means to be an "enemy" of God?

*Can you remember a time when you would describe yourself as an "enemy" of God?

*Define what it means to be "powerless"?

*What does it mean to you to have "peace with God"?

*According to vs. 3-5, what do we "know"?

(why is it important that we know these things and don't just think them to be true?)

Perseverance: to remain under the stress until God is done

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Memorize 5:8

Spend some time praying about the summer and asking for character to be developed in you.

3

God's Love and Grace(Day 3)

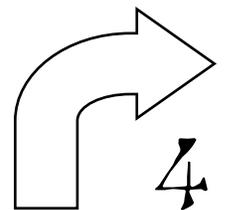
Read Luke Chapter 15

*Explain each parable in your own words:
Lost Sheep

Lost Coin

Lost Son

Parable: "to cast alongside", taking spiritual truth and casting it alongside



4

God's Love and Grace(Day 3)

*Explain who you think the main characters in each parable represents:

Lost Sheep

Lost Coin

Lost Son

*Which parable strikes you the most today and why?

Spend some time praying about the lost you will serve this summer....

What do you think God wants you to do in response to today's study?

5

God's Love and Grace(Day 4)

Read Galatians 3:26- 4:7 and Romans 8:14-17

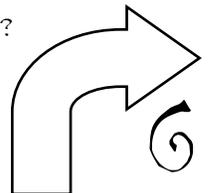
Often, when we come to thinking of 'our Heavenly Father' we carry much into that from our relationship with our earthly fathers. For some of us, it is a hard comparison and thinking of God as our 'father' is not favorable. Ask the Lord to show you specifically what it means to be His son/daughter.

*From both of these passages, list what we've been given as sons/daughters:

*Reflect on this quote from Rich Mullins:

"Beaker and I started talking about the whole mystery of the Incarnation....what it all comes down to is, what would it be like to be God Almighty, and to inspire those prophets to write all those great books, and Moses to write those books- and then to have become a little boy and endure Hebrew school, and listen to some Rabbi rattle on about something you wrote before he was ever born?

What would it be like to be Christ?



God's Love and Grace(Day 4)

"I mean, did He ever play ball? Did He ever knock a window out of somebody's house and did He ever have to explain to His dad that He had to borrow 12 dollars? So, we just started talking about what a weird thing it would be to be God and then to become flesh and then we also went on and just talked about what a weird thing to be nothing and then we got here. And wasn't it great and aren't you glad that you were born?"

Write out a letter from you to your Father for the privilege of being His own:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

7

God's Love and Grace(Day 5)

Read Ephesians 1: 3- 14

*From this passage, list what we've been given in Christ: (what He's done for us)

Positional Truths: things made true of us because of our redeemed relationship. They are constant, never changing, given to us through Christ.

*What thoughts come to your mind as you think of God specifically and with great pleasure choosing you to be holy and blameless?

*What is your most prized possession?

*How would seeing yourself as God's prized possession (vs. 14) impact your choices in : school, job, dating, marriage, etc....

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

8

God's Love and Grace(Day 6)

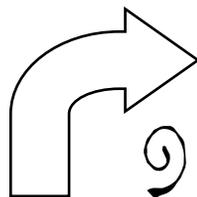
Read Ephesians 2:1-10

*Explain in your own words our condition without Christ:

*When it says, "we were by nature objects of wrath", what does that mean?

*Is it hard for you to think about God's wrath? Why or why not?

*Define faith in your own words:



God's Love and Grace(Day 6)

According to these verses, why does God save us?

For what purpose?

Grace: grace is what God is free to do, and does, for the lost after Christ has died on behalf of them.
Mercy: the compassion of God which moved Him to provide a savior for the unsaved.
**Divine love is the motivator behind all that God does to save us. But since God is holy and just, and sin is a complete offense to Him, His love or mercy cannot operate in grace until there was provided a sufficient sacrifice for sin.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Memorize 2:8,9

Spend some time praying about the good work that He has brought you here for.

God's Love and Grace(Day 7)

Hosea lived and prophesied in the Northern Kingdom of Israel just prior to the Assyrian exile. He is the only one of the writing prophets to come from the Northern Kingdom. The first 3 chapters use Hosea's family life as a symbol to convey the Lord's message to the people.

Read Hosea 1:1-

3:1

*From what you know of the nation of Israel's history - explain why God feels the way He does and expresses through Hosea.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

11

God's Love and Grace(Day 8)

Read through the Gospel of John in one sitting, quietly and ponderously.

*jot down anything that stands out to you

*write out situations, words, etc....that demonstrate

God's love for you

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

12

You are an Ambassador(Day 1)

Read 2 Corinthians 5:10-21

- *Why does Paul try to persuade men?
- *What is he convinced of and how does that affect him?
- *What do you think it means to regard someone from a 'wordly point of view'?
- *Explain the ministry that's been given to us and how you see the Lord using you-

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Remember- you are an ambassador today and everyday- whether or not you are a good or bad ambassador is the question...

28

You are an Ambassador(Day 2)

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

- *What was Paul's motive as he shared the gospel?
- *How did he share?
- *What encourages you from this passage as you also have been entrusted with the gospel?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Ask yourself today- "Am I loving with my life?"

29

You are an Ambassador(Day 3)

Read 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

*According to this passage, why does Paul share the gospel?

*What is his 'method'?

*Why does he choose this method?

*How can this be worked out in your ministry today?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

30

You are an Ambassador(Day 4)

Read 2 Corinthians 2:12-3:6

*What determines the fragrance you give off to those around you as you serve and live?

*In 2:16, Paul suggests that they are not equal to the task set before them, where does their competence come from?

*How have you seen the Lord equip you with competence to serve here?

*According to this passage, who is your 'letter of recommendation' as you serve in ministry?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

What does it look like today to be the fragrance of life?

31

You are an Ambassador(Day 5)

Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-11

*There will be times this summer when you feel as if you have 'lost heart'- what hope can you find?

*What is your responsibility in this ministry?

*When have you felt like a 'clay jar'- needing God's light to shine through where you have no strength?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Ask and allow His light to shine through your cracks today :)

You are an Ambassador(Day 6)

Read Philippians 2:12-18

*What do you think it means to 'work out your salvation'?

*Explain vs. 13 in your own words:

*Explain what you think is the balance between vs. 12 and vs. 13?

*When we don't complain and argue, what does Paul say comes about in our character?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Think through your day today- how can you hold out the words of life to those around you- the campers, the staff, etc...

You are an Ambassador(Day 7)

Read Colossians 4:2-6

*How do vs. 5-6 hinge on vs. 2?

*Where are you at in your 'devotion to prayer' arena?

*As you look back over the past week, think through some times you made the most of the opportunity given you as well as the times when the opportunity slipped away- what makes the difference?

*What can you change next week to see vs. 6 more fully realized in you?

*What does God want you to do in response

34

Spiritual Warfare(Day 1)

Read 1 Peter 5:8-9

*What is the statement of fact Peter makes here?

*How can knowing this is certain help you this week?

*How, practically, can you 'stand firm in the faith'?

*What does being self-controlled and alert do?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Spend some time praying about the warfare you will face this week, ask the Lord to help you and those around you stand firm.

21

Spiritual Warfare (Day 2)

Read Ephesians 6:10-13

*What do you think is the difference between being 'strong' and 'being strong in the Lord's power'?

*Is it encouraging or discouraging to know who your actual struggle is against this week? Why?

*Have you seen an example of something you would call 'warfare'?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

*Spend some time praying now for the Lord's power to work through you and those around you today.

22

Spiritual Warfare (Day 3)

Read Ephesians 6:14-17

*List the elements of the armor and what you believe their spiritual significance to be:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

*How do these especially equip you for this unique battle?

*Which one stands out to you today as important for you?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Picture yourself physically applying each of these pieces of armor and thank the Lord for His provision.

23

Spiritual Warfare (Day 4)

Read Ephesians 6:18-20

*What was Paul's ultimate goal as he applied his armor and moved out to minister?

*What does it look like in your life to 'fearlessly' declare the gospel? Where, in the past, has fear inhibited you?

*How does knowing others are praying specifically for you today impact your courage?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

24

Spiritual Warfare (Day 5)

Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

*How does the world wage war?

*What are some of the 'strongholds' in your life that you struggle to submit to Christ's Lordship?

*What does it look like for you to take your thoughts captive to Christ?- What thoughts need taken captive?

*How can you accomplish this?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

25

Spiritual Warfare(Day 6)

Read Job 1:1-2:10

*What strikes you most in this story?

*Job rightly lays responsibility for all that had befallen him at the Lord's feet- how does the reality of Satan seeking to attack us and God allowing it make you feel?

*Why do you think the Lord allows it?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Can you thank the Lord for all that comes your way today and walk through it with His strength?

26

Spiritual Warfare(Day 7)

Read Genesis 2:4-3:7

*How does Satan twist God's actual words- why do you think he uses this technique?

*What are some of the ways Satan twists God's truths in your life?

*Why does it sometimes seem like God is withholding good things from us and the world, or Satan, offers something better?

*Why do you think God allows us to be in this position?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

27

We are the Body of Christ(Day 1)

Read Ephesians 4:1-16

*List the commands here:

*What enables us as believers to live and relate in a Godly way?

*What are some of the things Paul commands us to do as we live 'worthy' lives?

*How have you seen demonstrated here at camp the principle that each person works together so we all can grow?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Tell someone today why you appreciate what they do...

59

We are the Body of Christ(Day 2)

Read Ephesians 4:25-32

*List the commands here:

*What does it mean for Satan to get a foothold?

*How does not working through anger in a timely manner cause Satan to get a foothold in our lives?

*How can you work out vs. 29 today?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

60

We are the Body of Christ(Day 3)

Read Romans 12:3-8

*Explain vs.3 in your own words:

*What do you think it means when Paul says in vs. 5
“each member belongs to all the others”?

*Write out how you have seen the Lord gift you?

*What does God want you to do
in response to today's study?

Spend some time
now praying that
the Lord specially
gifts you for the
work this
week.

61

We are the Body of Christ(Day 4)

Read Matthew 18:15-20

*Explain this process in your own words:

*Think of a situation in your life and write out how
this process would work/did work:

*Why is this process necessary and good?

*What does vs. 19-20 mean?

*What does God want you to do in response to
today's study?

62

We are the Body of Christ(Day 5)

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-27

*Explain in your own words why, how, etc....the body of Christ works as it does....

*Have you ever felt like a 'more important' part or a 'least important' part of the body? Write out what you think the Lord would say to that...

*Read vs. 25-26 again- how can you work out this principle in the body here at camp?

*Think through the people you are serving with and how you see them fit into the body here. Write out the staff and how they 'fit' on the back of this page.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

63

We are the Body of Christ(Day 6)

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

*Summarize why Paul views love as so important:

*List the characteristics of Godly love/ define each:

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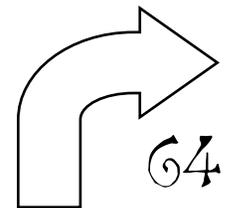
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We are the Body of Christ(Day 6)

*Spend some time pondering a situation where you did not love well in the past few days- what could you do differently next time; what can you do now?

*Write out a prayer to the Lord asking Him to develop one or two of these characteristics in you this summer.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

65

We are the Body of Christ(Day 7)

Read Colossians 3:12-17

*What does it mean to “clothe” yourself with the qualities in vs. 12?

*How does obeying vs. 12 work itself out through vs. 13?

*What can you do to have the word more richly dwell in you?

*Read through vs. 17 a few times and think through all that you will do today- ask the Lord for this Spirit :)

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

66

The Attributes of God (Day 1)

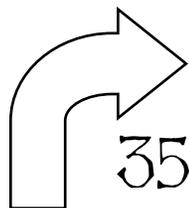
An "attribute" is something that is true of God. God's revelation of His character (His attributes) through creation, the Scriptures, and His Son, Jesus Christ, is His reply to our question, "What are you like?" ... the danger in discussing the attributes of God is that we might begin to view the inexhaustible person of God as a mere list of characteristics.....the characteristics give us clues to what He is like.
(quote from Myrna Alexander)

SOVEREIGN

Read each of the following verses and write out what they seem to be saying about God's sovereignty:

*Proverbs 16:9

*Proverbs 21:30



The Attributes of God (Day 1)

*Isaiah 46:9-10

*Ephesians 1:11

*Psalm 33:10-11

*James 4:13-15

*Job 42:2

*Psalm 115:3

Write out a definition of 'sovereignty' in your own words:

*Why is it important that God is sovereign?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

The Attributes of God (Day 2)

LOVING

Read each of the following verses and write out what they are saying about God's loving nature:

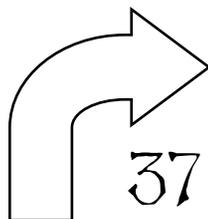
*1 John 4:7-16

*Romans 5:6-8

*Isaiah 54:10

Read the following 2 passages and jot down what you think they are saying about the difference between knowing that God is love vs. experiencing God's love for you:

Romans 8:35-39



The Attributes of God (Day 2)

Lamentations 3:1-26

*What are these passages saying to your heart today?

*Considering God's sovereignty, why is it important that He is love?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time praying that the Lord would show you personally how much He loves you.

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The Attributes of God (Day 3)

WISE / OMNISCIENT

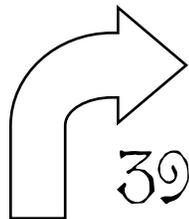
Read each of the following verses and write out what they seem to be saying about God's omniscience and wisdom.....

*Isaiah 55:8-9

*Romans 11:33-34

*James 1:5

Proverbs 21:30



The Attributes of God (Day 3)

*Colossians 2:2-3

*Isaiah 40:13-14

*Write out a definition of 'omniscience' in your own words:

*How do the sovereignty, the love and the wisdom of God relate?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time praying that you would see God's plans and actions in your life as the utmost wise and loving.

40

The Attributes of God (Day 4)

FAITHFULNESS

Read each of the following verses and write out what they are saying about God's faithfulness:

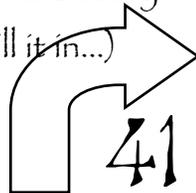
*Deuteronomy 32:4

*Hebrews 10:23

*Psalm 36:5

The following passages take us through the life of Abraham. Beside each passage, write out

- (1) What He promised
- (2) How God was faithful (you know the whole story more than Abe did, so feel free to fill it in...)
- (3) And how this relates to you.



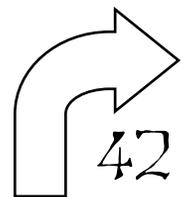
The Attributes of God (Day 4)

*Genesis 12:1-4

*Genesis 13:14-18

*Genesis 15:1-6

*Genesis 15:12-16



The Attributes of God (Day 4)

*Genesis 17:19-22

*Genesis 21:1-7

*Genesis 22:1-14

*Write out a definition of faithfulness in your own words:

*How is God's sovereignty related to His faithfulness?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time praying and asking to see His faithfulness to you.

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The Attributes of God (Day 5)

JUST

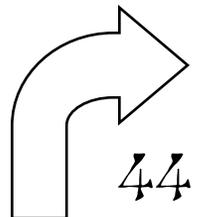
Read each of the following verses and write out what they are saying about God's justice and how His justice is worked out now and in the future.

*Deuteronomy 32:4

*Psalm 111:7

*John 5:28-30

*1 John 1:9



The Attributes of God (Day 5)

*Romans 3:21-26

*Revelation 16:1-11

What is hard for you in pondering God's justice?

What about God's justice sets you at ease?

How does God's justice relate to His wisdom and faithfulness?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

45

The Attributes of God (Day 6)

OMNIPOTENT

Read Exodus 13:17-14:31

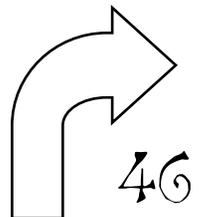
*How is God's power displayed in this story?

*What is most amazing to you?

*What other attributes do you see in this story?

Read Job 38

*What stands out to you here relating to God's omnipotence? list some.....



46

The Attributes of God (Day 6)

Read Matthew 8:1-13, 9:18-34, Luke 12:4-5

*List some of the ways Jesus displays God's omnipotence....

*How does it impact the people He encounters?

Read John 13:1-5

*How does vs. 3 tie all of this together?

How do you see God's sovereignty related to his omnipotence?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Pray to see more of God's omnipotence in your life and through the workings of the camp.

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The Attributes of God (Day 7)

HOLY

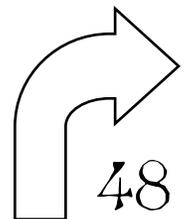
Read Isaiah 6

*Define holiness in your own words:

*How does correctly viewing God's holiness impact our lives, our view of ourselves?

Read 1 Chronicles 16:23-31

David has recently become King after Saul's death. He brings all of Israel together and says that he desires to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. On their first attempt to bring it up, someone violates the Lord's principles by touching the Ark and is killed. Three months later, following the principles set out by the Lord, the Ark is brought to Jerusalem amidst much celebration and rejoicing. This Psalm of thanks by David follows the procession of the Ark into the tent.



48

The Attributes of God (Day 7)

*What are some of the responses and phrases David uses as he praises the Lord's holiness?

*What stands out to you in this?

Read Leviticus 19:2

*How can we accomplish this?

Spend some time praying that the Lord would show you His holiness and that you would respond accordingly.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

49

The Attributes of God

SOVEREIGN: the supreme rulership of God. He does whatever pleases Him and determines whether we can do what we have planned. No creature, person or empire can either thwart His will or act outside the bounds of His will.

LOVE: God is love; it is an exercise of His goodness towards individual sinners whereby, since He identifies with our state, He sends His Son to be our Savior and to bring us to know and love Him in relationship.

WISDOM/OMNISCIENCE: the divine attribute of perfect knowledge including all things that are possible and all things that actually are.

FAITHFUL: the assurance that He will fulfill all of His promises as well as execute His threats against sin.

JUST: the holiness of God shown in moral decisions.

OMNIPOTENT: infinite power to do everything that is in harmony with His wise, holy and perfect nature.

HOLY: a separation from all that is sinful or

50

Our Position in Christ (Day 1)

Positional Truths are those things which become true of us once we are a believer. They are given by God, not earned or ever taken away. They are facts about us, regardless of our behavior. They represent the way God sees us in Christ.

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

*Read the passage through several times and write out all that it says is true of you as a believer:

*Choose a couple of these truths and spend time thanking the Lord for them in prayer.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Chosen, Sealed

13

Our Position in Christ (Day 2)

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:22-24

*Explain in your own words how we are 'new creations'?

*What can you do to be made new in the attitude of your mind?

*What are a couple of elements of your 'new self' that you would like to put on today?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

New Creations

14

Our Position in Christ (Day 3)

Read Philippians 3:20, John 17:14-16, John 14:1-4

*How should it impact our living if we really believe we are already citizens of heaven?

*Can you think of some earthly treasures you are holding onto tightly today?

*Spend some time thinking about Jesus preparing a place specifically for you.

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Citizens of Heaven

15

Our Position in Christ (Day 4)

Read John 14:15-27

*Jesus promises many things with the Holy Spirit- what stands out to you the most?

*Why?

*Has the Holy Spirit reminded you of anything lately?

*Spend some time praying and asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and fill you with His words.

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Given the Holy Spirit

16

Our Position in Christ (Day 5)

Read Hebrews 10:1-23

*Can you explain in your own words why the Old Testament sacrifices were a 'shadow' of what was to come in Christ?

*Explain the significance of vs. 12:

*Even though vs. 18 says that we need no more sacrifices for sin once Christ's blood has covered it, we often attempt to 'sacrifice' when we sin. How do you try to offer 'sacrifices' to pay for your sin?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

FORGIVENESS

The Most Holy Place was that place in the temple where the Ark of the Covenant resided and the sacrifices for sin were offered by the High Priest. There were strict regulations for entering God's presence there. Leviticus 16

17

Our Position in Christ (Day 6)

Read Matthew 6:25-34, 1 Timothy 6:17, Philippians 4:19

*According to these verses, why is our worrying a lack of faith?

*Why can we trust the Lord with these?

*How can you seek Him first today? This week?

*What has God provided richly for your enjoyment this week?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

NEEDS SUPPLIED

18

Our Position in Christ (Day 7)

Read Matthew 6:5-15, 7:7-8

John 14:13-14, 15:16, 16:23-24

*From these passages list the promises:

*Mt.6

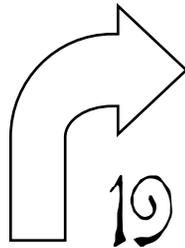
*Mt.7

*Jn14

*Jn15

*Jn16

ANSWERED PRAYER



19

Our Position in Christ (Day 7)

*Re-write the Lord's prayer in your own words and personalize it:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

*Pull someone aside and spend a few minutes talking about something you are praying about or something that struck you from these verses.

ANSWERED PRAYER

20

Personal Holiness(Day 1)

Read Ephesians 4:17-32

*Why do we have the ability to live differently?

*Describe the picture of the new self Paul paints in vs. 25-32:

*Which of these traits is most attractive to you and why?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

67

Personal Holiness(Day 2)

Read Ephesians 5:1-21

*Describe what it would mean to you to 'live a life of love'?

*Explain how immorality, impurity and greed are ultimately idolatry:

*List the wise characteristics that follow vs. 15:

*What does it look like today to 'submit to one another'; who specifically might you be called to submit to?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

68

Personal Holiness(Day 7)

Read Romans 6:1-14

*From these verses, what does a life that has 'died to sin' look like?

*List various parts of your body and how they can be instruments of wickedness:

**Spend some time praying and offering each part of your body back to God.*

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time praying and offering each part of your body back to God.



Personal Holiness(Day 4)

Read 1 Peter 1:13-25

*How can understanding the holiness of God enable you to grow in self-control?

*What are some things you may have thought would bring 'life' but have not been found to be empty?

*Explain vs. 22 in your own words:

*How does knowing we are born of God's eternal, enduring word enable us to live in a holy way?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Personal Holiness(Day 5)

Read Titus 2:11-15

*Once we are saved, what does grace teach us to do?

*How do you think this happens?

*What is the difference between 'needing to do more good' and 'being God's own'?

*How should my awareness of 'being God's' impact my daily life?

*Why do you think we are commanded to encourage and rebuke?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

71

Personal Holiness(Day 6)

Read Romans 12:1-2

*How does God's mercy spur us on to offer ourselves?

*Why is it significant that we are 'living sacrifices'?

*What are some 'patterns of the world' that need transformed in your mind?

Read Psalm 19:13

*Explain what you think 'willful' sin is:

Is there any difference between acting willfully in my sin and acting in ignorance? (see Num 15:22-31)

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Spend some time thanking the Lord that His will is 'good, perfect, and pleasing'.

72

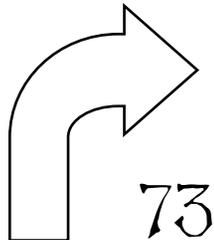
Personal Holiness(Day 3)

Read Colossians 3:1-17

*Why does it matter where my heart and mind are set?

*Practically, explain how you can set your heart and mind on things above:

the words 'set' in vs. 1 & 2 are actually 2 different Greek words:
to 'set your heart': to seek, search for earnestly
to 'set your mind': to concentrate upon



73

Personal Holiness(Day 3)

*Do 2 lists:

What we are to put to death vs. How we are to be clothed now

*How can you 'put something to death'?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time thanking the Lord that we can put our earthly natures to death. Ask Him for some specific areas you need His help in.

74

Endurance(Day 1)

Read Luke 14:25-33

*What has it meant in your life to have 'counted the cost of discipleship'?

*Explain in your own words what it means to carry your cross and follow Him:

*What have you had to give up to pursue discipleship?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

51

Endurance(Day 2)

Read 2 Corinthians 6:3-10

*Though you may not have had to struggle through as many things as Paul, where there hardships you faced as you decided to serve here?

*How do facing hardships strengthen your resolve to serve?

*What have been some specific hardships you have seen this summer?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Can you thank the Lord that through it 'ALL' you possess everything. Ask Him to strengthen you as you serve.

52

Endurance(Day 3)

Read Philippians 1:3-11

*Imagine that Paul is speaking directly to you; what do you think he is saying in vs. 6?

*How can having this confidence give you endurance?

*Paul prays for maturity in vs. 9-11- explain what he is praying for in your own words:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

53

Endurance(Day 4)

Read Philippians 3:7-16

*Paul pretty clearly states his philosophy of life here in these verses; write out his main ideas:

*Which of these is most challenging to you right now?

*What do you think Paul is 'pressing on' and 'straining' towards?

*How can you today apply vs. 16?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

54

Endurance(Day 5)

Read Colossians 1:9-14

*Paul, it seems, had huge vision for the people he loved and prayed for. What are the things he is praying for here:

*Have you seen yourself growing this summer in endurance and patience as you trusted in His strength?

*Write out a time that really stands out to you:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

Spend some time now giving thanks to the Father as in vs. 12-14.

55

Endurance(Day 6)

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-18

*What do you think Paul is feeling as he writes these words?

*Leading is often a hard and lonely place. As you have led here this summer, how have you experienced this?

*How can we stand strong until the end?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

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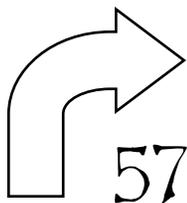
Endurance(Day 7)

Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

*When you applied for the job this summer you were asked why you wanted to serve here.

Now, explain why you have 'run this race'?

*What does Paul's training look like?



Endurance(Day 7)

Explain in your own words what it means to:

-not run aimlessly:

-not beat the air:

-beat your body:

*How have you been training? What needs changed?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

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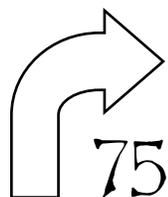
Finishing Well(Day 1)

Timothy lived with his mother and grandmother. It appears that he was converted when Paul visited Lystra for the first time (Acts 16). Having been singled out by the elders of his church as fit for missionary work, he became Paul's most constant companion. Paul was his spiritual Father and mentor and they became very close. Paul writes his last letter to Timothy (2 Timothy) exhorting him to remain constant and steadfast.

Read 1 Timothy 1: 12-19

*How does Paul see himself realistically?

*Can you remember yourself prior to your salvation; do you see the sin nature at work in you now?



Finishing Well(Day 1)

*How does knowing what we are saved from help us to persevere?

*What do you think it means to hold onto faith and a good conscience?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

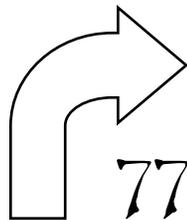
Spend some time praying, thanking the Lord that He has appointed you to His service (vs. 12), and that He has poured out His grace on you (vs. 14)

Finishing Well(Day 2)

Read 1 Timothy 4:6-16

*List Paul's commands to Timothy:

*Though it is clear throughout scripture that God finishes the work He starts in us; Paul challenges Timothy to be a part of this process by training to be Godly- what do you think this involves?



Finishing Well(Day 2)

*Has anyone ever looked down on your young faith?

Explain the situation:

*As you look back over the summer, which of the areas in vs. 12 are you growing in?

which needs the Spirit's work?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Spend some time praying that you would indeed set an example for those around you in your speech, in your life, in your love, in your faith and in your purity.

Finishing Well(Day 3)

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21

*Why do you think Paul calls it the 'fight' of faith?

*Describe from vs. 19 what you think is the 'life that is truly life'?

*How does not putting our hope in wealth help us to find this 'life'?

*What other places do you look to find life outside of the Lord?

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

79

Finishing Well(Day 4)

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-14

*If you were to leave, what would those around you be reminded of?

*How have you seen vs. 7 at work in you this summer?

*What have you come to know more about the Lord this summer?

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

80

Finishing Well(Day 5)

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-10, 15, 20-24

*Why do you think soldiers, athletes and farmers can be used to describe the Christian life?

*What have you endured this summer for the sake of the elect?

*What kinds of things cause us to be ashamed or to not handle the word correctly?

*Explain vs. 20-21 from your own experience:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

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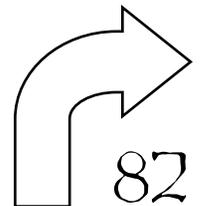
Finishing Well(Day 6)

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8

*Write out some times when you have corrected, rebuked or encouraged:

*When have you been corrected, rebuked or encouraged:

*What makes these good times, what determines?



Finishing Well(Day 6)

*Paul challenged Timothy earlier with the statements in vs. 7. Who in your life can you look to as examples of this kind of faithfulness?

*Consider letting these people know that they have been a Godly example to you- thanks the Lord for them.

*What does God want you to do in response to today's study?

Spend some time in prayer asking the Lord to keep you faithfully seeking the crown of righteousness.

Finishing Well(Day 7)

Spend some time quietly reflecting over the time here this summer. Jot down how you have seen the Lord's character displayed around you and through you:

*What do you sense God is trying to communicate to you today?

You are an Ambassador

God's Love and Grace

We are the Body of Christ

Spiritual Warfare

Position in Christ

Attributes of God

Endurance

Personal Holiness

Personal Notes

Finishing Well

Believe

**Summer Staff Devotions
Camp Raybird 2001**

