

# **Basic Training**

*Summer  
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Staff Devotions*

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Read James 3:1  
What does this warning mean to you?

Read Matthew chapter 23  
List the overall concerns (the woes) Jesus expresses with the teachers: list verse numbers!

Why do you think He says in vs. 3 that they are still to be obeyed?

What do you think the 'heavy load' is in vs. 4?

How can you lighten the load for your campers this week?

Explain vs. 27-28:

How do you see yourself as a servant of your campers? (vs.11)

In what things are you hypocritical in your leading of others? i.e. areas where you do not live what you teach?

Spend some time praying and asking the Lord to reveal these areas to you.

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

# Our Relationship with the Campers

## Day 2

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In Luke 5:8-11, Jesus tells Peter that he will be a "fisher of men". But following his (Peter's) denial of Christ, Christ's death and resurrection, Peter returns in shame to the life that is safe for him- fishing (for fish :)

Read John chapter 21

How does Jesus model / demonstrate unconditional love for Peter?

Is the fishing successful for Peter?

What primary job does Jesus tell Peter to be about (assuming Peter loves Him)?

What do you think 'feeding His sheep' looks like for you this summer?

What things are 'safe' for you (like Peter's fishing) that you return to instead of throwing yourself into what you know the Lord would have you do?

Jesus modeled love for Peter- who this week especially needs your unconditional love?

Read 1 Peter 5:2-4

What is especially sweet about Peter's commands to the believers?

In what ways have you acted as a willing shepherd this week? In what ways have you not?

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

# Our Relationship with the Campers

Day 3

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So often, we exhaust all kinds of resources in our life to see people and circumstances around us changed. God wants to remind us that prayer is the *most powerful* tool we have. We are told in Hebrews 7:25 that Christ's continual job in heaven is praying for us. As shepherds, it is our privilege and responsibility to pray for our campers.

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

Write out the things that Paul is praying for the believers in Ephesus:

How do we become 'rooted and established' in love?

Why do you think it is so essential for us to grasp the love of Christ?

When is a time when you felt His love to your core?

In the lives of your campers this week, what does "immeasurably more" look like specifically: (spend some time reflecting on what the Lord would have you seek for each of them)

In your own life, what does "immeasurably more than all you could ask or imagine"? (what are you trusting God for that requires faith)

Spend some time on your knees right now (if you have never knelt to pray- give it a try) praying for each camper and their specific needs. List your campers with needs:

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



Prayer, continued.....

Following is a list of thoughts on prayer primarily from Jesus who wants to teach us to pray well. Take some time over the weekend to reflect on these:

Matthew 7:7-8	Seeking
Luke 11:5-8	Bold
Mark 10:51, Luke 18:41	Specific
Mark 11:24	With Faith
Mark 11:22-23	Believing
Mark 11:25	From a clean heart
Matthew 18:19-20	United
Luke 18:1-8	Persevering
John 14:12-13	For His glory
John 15:7	From an abiding heart
James 5:16	Out of obedience

# Our Relationship with the Campers

## Day 4

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Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

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According to these verses, what do you have to offer to your campers this week?

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Why does the fear of the Lord compel us to persuade men? (v.11)

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Have you ever felt the fear of the Lord and been compelled to share the gospel? - write out the story:

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What else compels us to share? (v.14)

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Why does this compel us?

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Choose one of your campers this week and explain a "worldly way" of viewing them vs. a "heavenly way":

"worldly way":

"heavenly way"

How have you seen the "new creation" in your life (where have you been changed)?

Is your being an ambassador for Christ a choice? (v.20)

What determines the quality of your ambassadorship?

Spend some time right now praying for Christ's love to compel you to share...

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

# Our Relationship with the Campers

Day 5

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Read 1 Thessalonians 2:6-12

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What are some of the words Paul uses to describe his care of the believers in Thessalonica?

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Spend some time thinking through the words you have used this week to describe your campers, your feelings for them, etc....write some out:

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As v.10 says, those around us are witnesses to how we live. Seek a friend out today for some honest feedback about how you have lived this week. Questions like the following can get you started :)

"Has my conversation honored God this week?"

"Has my attitude modeled Christ's or Paul's this week?"

As God is also a witness to our actions and thoughts, spend some time now praying and

allowing the Lord to show you areas that you have not been "righteous and blameless" in.

Each of us develops a picture of God's character through our earthly parents. In what ways did your parents accurately reflect God's character?

In what ways did they not?

Ask the Lord to reveal His character to you as you spend time in His word this summer.

What do you sense God is teaching you about His character?- pinpoint one quality you see from today's study...

# Our Relationships with Each Other

Day 1

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Read 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

When do you feel most compelled to preach / share the gospel?

How does Paul describe himself in vs. 19- what choice does he make in this description?

What does he say is his ultimate goal?

Is your attitude this week one of slavery/servanthood to those around you?

Give some examples of how you could serve your campers?

other staff?

We could re-write some of his verses like:

To those in poverty, I became one in poverty...

To those who are parentless, I became like an orphan to understand them...

To those who are black, white, Mexican...

To those who have been abused...

How can you attempt to identify more with the campers you have this week?

How much effort are you willing to exert to identify like Paul attempted to do?

Write out a couple verses like the previous ones specific to your campers:

In this context, what do you think the 'prize' is in v. 24?

Do you see yourself running the race with purpose and effectiveness?

How can you train more strictly so as to not run aimlessly, beating the air?

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

# Our Relationships with Each Other

## Day 2

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Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

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What promise do you have from these verses that you, and those around you, are wired into the body exactly as you should be?

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As you think about the body that the Lord has assembled here this summer, what is most amazing to you?

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According to v. 24-25, why has God arranged the parts of the body (the staff) the way that He has?

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What do you think it means to have "equal concern" for all the members of the body?

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How do you see that worked out, or not worked out, here this summer?

What can you do when division arises? (or if it is arising:)

Spend some time now thinking through the staff...

Counselors (Guys, Girls)

Maintenance

Kitchen

Activities

Waterfront

Full-time staff

(1) how we uniquely fit together

(2) how you can share your concern for other members

What do you sense God is teaching you about His character? Pinpoint one quality you see from today's study...

# Our Relationships with Each Other

## Day 3

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Read Matthew 18:15-17

Say someone hurts, sins against or offends you- whose responsibility is it to go and begin the discussion?

Read Matthew 5:23-24

Say you have done something to offend someone else- whose responsibility is it to go and begin the discussion?

So if some sort of conflict arises in any of your relationships- what should you do?

Spend some time quietly right now asking the Lord if there is anyone you need to go to....

How valuable does it seem to the Lord from these verses that we are committed to going and "working it out"?

Have you ever seen an example of Matthew 18 worked out in your church, body, etc...(write out your experience)

Read Romans 12:17-18

Ephesians 4:1-6

1 Corinthians 1:10

From these verses- what does the Lord command us? what does He see as valuable?

How willing are you to continue going and going, working through even hard things to see unity...no division?

Why do you think this is so important to the Lord?

Spend some more time praying that as you delight in the Lord (Psalm 37:4) He would give you this desire of His in your heart also.

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

# Our Relationships with Each Other

## Day 4

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Read Ephesians 4:11-32  
From vs. 11-13, what is the purpose for different parts of the body?

Define 'unity in the faith':

Is this the absence of disagreement?

How do v. 14-16 say we mature out of Spiritual infancy?

Explain v. 16- what is "its work"?

What do you think is entailed in being able to speak truthfully?

How does speaking truthfully help us work out vs. 17-24??

Why do you think the command to speak truthfully is connected to the warning in v. 26?

Can you think of a time when someone shared a hard truth with you in love- write out this story:

Spend some time praying now and ask the Lord if there is anyone in your life you have truth that you need to share....

*A Susan thought:*

*It seems to me like there are four areas we need to work on to be able to accomplish this:*

- 1. knowing the truth*
- 2. knowing the person well*
- 3. being able to speak the truth*
- 4. being able to speak it in love*

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

# Our Relationships with Each Other

## Day 5

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Read Galatians 6:1-5, James 5:19-20

What is our responsibility to a brother/sister who is in sin?

Why do you think Paul warns us to restore gently?

Why do you think in Galatians 2:6 Paul commands us to carry each others burdens and then in vs. 5 he says to carry our own load?

*The Greek words for 'burden' and 'load' are very different. Burden implies a weight that cannot be borne alone, the heavy struggles and situations of life.... load refers to the everyday responsibilities we each must shoulder.*

List some things in your life that have been burdens....

have been loads....

What does it mean to 'test my own actions' and why is that important as we confront another's sin?

In Matthew 7:3-5 Jesus tells us that our natural tendency is to see other people's sins more prominently than our own. We are to clear the sin from ourselves (test our actions) then go and do the same for our brothers and sisters.

Why is confronting sin so essential for a healthy body?

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

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# God's Relationship with Us

Day 1

Read Ephesians 1:1-14

List the words Paul uses to describe how God has pursued you:

Explain your understanding of the word 'predestined':

What specific things does this passage say we are predestined or chosen for?

When does this passage say your adoption as a son or daughter was sealed?

What are the benefits of our adoption listed here?

How does it make you feel to be described in vs. 13 as "God's possession"?

Spend some time sitting quietly and ponder God's eternal desire for a relationship specifically with you.

*In Genesis 1, God creates the earth and everything in it- deeming each creation as 'good'. He finishes with creating man in His own image and calls it 'very good'.*

*This week we are going to "camp out" (pun intended) on God's love for us.*

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

# God's Relationship with Us

Day 2

Read Psalm 139 : 1-16

Describe the Psalmist feelings in vs. 1-12: What are some words he uses that hit you?

What is your feeling as you read vs. 1?

Why?

How does truly grasping God's love for us impact our reading and understanding of vs.1?

What specifically does God know about us according to these verses?

When are you inclined to flee from God?

What is your method?

Describe God's knowing and creating of you in vs. 13-16:

Re-write vs. 14 in your own words:

Explain what you think he is saying in vs. 16:

What do you sense God is teaching you about His character? Pinpoint one quality from today's passage:

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## God's Relationship with Us

### Day 3

Read Romans 5:6-11

Why does Paul describe us as powerless? What do you think he means?

Why do you think Paul stresses that we were powerless to save ourselves?

How does dying for us while we were still sinners demonstrate great love?

Explain how we are justified by His blood?

Do you ever find yourself still trying to 'earn' your salvation by doing good things?

What are some ways you do this?

Can you remember not being saved? In what way would you describe yourself as "God's enemy"?

If you cannot remember not being saved, what darkness (sin) can you see in yourself that pits you against God?

Spend some time quietly pondering and asking God to reveal the sin hidden in you.

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

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## God's Relationship with Us Day 4

Read 1 John 3:1; 4:7-12

Define the word 'lavished':

In your life, who has lavished love on you?

Who have you lavished love upon?

Why is it important that God initiated toward us in love first?

Where does real love originate?

What does a lack of love point to in us?

Why can we not really love if we are not walking in the light with Him?

Explain how you think loving one another makes God's love complete in you?

What sacrifices are required of you this week to love your campers well? Be specific?

Pray now and ask God to fill you with His love for your campers.

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

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## God's Relationship with Us Day 5

Read Ephesians 5:25-27

How did Christ express His love for the church?

Explain vs. 26-27 in your own words - what happens to us?

Read Revelation 19:7

In the previous passage, it spoke of how Christ Himself prepares us to be His bride. This passage speaks of our responsibility.

What can we do to make ourselves ready?

In what ways do you know you are not ready?

Read Revelation 21:1-4

What changes between God and man at this point?

What do you think God is feeling as He sees His bride presented?

How does this make you feel?

For what circumstances, relationships, etc....will God be wiping away your tears?

*Following is an excerpt from the book "The Sacred Romance" that really impacted me:*

*The Scriptures employ a wide scale of metaphors to capture the many facets of our relationship with God. If you consider them in sort of an ascending order, there is a noticeable and breathtaking progression. Down near the bottom of the totem pole we are the clay and He the Potter. Moving up a notch, we are the sheep and*

He the Shepherd, which is a little better position on the food chain but hardly flattering; sheep don't have the reputation as the most graceful and intelligent creatures in the world. Moving upward, we are the servants of the Master, which at least lets us into the house, even if we have to wipe our feet, watch our manners, and not talk too much. Most Christians never get past this point, but the ladder of metaphors is about to make a swift ascent. God also calls us His children and Himself our heavenly Father, which brings us into the possibility of real intimacy. Still, there is something missing even in the best parent-child relationship. Friendship levels the playing field in a way that family never can, at least not until the kids have grown and left the house. Friendship opens a level of communion that a five-year-old doesn't know with his mother and father. And 'friends' are what He calls us. But there is still a higher and deeper level of intimacy and partnership awaiting us at the top of this metaphorical ascent. We are lovers. The courtship that began with a honeymoon in the Garden culminates in the wedding feast of the Lamb. "I will take delight in you", He says to us, "as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so I will rejoice over you," so that we might say in return, "I am my beloved's and his desire is for me." The bridal imagery often fails to capture a man's heart, but consider: God is neither male nor female. Both genders together are needed to reflect His image and He transcends them both. As men and women, we want to be chosen for different reasons, but we both want to be chosen, to be welcomed into the heart of things,

invited into the drama to live from our heart. We both want love, the adventure of intimacy, and this is what God's pursuit means for men and for women.

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

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# Our Relationship as Men and Women

## Day 1

*As we are looking around for who God might have for us to marry- it is important to be looking for a growing, Godly mate as well as becoming one yourself!*

Read Colossians 3:1-17

What are we to have our hearts and minds set on?

Why do you think Paul reminds us of this? (especially in the area of the opposite sex!)

What are we to be putting to death as we grow:

Which of these are the greatest struggle for you?

What are we to be clothing ourselves in?

Why do you think he uses the image of clothing?

How have you seen the Lord grow these qualities in you? Which are most evident, which need work?

Are these the qualities you are looking for in the opposite sex?

Spend some time now thinking through some qualities that are essential for you in a spouse:

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

*Dating as we know it today is not specifically mentioned in the Bible. The scriptures though give us great guidelines for conducting God-honoring relationships. We can use these principles to glean wisdom in this important area.*

## Our Relationship as Men and Women

Day 2

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Read the following passages (I know there are a few!) and write out some characteristics of a Godly woman:

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1 Peter 3:3-4

Proverbs 11:16

Proverbs 14:1

Proverbs 31:10-31

1 Timothy 2:9-15

Titus 2:3-5

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Write out any questions you have about the verses you have read:

If you are a guy:

Spend some time praying and ask the Lord to give you His desires for a Godly woman in your life.

If you are a girl:

Spend some time praying and asking the Lord to show you areas He would desire change in you.

What do you sense the Lord wants you to do in response to today's study?

# Our Relationship as Men and Women

Day 3

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Please read the following passages  
and write out what they seem to say  
about Godly manhood.

Titus 1:6-9

Titus 2: 6-8

1 Timothy 3:1-10

1 Peter 5:1-5

Write out any questions you have  
from reading these verses:

If you are a guy:

Spend some time praying and ask the Lord to  
show you areas He would desire to grow in you.

If you are a girl:

Spend some time praying and asking the Lord  
to show you qualities you should be looking for  
in a Godly man.

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

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## Our Relationship as Men and Women Day 4

Read 1 Corinthians chapter 13 at least  
3 times.

*In the middle of his discussion of  
Spiritual gifts (chapters 12,14), Paul  
takes some time to focus on what he sees  
as most important...*

List all the characteristics of love and  
define each:

Take some time over each one- I  
know they may be familiar...but take a  
fresh look at an incredible  
description of what it looks like to  
love well:

From vs. 3- you've given a lot to serve here this  
summer. Have you seen your love for those you  
serve grow?

If yes, how?

Why do you think love is so important?

What does it look like in your dating life to be  
patient and not self-seeking?

In what areas do you need some growth?

Pick three qualities and write out a time when  
you remember Jesus portraying this quality-  
either in scripture or to you personally.

Think of someone close to you- write out in specifics what it looks like to love them well:

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

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## Our Relationship as Men and Women

Day 5

Do you see yourself as "you-centered" or "other-centered" in your dating?

How can you tell?

Read Hebrews 10:24

How can really applying this verse impact your relationships in a practical way?

Give at least one example of something you can do today to spur someone else on....

In your dating- how great is your concern for encouraging good in the other person?

*Josh Harris in the book "I Kissed Dating Goodbye" writes the following about this verse:*

*When it comes to purity in relationships- both physical and emotional- girls and guys usually trip each other up. Can you imagine the righteousness that could be born if both sexes took it upon themselves to watch out for each other? It's time to start seeing other people's purity as our responsibility.*

What are some practical ways in dating to do this (for example: avoiding intimate settings, etc...)

Read Proverbs 31:12

Even though this Proverb is speaking of traits of a Godly woman, I think there is a principle here that can be applied for all of us: What kind of things do you think "doing him/her good" implies?

What things can you do right now to “do good” to your future mate?

What parts of yourself should you be guarding?

What things do you desire the person you may marry to have guarded?

Spend some time now thinking through the way you honestly live as you are dating or involved in relationships. Are you guarding your purity? Your date's purity? Would the Lord assess your dating as 'doing good'? Ask the Lord to show you specifically things that need changed.

What do you sense the Lord wants you to do in response to today's study?

# Our Relationship with God

## Purity

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Read Ephesians 5:25-27 and  
Hebrews 10:1-18

How is the sacrifice Christ made  
compared with the OT sacrifices?

As a result of Christ offering His body,  
how are we seen by God?

Explain vs. 14 in your own words:

According to these verses, how many of  
our sins are forgiven?

What determination does God make in vs. 17?

What makes this so amazing?

Have you ever sacrificed for someone else in a  
way that required tremendous effort for you?  
Share the story:

What do you sense God is teaching  
you about His character? Pinpoint  
1 quality you see from today's  
study.



# Our Relationship with God

## Purity

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Read Psalm 51

Have you ever felt like David expresses in vs. 4-5- that there is a huge weight of sin in your heart against the Lord?

Why does God have mercy on us?

How are we "crushed" by the Lord in a way that leads to rejoicing?

What are some of the requests that David makes of God in this Psalm?

Which of these strikes a chord in you?

How can we bring God the sacrifice He desires as in vs. 17?

Spend some time now praying and asking God to expose sinfulness in your heart for His cleansing.

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

# Our Relationship with God

## Purity

### Day 3

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*Paul is writing his 'son in the faith' Timothy. Tim is a young Pastor at the time and Paul sets the bar high for him.. Timothy receives Paul's instructions early in his life and ministry- probably a place similar to you right now.*

Read 1 Timothy 1:18,19; 4:7-8 and 4:11-16

Has anyone ever made a prophecy about you, how they saw the Lord using you?

If yes, what was it about?

Explain what you think Paul means by "fight the good fight"?

What do you think is involved in training for godliness?

How specifically do you train yourself?

Spend some time praying and asking the Lord what specifically needs to change in your  
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for you to be able to set an example.

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

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## Our Relationship with God

### Purity

Day 4

Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2; 22, 6:11-16

Describe what it looks like to be pure?

For the guys:

Give some examples of how you treat the young women around you as "sisters, with absolute purity"?

For the girls:

Describe what it looks like to be treated with absolute purity?

In what ways do you settle for less from the guys around you?

What are some things you need to flee from in order to pursue vs. 11?

What do you think it means to "take hold of the eternal life to which you were called"?

How does the description in vs. 15-16 of the Lord spur you on to live with purity?

What do you sense the Lord is trying to communicate to you today?



# Our Relationship with God

## Purity

Day 5

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Read 1 Peter 1:13-23

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What does a mind prepared for action look like?

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How does a mindset of 'reverent fear' help us to pursue holiness or purity?

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What are some of the 'empty' ways of life handed down to you?

Why is Christ's blood especially precious?

Today, what do you have faith and hope in God for?

How does our commitment to obedience and purity help us to love deeply?

Why do you think this is so?

*Purity doesn't happen by accident- it requires obedience to God.  
Josh Harris in "I Kissed Dating Goodbye"*

*The word sincere in the Greek means "without wax". In Peter's day many places that sold pottery would advertise that their work was 'without wax' or sincere- other potter's of less esteem would use wax to fill in cracks and paint over them.  
Peter encourages us to have a sincere love for each other.*

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

# God's Relationship with Us

## Day 1

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*We've spent a week looking at God's love for us, let's take a look at some of His other characteristics and ways of relating with us.*

Read Hebrews 12:1-13

List some of the reasons God disciplines us:

What was the discipline like in your house growing up?

Have you come to respect it?

How does God's discipline help us to share in His holiness?

Write out some discipline you believe was sent into your life by God- how was it painful at the time?

Have you seen it produce righteousness in you? How?

What difference does it make if we are willing to be trained by the discipline?

Why do you think the author begins this passage by discussing the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us and our struggle with sin?

Pray now asking the Lord to instill in you the desire to be trained by Him.

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

# God's Relationship with Us

Day 2

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Read Romans 1:18-32

Give your understand of 'God's wrath':

Why is it being revealed?

Explain vs. 20 in your own words:

What does it mean that we are without excuse?

How can we 'glorify God as God'? - what does that look like?

Do you see around you examples of people who's thinking is foolish and dark?

What do you think it means that God 'gives them over'.....

What is the consequence of God's giving them over?

*Paul goes on to explain later in Romans that God's response initially to man's depraved state is lovingly reaching out through Jesus to restore relationship. But a day will come when His wrath will be revealed and it will be deserved.*

Read Revelation 19:11-16

What is comforting to you in knowing God's coming wrath is sure?

How does that motivate you in your serving here?

What do you sense God is teaching you about His character?

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# God's Relationship with Us

## Day 3

*So often, we feel we must assert our rights, not be trampled on, etc...God through scripture promises that He will see justice done for us.*

Read Psalm 20

List all the action words David ascribes to the Lord in this Psalm:

Which impacts you the most?

Why?

What do you think gave David such confidence in the Lord's work on his behalf?

How have you seen the Lord work on your behalf? Write it out!

What are some 'chariots and horses' you have trusted in?

How have you seen your trust in Him grow?

What stunts the growth of your trust?

Read Luke 18:1-8

What does God promise us in this parable?

What are you looking for His justice in? (where have you been wronged, hurt, etc...)

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

# God's Relationship with Us

## Day 4

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*Jeremiah is a prophet to Judah and writes the book of Lamentations as he is watching the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. He realizes that they are merely the human agents carrying out God's divine judgment. During his years of prophesying he was mocked, ridiculed and beaten...never heeded.*

Read Lamentations 3:1-32

Jeremiah is hugely descriptive in his language. List the ways He describes God's actions towards him:

Why does he say he has seen such affliction?

Through all his pain, what does he call to mind?

Why does this give him hope?

What does it mean when he says, "the Lord is my portion"?

How is the Lord's faithfulness described?

Has there been a hard time in your life when you had to sit quietly and wait for the Lord?

Describe how you have seen the Lord's faithfulness to you:

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

# God's Relationship with Us

Day 5

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Read Proverbs 16:9,33 and Proverbs 21:1

What are these verses saying about God's sovereignty:

What is hard for you in this idea?

What is comforting about it?

Read Genesis 45:1-11

*Joseph was the youngest of the 12 sons of Jacob (Israel). Early in life he had a dream that his brothers would someday bow down to him. These same brothers tortured him by throwing him into a pit then sold him into slavery. He spent time in jail, many years serving and finally wound up a leader in the Pharaoh's household.*

How does Joseph credit God for all that has happened?

What is amazing about his attitude and the things he says?

Read Acts 17:24-28

Why does God do what He does according to these verses?

How does reading these verses make you feel?

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

# Relating- Me & Myself

## Growing in how God sees Me

Day 1

I

Read Genesis 1:26-27

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What things do these verses tell you about our creation?

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Explain in your own words what you think it means to be created in His image or likeness:

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Read Psalm 139:13-14

What about our creation is wonderful?

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What do you praise God for in you, the way He made you?

Read Ephesians 4:22-24

Explain what it means that we are created (past tense) to be like God in righteousness and holiness:

In what ways are we responsible to "put on" this new self?

What difference does it really make in your life to be created in His image?

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

# Relating- Me & Myself

## Growing in how God sees Me

Day 2

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Read Psalm 51

*David has committed adultery with Bathsheba and conceived a child with her. He then plots to have her husband killed and is successful.*

*Nathan, the prophet, comes to confront him of his sin and render the Lord's discipline for him (the death of the child). David repents and pours his heart out to the Lord.*

What is mercy?

Why does God have mercy on us?

What are 2 things David knows for sure (vs. 5,6)?

Why is it so important to have truth in our innermost parts?

What is hard about this?

What things can we do to help ourselves see truth about us?

How does knowing we are forgiven already help us to see and seek cleansing from our sins?

What do you sense God is teaching you about His character? Pinpoint one quality you see from today's study:

# Relating- Me & Myself

## Growing in how God sees Me

Day 3

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Slowly read each passage listed and write out what the Holy Spirit is saying to you:

Romans 8:15-17

1 John 3:1-3

Isaiah 43:4-7

John 1:10-12

Isaiah 49:14-16

Write out a prayer to the Lord expressing how you feel about Him and His relationship to you:

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

# Relating- Me & Myself Growing in how God sees Me

Day 4

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Read Genesis 2:15-25

What are the purposes given to the man and woman?

It seems as if the man was created first for purpose in his work and the woman first for relationship.....how does this work out in your life?

What work has the Lord entrusted to you?

In what things/ people do you tend to find the most meaning?

Read Ephesians 2:10

What does this verse say about us?

What does it say about God's plan for your life?

How can you see this summer as something prepared in advance for you to do?

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

# Relating- Me & Myself

## Growing in how God sees Me

### Day 5

I

Read Luke 4:14-21

Why does Jesus describe us as prisoners?

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How does He set us free?

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Read James 1:25

What is the purpose of the Law or the Word of God?

How do you think this works?

What have you seen yourself set free from as a result of your relationship with Christ?

Read Galatians 5:1-6

Explain what Paul is trying to teach here:

How do you see this worked out in your life?

Explain the difference between our freedom in Christ to make choices (such as circumcision) and having a license to sin at will:

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

# Where Do I Go From Here? God's Will

Day 1

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Read John 15:1-17

According to these verses:

Who is the vine?

Who is the gardener?

What happens to the unfruitful branches?

The fruitful ones?

What shows us to be true disciples?

How do we bear fruit- what does it look like?

*Recognize that apart from God I can do nothing significant..*

How does our bearing fruit bring glory to the Father?

Why were we chosen?

What kind of fruit are we to bear?

How can you determine if you, this summer, are bearing fruit that will last?

What does pruning look like in a spiritual sense?

Spend some time praying to stay close to the vine and willing to be pruned.

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

# Where Do I Go From Here? God's Will

## Day 2

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*The Holy Spirit in us uses the Word to speak*

S

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Define each:

Teaching-

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Rebuking-

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Correcting-

R

Training-

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v

*First it says that the scriptures make us wise for salvation, then they offer a treasure chest of living according to God's will. God has already revealed much of His will.*

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Read Matthew 25:14-30

e

How does this parable illustrate our wanting to see more of God's will?

d

List some things you already know are God's will for you (feel free to include the scriptures)

This can help you get started:

No sandals in the kitchen (Romans 13:1-2)

Obey the lifeguards (2 Peter 3:13)....

*God will never lead us contrary to the scriptures. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you, test what you think in the Word. Seek with a soft heart...the more I seek and listen, the more I will hear Him and see Him at work.*

*"Life is our opportunity to experience Him at work."*

*Your life is right now- not when you graduate, not when you are married...look right now to see Him at work and listen. "If you want to know the will of God, you must give the time and effort to cultivate a love relationship with Him." Experiencing God by Henry Blackaby and Claude King.*

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

# Where Do I Go From Here?

## God's Will

Day 3

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*The Holy Spirit in us uses prayer to speak*

Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-12  
Romans 8:26-27

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What are these verses saying about knowing God's mind?

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What is the work of the Holy Spirit in our prayer?

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Why is it important to know God's mind as we seek to understand His will?

Read Psalm 37:4

*The more we seek God, to know Him, to enjoy Him...He replaces our unspiritual desires*

*(James 3:14-15) with His desires. He gives us the desire of our hearts. The Holy Spirit knows God's mind and works between us to conform us and our prayers to His ways.*

Go back to the week on Our Relationship with the Campers (Day #3) and look up some of the verses on prayer.

A great resource is the book "With Christ in the School of Prayer" by Andrew Murray

Spend some time praying now and asking the Lord to conform your will, your desires to His. Honestly commit yourself to follow what He reveals for each step of the way.

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

# Where Do I Go From Here? God's Will Day 4

*The Holy Spirit in us uses circumstances to speak*

L

Read Acts 8:26-40

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Though angels generally do not tell us directly which direction to go- Have you ever had a time when you knew "God wants me to do this..." write out what happened, how you knew, what you did....

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How does Philip respond to the little information he is given?

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What is Philip told to do that he may have chuckled at?

How quick are you to respond when you sense He is telling you something?

How can we hear the Lord's voice when He is talking to us?

*John 5:17 tells us that God is always at work. He shows us His work to invite us along.*

What does Philip observe about the Ethiopian that would confirm to him that this is where he is supposed to be?

What does vs. 35 demonstrate about Philip?

Are you someone who quickly responds when you feel the Holy Spirit nudge you

to do something? Pray for an obedient heart.

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

# Where Do I Go From Here? God's Will Day 5

*The Holy Spirit in us uses people to speak*

Read Proverbs 13:20  
James 3:13  
Proverbs 9:8-10  
Daniel 2:21

What are these verses saying about the people you surround yourself with?

Read 2 Samuel 12  
David has committed adultery with Bathsheba, had her husband murdered and conceived a child with her....his friend Nathan the prophet comes to confront.

What stands out to you in this story?

*Nathan knew David...knew how to communicate truth to pierce his heart for Godly change....*

*Find wise people*

*Hang out with them*

*Let them really know you*

*Accept honest rebuke*

*Return the favor!*

*I have a friend who often rebukes me, shares wisdom with me and challenges the way that I do things. Sometimes it is in a very abrupt, decisive way...which really gets to me and generally I change :) But over the years, I have grown to know that this friend does not respond to rebuke when challenged in the same way. My responsibility is to know the best way to communicate to draw out Godly change.*

Who in your life right now is wise?

How can you involve these people in decisions about where the Lord would have you?

*"Who you will be in 5 years- the books you read and the people you hang out with." Daniel Wallace*

What do you sense the Lord is trying to communicate to you today?

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**BASIC  
TRAINING**

**Summer  
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Staff  
Devotions**

**Our  
Relationship  
with  
the  
Campers  
  
week 1**

**God's  
Relationship  
with  
Us**

**week 2**

**God's  
Relationship  
with  
Us**

**week 3**

**Our  
Relationship  
with  
Each  
Other**

**week 4**

**Our  
Relationships  
as  
Men  
&  
Women**

**week 5**

**Our  
Relationship  
with  
God-  
Purity**

**week 6**

**Relating-  
Me  
&  
Myself**

**week 7**

**Where  
Do  
I  
Go  
From  
Here**

**week 8**