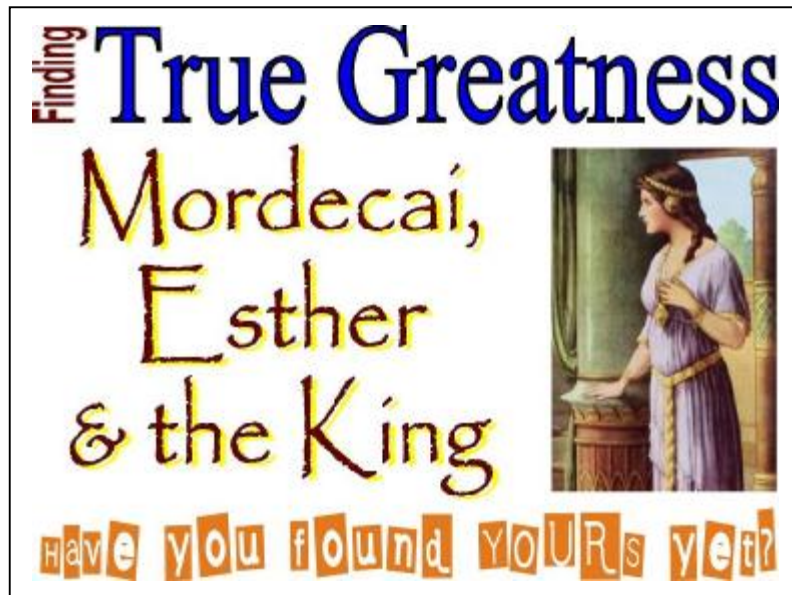


Youth Camp 2008

Victory Youth Camp, Mt. Melleray, Co. Waterford
21st thru 26th July, 2008



Counsellor's Handbook

My Name: _____



A Ministry of
Bible Baptist Church of Ballincollig
Post: 29 Westcourt Heights
Ballincollig, Cork
(021) 4871234
Pastor Craig Ledbetter
www.biblebc.com

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Camp Counsellor Specific Information

Worker Assignments

Camp Leader

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

Leading the Singing

Dan Pero

Scripture Memorization Leader

John Mahony

Special Music Leaders

Dan Pero and John Mahony

Team Leaders

Team 1 – John Mahony and Sharon Ledbetter

Team 2 – David O'Brien and Ruth O'Sullivan

Team 3 – Justin Hayes & Kevin Weston

Team 4 – Matt and Anna Williams

Team 5 – Mark and Bethany Becker

Team 6 - Declan and Bethany Flanagan

Activity and Sports Coordinators

David O'Brien

John Mahony

Barry Keating

Matt Williams

Sunnette van Zyl

Record Keepers – Create Record Books

Sunette van Zyl – Main Recorder

Carol Verardo – Laptop operator

Food Preparation

Sharon Pero is in Charge

Nita Ledbetter

Sunette van Zyl

Eileen O'Keeffe

Child Protection Officers

Sharon Pero and John Mahony

Craft Workers

Basically every woman that can help will be needed to help with the crafts

Children's Teachers – Lydia O'Sullivan is in charge of coordinating all teachers

Ruth O'Sullivan

Gina Mahony

Sharon Pero

Teen Teachers

Dan Pero

Justin Hayes

John Mahony

Layton Kelly

Matt Williams

David O'Brien

Kevin O'Keeffe

Mark Becker

Available Workers

1. Craig Ledbetter
2. Dan Pero
3. John A Mahony
4. Kevin O'Keeffe
5. Justin Hayes
6. Matt Williams
7. David O'Brien
8. Mark Becker
9. Barry Keating
10. Jerome Pittman
11. Declan Flannaghan
12. Kevin Weston
13. Don Thatcher
14. Bob Zemeski
15. Claudio Robalo

1. Ruth O'Sullivan
2. Lydia O'Sullivan
3. Gina Mahony
4. Nita Ledbetter
5. Sharon Pero
6. Sunnette van Zyl
7. Anna Williams
8. Bethany Becker
9. Carol Verardo
10. Eileen O'Keeffe
11. Bethany Flannaghan
12. Sharon Ledbetter
13. Ashliegh Mitchell

Preachers

Craig Ledbetter

Dan Pero

Justin Hayes

Layton Kelly – one night only

Jerome Pittman

Matt Williams

Declan Flanagan

Summary of Teaching and Preaching Assignments

Craig Ledbetter – Camp Director

Monday Evening Message – **The Way God Does Great Things (Rom 8:28)**

Friday Afternoon Message – **How to be WAY Cool (Peculiar)**

Dan Pero – Music Director

Friday Morning Teen Lesson – **Chapters 7 – 10 – God Turns the Tables**

Saturday Morning Message – **Graduation Day**

John Mahony –

Tuesday Morning Teen Lesson – **Biblical Checklist for Relationships**

Jerome Pittman

Tuesday Afternoon Preaching – **It's Easier to Keep Clean than Clean Up**

Afterwards

Evening Message – **Fight the Right Fight!**

Declan Flanagan

Tuesday Morning Teen Lesson – **Esther is Made Queen**

Wednesday Afternoon Preaching – **Why We Should HATE the Devil**

Kevin O'Keeffe

Wednesday Morning teen Lesson – **Esther Acts to Save her People**

Justin Hayes

Wednesday afternoon Teen Meeting - Guys – **How to Treat a Girl**

Wednesday evening Message – God is Preparing YOU for Such a Time as THIS!

Matt Williams

Wednesday Evening Message – **There is Such a Thing as Perfect Beauty**

Thursday afternoon Teen Meeting - **Role Models – Your influence matters. Be a Mordecai**

David O'Brien

Wednesday Morning Teen Lesson – **Haman Seeks to Destroy God's People**

Mark Becker

Friday afternoon Teen Guy Meeting - **Preparing for the Big Battles**

Layton Kelly

Thursday Afternoon Young Men's Session – **The Umbrella Principle**

Thursday Evening Message – **Breaking the Rebel Heart**

Ruth O'Sullivan

Wednesday Morning Children's Lesson – **Haman Seeks to Destroy God's People**

Lydia O'Sullivan – Teacher Coordinator

Wednesday Morning Children's Lesson – **Esther Acts to Save her People**

Gina Mahony

Friday Morning Children's Lesson – **Chapters 7 – 10 – God Turns the Tables**

Bethany Flanagan – Official Record Keeper

Tuesday Morning Children's Lesson – **Esther is Made Queen**

Wednesday afternoon Teen Meeting - Girls – **Biblical Makeover**

Sharon Pero – CPP Officer, Head of Kitchen

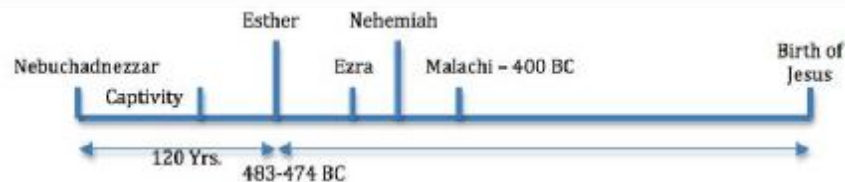
Friday afternoon Teen Girl Meeting - **Preparing for the Big Battles**

Background on the Events of Esther

Date: ca. 600-450 BC

This study will help you to understand the context of the book of Esther, the chronology of events before and after, and how it fits into God's overall plan. The events of the book of Esther all take place in just 9 years from Vashti (Chapter 1) being dethroned, to when the feast of Purim is instigated (Chapters 9 and 10) - from around 483-474 BC. Esther is all about a woman raised up as an instrument in the hand of God to avert the destruction of the Jewish people.

The chart below shows the order of events starting with king Nebuchadnezzar coming and conquering the land of Israel, and carrying away into Captivity the Jewish people.



From Moses to the Babylonian Captivity

From the time of Moses, God promised to bless His people abundantly if they would follow Him and His ways. However, He also promised a curse if they would turn away and do wickedly (Deut. 28). As the time of the Kings was coming to an end, God constantly warned His people sending the likes of the prophets Isaiah, Hosea, Joel and Amos calling them to repent of their wickedness, and to get back to following God's word. But because of their blatant sins of idolatry and their stiffnecked disobedience, God pronounced judgment on His people and caused them to be taken into captivity by the brutal Babylonian empire. The captivity even carried away young children like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Dan. 1:1-6).

King Nebuchadnezzar first came and conquered the southern kingdom of Judah in 597 BC (2Chron. 36) and then came again a second time ten years later, burning Jerusalem down to the ground, killing one third of the people with the fire, one third with the sword, and the remaining third was taken away to Babylon as slaves. This included the prophets Ezekiel and Jeremiah. Jeremiah was later allowed to return to the ruined city of Jerusalem, Jer. 40:1-6, which caused him to write the Book of Lamentations.

For most of the Jews, this captive life was full of rigorous hardships, and they longed for the freedom they once enjoyed. Perhaps the great Exodus story was now more amazing than ever in their eyes. Also, the Temple that Solomon had built 400 years earlier had been totally destroyed by the Babylonians, showing that all these disasters were not accidental, but that God Himself was behind these afflictions. However, as God had prophesied to remove His people from the land, He also promised them that they would start to return after 70 years (Jer. 25:11).

Now we are getting to the Esther part!

The Jews Are Allowed To Go Home, But Few Return

After the fall of the Babylonian empire, God caused a young, good king named Cyrus of Persia to make a decree ending the captivity of the Jews and allowing them to return to their land if they wanted to (Ezra 1:1-4). Unfortunately, only a remnant went back to rebuild the temple under two special prophets named Zerubbabel and Jeshua around 536BC (see the whole book of Haggai for the way God used these men to rebuild the temple). The rebuilding of the temple was greatly hindered by Satan, but it was eventually finished about 20 years later (516BC). It would be 30 years more before the events Vashti gets dethroned in the book of Esther (483BC).

The Jews who hadn't returned with Zerubbabel were so backslidden and comfortable with the heathen Persian life that they generally refused to go back to the desolate land of Israel and Judah. Amazingly they chose bondage and slavery over freedom! But you have to remember, these were the great, great, great grand-children of those who had been carried away as captives by Babylon over 120 years earlier! Also remember, the Jerusalem city walls were completely broken down, the gates were burned with fire, there was so much rubbish piled up every where, and life in Jerusalem was hard (Neh. 1:3; 4:10). BUT as the song says, "little is much when God is in it!"

This sets the scene for the events of Esther and Mordecai. The land of Israel and Judah was still a waste land, with very few people in it at all. The temple was rebuilt, but unused. God's people were not heading back to their Promised Land like they were supposed to, so God allows the devil (through an evil man named Haman) to forcibly remind them that they belong back "home."

Satan Seeks to Completely Destroy All the Jewish People

Haman was an Agagite, from the Amalekite nation who should not have been alive! His great, great, great grand-father was king Agag who was wicked and cruel beyond measure, and whom God had commanded king Saul to utterly destroy (1Samuel 15). King Saul did kill all the Amalekites, but left even the king alive in direct disobedience to God's command. God knew that Satan would use a son of Agag to try and destroy God's people later on, but Saul thought he knew better! Samuel does ultimately kill the king, but does not track down all his sons, and 400 years later, Satan drives Haman to try and bring about the ultimate revenge against God – the *genocide* of the Jewish people!

The Story Begins

The story begins with several events surrounding several people, but especially two cousins named Mordecai, and Hadassah (who would later be known as Esther). We cannot be sure exactly why Mordecai had not decided not to go back to his homeland, but it appears from the book of Esther that he was one of the more honourable men of those who stayed.

The most important truth running through the Book of Esther is that even before the Jews realized that they were in serious danger, God had already been working and providing deliverance for them through these two cousins! As well as protecting the Jewish people from certain destruction by Satan (Haman), God allowed

these events to help and encourage His people to return back to the Promised Land and back to His will for their lives.

The Lasting Effects

The victory that the Jews experienced in Persia against their enemies renewed their patriotism and passion for their Godly heritage. Twenty one years later (in 453 BC) a priest named Ezra receives permission from the next king, Artaxerxes I, to lead another group of Jews to return to Jerusalem to finish and beautify the new temple (Ezra 7:27). God's people were given special favour in the eyes of the ungodly Persian king. This was again a divine providence of God; providence simply meaning "to provide for in advance".

Shortly after those events, a young cup-bearer named Nehemiah led yet another group of Jews back to Jerusalem and started rebuilding the city walls (again by express permission of king Artaxerxes I – Neh. 2:6; Prov. 21:1). Jerusalem eventually began to prosper under Nehemiah's 12 year reign as Governor (Neh. 5:14). Through his zeal, God brought a revival to the Jews that saw the Feast of Tabernacles celebrated for the first time in 900 years (Neh. 8:17).

God certainly used the willingness and obedience of Mordecai and Esther for His glorious purposes which included Ezra and Nehemiah being raised up to lead the Jews back home. Let's look at a quick summary of the events in Esther.

A Short Summary of Esther

The king of Persia, king Ahasuerus had put on a 180 day feast for all the officials of the land where he showed his power and might and probably to gain political backing for an upcoming war against the Greeks. He put on a second 7 day feast for the people in the palace, and while seemingly drunk on the last day he commanded that his Queen named Vashti come out and show everyone how beautiful she was with her crown on her head. When she refuses to obey his command, he gets furious and gets advice to have her deposed as Queen for her disobedience, and removed from the kingdom.

After a humiliating defeat in battle with the Greeks, the king decides to find a new queen and has all the most beautiful virgins taken into the palace for choosing. He would then choose his favourite as the new Queen. A young virgin named Hadassah is taken to the palace to be compared with all the rest of the beautiful unmarried girls in the kingdom. There were hundreds of the most beautiful girls in the world, all waiting to see if they would be chosen to be Queen. When Hadassah was being groomed for her viewing, she had something more than just perfect skin tone, and shapely figure – she had a joy and an inner glow that came by obedience to her older cousin, and a living, trusting worship of the Lord God.

One final instruction that Mordecai had given to Hadassah was that she would keep her Jewish heritage and her Jewish name a secret. This she did, and the Bible more than one time praises her for this! Her name would be known as Esther. Her name Hadassah meant "something beautiful" – it is the Hebrew word for the Myrtle Tree Blossom (which was a beautiful thing to name your child). And her new name

Esther meant “Hidden” as in hidden beauty. So in a way, she was beautiful to look at, but her true beauty was hidden below the skin – and that was her best beauty!

When it came her time to stand before the king, she went in without all the latest fashion and hairstyles, and with the simplest of makeup, and there was no comparison from that moment on! King Ahasuerus chose her above all the other girls in the kingdom, and made her the new Queen of the Empire the very next day!

Mordecai, Esther’s older cousin who had raised her before she was taken by the king, worked in the palace and always checked on how Esther was doing from day to day. He also discovered a plot against the king by two men and he let Esther know. She told the king of the plot and he had the two men hung.

Haman, a new high government official promoted above all other men and princes, was furious since Mordecai never bowed down nor gave him any reverence for his new high position. When he found out that Mordecai was a Jew he began to plot the destruction of all the Jews in revenge for both this trespass, and also his forefather’s death dating back to a battle between king Saul and the Agagites. He managed to convince king Ahasuerus to sign an irreversible decree to have the Jews destroyed. It seemed that nothing could save them now!

Distraught at the news, Mordecai mourned by wearing sackcloth with ashes and sat by the king’s gate. He prayed and fasted at this time as was the custom of the Jews when troubles came upon them. At Mordecai’s request, Esther went in before the king’s throne uninvited to seek some sort of escape for the condemned Jewish people. Although this act was certainly punishable by death for interrupting the king, Esther was granted grace by the king, and he promised her that whatever her petition was, he would grant it unto half of the whole kingdom! She simply asked him and Haman to attend a feast where she would reveal the details of her petition. When they attended her banquet, she got scared, and decided to wait one more day before she would reveal who she was, and Haman’s plans, so she asked them to attend yet another banquet on the next evening. On the way home, Haman saw Mordecai at the king’s gate, and since he didn’t bow in reverence to him once again, Haman was furious at him. He went home and asked his friends what he should do about Mordecai. Haman decided to make a 75ft. high gallows where he could have Mordecai hung for his disobedience to him.

On that night the king couldn’t sleep so he asked the palace records to be read to him. The account of the foiled plot against him was read and he asked if the person who had revealed the plot had received any reward, but he had not. The king asked who might be in the palace and the only one who was around that early was Haman who had come to inform the king about the soon coming death of Mordecai the Jew. Before he could say a word, the king asked him what he should do for a person he really wanted to honour! In pride, Haman thinking the king meant himself, asked for the king’s clothes, crown and horse to be given, and for him to paraded around the streets by a noble prince and publically praised and honoured. The king loved the idea and commanded that Haman do all of it, to a man named ... Mordecai. Haman obeyed the king’s command, but as soon as it was over, he ran home totally

humiliated and embarrassed! His family quickly realised that things were not working out right for Haman, and that he was now in big trouble.

The time for the second banquet came quickly and he was rushed to the palace to spend time in the private presence of the king and queen. At this banquet, the queen revealed that she was a Jew and that Haman wanted to kill her and all the Jewish people in the kingdom. The king astonished and angered went out to the gardens to think this disaster through. Haman began pleading for his life before the queen. But when the king returned, Haman was lying on the bed where Esther was and he immediately had Haman seized. A servant told the king that Haman had a gallows made and the king ordered him to be hung on it immediately.

Although the decree against the Jews could not be reversed, Mordecai and Esther devised that a new decree be made by the king authorising all the Jews to gather arms and defend themselves against their enemies. The Jews did so, vanquishing all their enemies, and never touching the spoils so that they could be blameless before the people of the kingdom, and also showing that they were more honourable and simply defending their lives.

The yearly feast of Purim was begun from that time onward as a reminder to all future generations of the amazing deliverance God had given them against their enemies.

In the end, Mordecai was rewarded all of Haman's estate, and made second highest next to king Ahasuerus. Not bad for two cousins who faced down certain failure with prayer, fasting, boldness and faith!

Brief Outline of Events in the Book of Esther

- I. The story of Vashti (1:1-22)
- II. Esther made queen (2:1-20)
- III. Mordecai saves the king's life (2:21-23)
- IV. The conspiracy of Haman (3:1-15)
- V. The courage of Esther brings deliverance (4:1-7:10)
 - A. Fasting among the Jews (4:1-17)
 - B. The courage of Esther (5:1-14)
 - C. Haman compelled to exalt Mordecai (6:1-14)
 - D. Esther's banquet: Haman hanged (7:1-10)
- VI. The vengeance (8:1-9:19)
 - A. The vengeance ordered (8:1-17)
 - B. The vengeance executed (9:1-19)
- VII. The feast of Purim instituted (9:20-32)
- VIII. Mordecai made prime minister (10:1-3)

Basic Outline – DAY BY DAY SUMMARY

Monday – a short day so not much to cover today, just a brief beginning and overview of the subjects we will be learning

Evening Message - **The Way God Does Great Things** - **Craig Ledbetter**

Tuesday – God Develops true Greatness FIRST through PURITY – God cannot use a dirty vessel. The world doesn't care about what's on the inside, only what's on the outside – with God it is the opposite. We desperately need to get pure and stay pure

Summary – Esther and Mordecai grow up in an ungodly nation and culture and yet because they purposed to live godly and pure, God used them mightily – he always does! But it only can happen to those who are pure in heart!

- A. Morning Devotion – **Getting Clean Every Day**
 - B. Morning Lesson – **Chapters 1 & 2 – Esther is Made Queen**
 - 1. Young Children's Lesson – **Bethany Flanagan**
 - 2. Teen Lesson – **Declan Flanagan**
 - C. Afternoon Preaching – **It's Easier to Keep Clean than to Clean Up Afterwards** – **Jerome Pittman**
 - D. Teen Meeting - **Looking for love... A Biblical checklist for relationships** – **John Mahony**
 - E. Evening Message – **There is Such a Thing as Perfect Beauty** – **Matt Williams**
-

Wednesday – God Develops True Greatness Through PRAYER – No one is strong enough for the battles that are ahead of each of us – our strength only comes from a daily walk with God. This is so simple and powerful, yet so overlooked today

Summary – Because of such a deadly enemy as Haman, Esther and Mordecai HAVE to learn how to REALLY pray and even fast so that they can see God defeat their enemy. They had no other weapons or plan other than getting very close to God!

- A. Morning Devotion – **Learning to Truly Pray**
- B. Morning Lesson (**Chapters 3 & 4**) **Haman Seeks to Destroy God's People**
 - 1. Young Children's Lesson – **Ruth O'Sullivan**
 - 2. Teen Lesson – **David O'Brien**
- C. Afternoon Preaching – **Why We Should HATE the Devil** – **Declan Flanagan**
- D. Teen Meeting
 - 1. Guys – How to Treat a Girl – **Justin Hayes**
 - 2. Girls – A Biblical Makeover – **Bethany Flanagan**
- E. Evening Message – **God is Preparing YOU for Such a Time as THIS!** – **Justin Hayes**

Thursday – God Develops True Greatness Through SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITIES. Find your place, under your authority because that is the ONLY place that wins. The world tries to convince us that battles are fought as rebels and not as obedient. God promises the opposite!

Summary – God will NOT help you unless you humble yourself and honour your authorities

- A. Devotion – **Yielding to God**
- B. Morning Lesson – **Chapters 5 & 6 – Esther Acts to Save her People**
 - 1. Young Children’s Lesson – **Lydia O’Sullivan**
 - 2. Teen Lesson – **Kevin O’Keeffe**
- C. Afternoon Preaching – **The Umbrella Principle** – **Layton Kelly**
- D. Teen Meeting - **Role Models – Your influence matters. Be a Mordecai** – **Matt Williams**
- E. Evening Message – **Breaking the Rebel Heart** – **Layton Kelly**

Friday - God Develops True Greatness Through BATTLING. Being a Christian is not only about the future heaven, but about making a difference now. To make a difference now, you are going to have to enter into the fight. If you stay on the “sidelines, you will be ruined!

Summary – All of God’s preparations were to prepare God’s people to win this fight, and now it was time to fight the good fight!

- A. Morning Devotion – **After Devotions, What Next?** You can now go with God’s power and blessings!
- B. Morning Lesson – **Chapters 7 – 10 – God Turns the Tables**
 - 1. Young Children’s Lesson – **Gina Mahony**
 - 2. Teen Lesson – **Dan Pero**
- C. Afternoon Preaching – **How to Be a Peculiar Teen** – **Craig Ledbetter**
- D. Teen Meeting - **Preparing for the Big Battles**
 - 1. **Guys Session** – **Mark Becker**
 - 2. **Girls Session** – **Sharon Pero**
- E. Evening Message – **Fight the Right Fight!** – **Jerome Pittman**

Saturday – God Develops True Greatness Through PRAISE. A review of what God has done this week in our lives.

- A. Morning Devotion – **Remembering the Victories.** Keeping a list of the answers to prayer and changes God is making in your life
- B. Preaching – **What God Did This Week** – **Dan Pero**

Child Protection Policy Implementation

There are four basic documents that deal with Child Protection issues while they are in our care (these documents are all online on the church website):

- The Bible Baptist Church Child Protection Policy - online
- Youth Worker Policy Document - online
- Application to be a Youth Worker - online
- Self Declaration Form - online

What is a Child Protection Policy?

Our church has implemented a policy that protects the children that are in our care from abuse by either other children, or by adults. This policy applies to Church Meetings, Activities and any event that is Church-sponsored.

Why is it important?

We live in an age when people are extremely concerned about how their children are protected, so we have a firm commitment to being constantly aware of what actions can constitute abuse, and have taken steps to make sure those things do not take place, especially at a Youth Camp. An abuse event could shut down the camp, and bring about a devastating law-suit against our church.

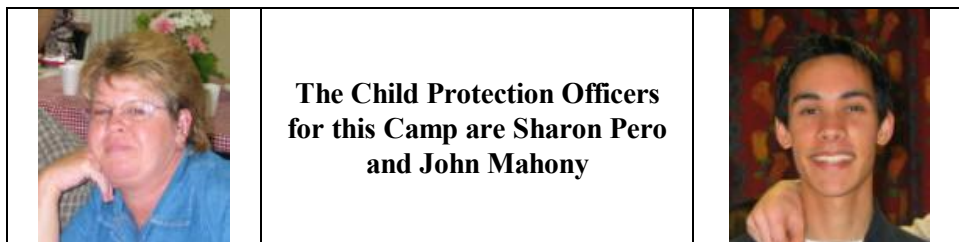
Designated CPP officer

The Camp will have a designated Child Protection Officer who may delegate other Officers to help supervise events and make sure the children are adequately protected.

Basic implementation – there will be no tolerance

Every Camp worker must sign the Application form, and the Self-Declaration form, and have it sent to the Camp Director. During the Camp, all the workers will meet regularly and talk about abuse issues, and be made very aware of the abuse conditions that must be avoided at all times.

If there is a suspected abuse situation, there will be an immediate meeting with the designated Child Protection Officer, the Camp Director, and others at the discretion of the Camp Director. The meeting will be for the purpose of determining the facts of the suspected event. If the facts are beyond reasonable doubt, the offending Worker will be reported to the Garda.



Welcome to...



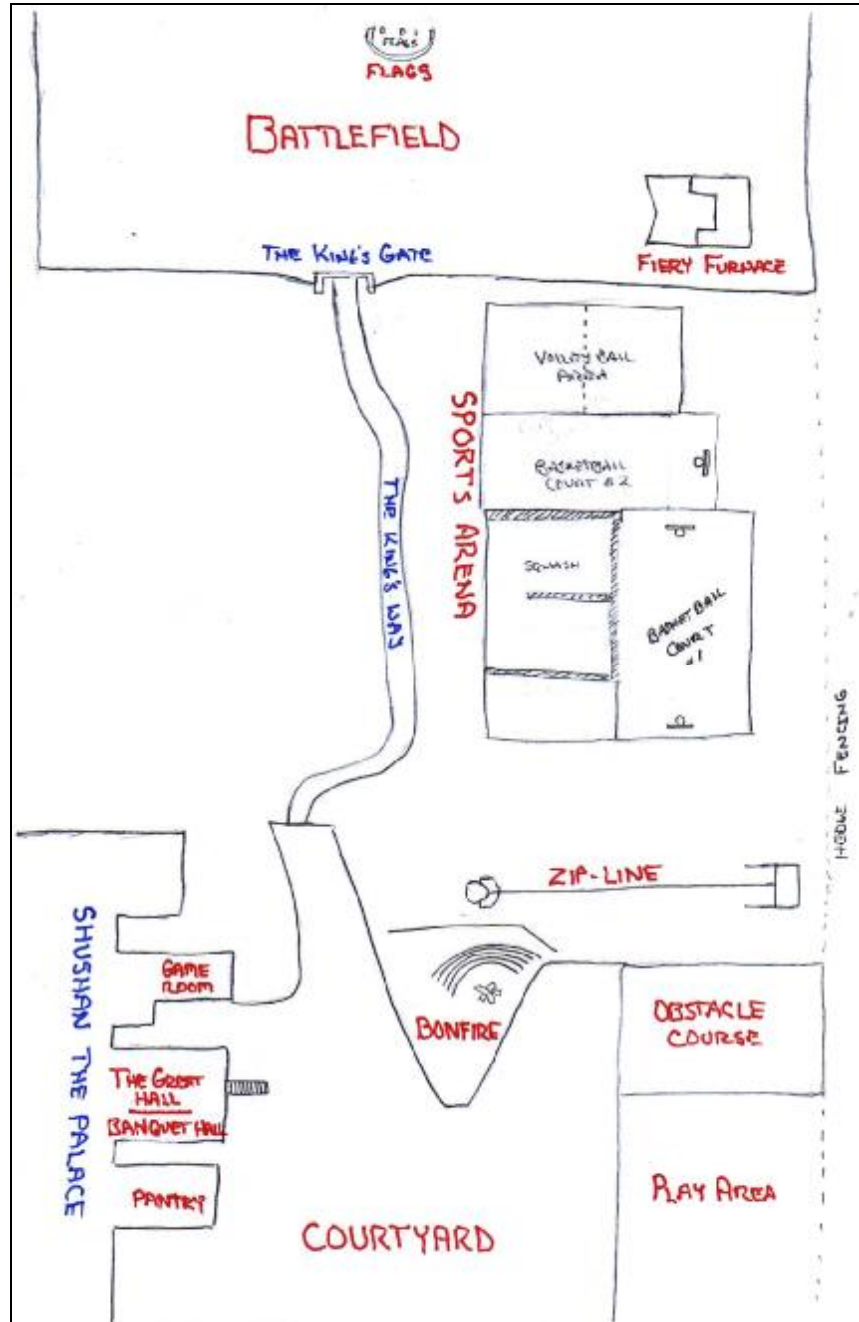
A most peculiar school!

You are now entering a place that will help make you GREAT in Christ Jesus! Greatness is not something that comes easy. It is something that God develops in you as you start to do things HIS way. This “school” will take an intense look at the necessary ingredients for greatness as found in the lives of two cousins named Mordecai and Esther. They lived under a very harsh and wicked king named Ahasuerus, and yet, with God’s help, and a whole load of determination, they conquered the entire empire! It wasn’t easy – everything was against them. But God delights in fixing impossible situations. All He needs are some broken hearts that are clean, and ready to be used in doing His will.

Probably God has something great for YOU to do with your life – and if so, we will try and help you get ready to do it!

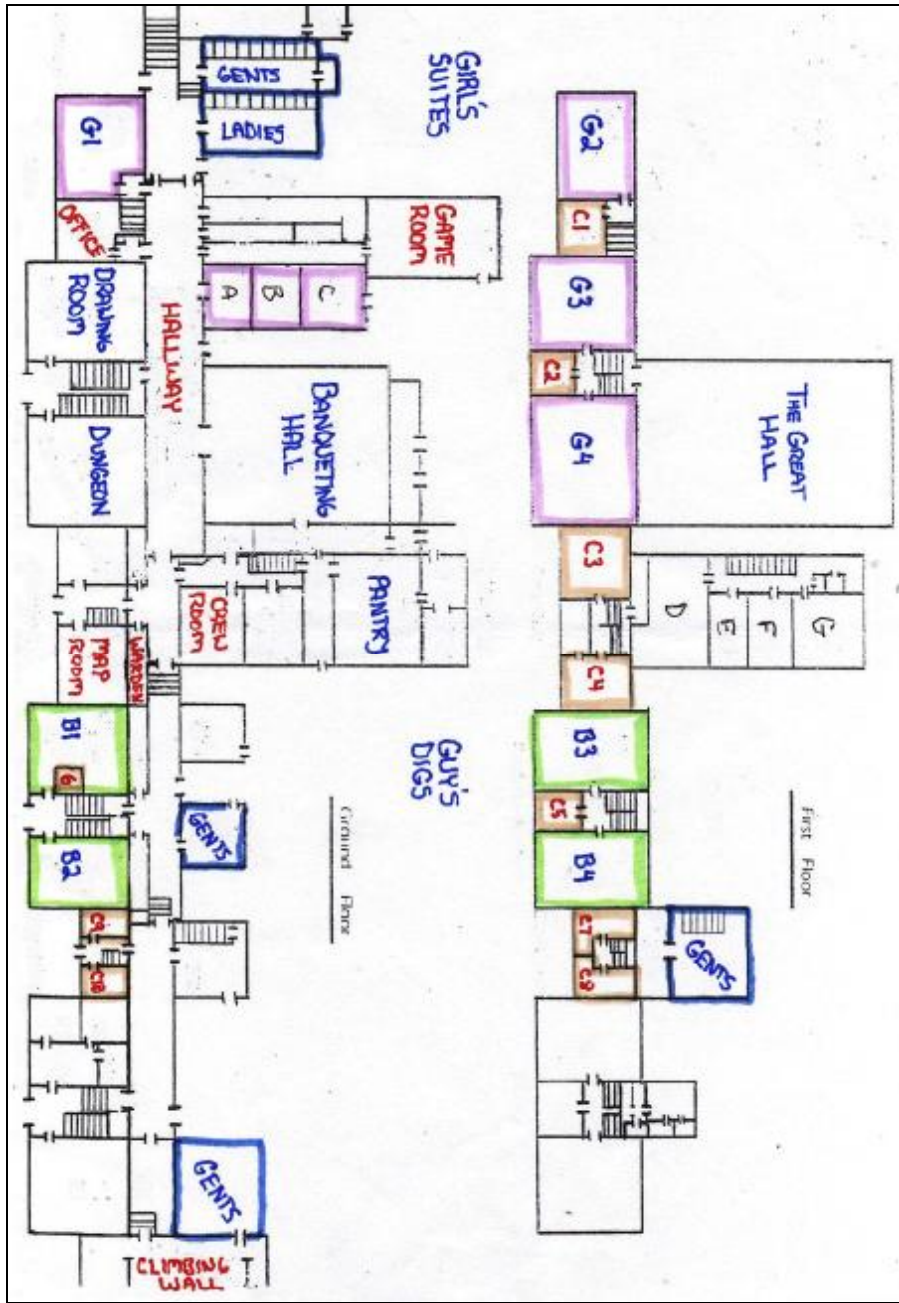
Throughout this week, ask God to show YOU a glimpse of His purpose for your life, and ask him to help you reach that purpose, for Jesus’ sake, and for His glory!

Campground Map



Camp Room Layout Map

Shushan the Palace



Rules You Have to Obey While At Camp

1. The Camp Director and leaders will be obeyed at all times.
2. No one is allowed to go outside of the Camp grounds without permission from the Camp Director – period!
3. Use of mobile phones will be strictly monitored. If you are using a mobile phone inappropriately, then you risk losing it, and you will lose points big time for both yourself, and your team.
4. Keep your Camper Handbook, put your name on it – don't lose it!
5. Keep your hands off other people's stuff
6. Every meal, a team will be selected to wash the dishes and clean the dining hall – do your tasks without complaining – the better the attitude, the more the points!
7. No profanity will be allowed
8. No rock music will be played at all at camp.
9. No boy and girl things going on
10. No knives – if you have one, give it to your pastor, or to the Camp Director until Camp is over and he will return it.
11. No smoking
12. No going behind the buildings, or going out through the windows
13. No guys going into girl's rooms, and no girls going into the guy's room – ever!
14. No one except adults are allowed into the Adult rooms

Things every Counsellor must look for, and be pro-active about:

1. Boys and girls coupling together, and sneaking off away from sight
2. The kids mis-using their mobile phones: taking inappropriate pictures, listening to rock music; phoning each other after curfew
3. The kids will try and sneak out at night, and go into other rooms to "cream them" or worse – so every Counsellor must keep their doors open to be able to listen for the kids sneaking out. If the kids do try and sneak out, every kid loses 1000 points!
4. Some of the kids will not be saved when they come, so look for ways to talk to each young person about their soul throughout the week – THAT IS YOUR MAIN FOCUS! LEAD ONE OF THE KIDS TO CHRIST THIS WEEK!
5. Anger and fights between the kids must be watched for, and instantly stopped.
6. Sit among the kids at preaching and teaching times. Don't let them all just sit amongst themselves, and you counsellors sit in the back by yourselves!
7. Befriend the other counsellors – get to know each other – you are all miracles of the grace of God, and need each other!
8. Participate in singing specials, helping the kids develop skits, etc.
9. Be the best example to the kids of what it means to be a Christian!
10. Learn the memory verses yourself along with the kids

Schedule of Events

Time	Duration	Main Function	Support Function
MONDAY – Introduction - Focus verse: Romans 8:28			
4.00pm		Arrive (Team and Room Assignments)	
4.00pm	1:15min	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
6:00pm	1hr	Dinner – <u>Spaghetti</u>	
7:00pm	1hr	Team Meeting – Ice-Breaker games	
8:00pm	1.30hr	Preaching – God's Great Plan	Craig Ledbetter
9:30pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9.30pm	30min	Counsellors' Meeting (<i>Everyone stay in Banquet Hall</i>)	
10:00pm	1:45hr	Sports Time	
11:45pm	45min	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Kids in bed</i>
12:30am		Lights Out - Sleep	
TUESDAY – Purity - Focus verse: Psalm 51:10			
7:30am	1hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	45min	Breakfast - <u>Cereal</u>	
9:30am	45min	Group Devotion – Develop Inner Purity	
10:15am	45min	Kids Session – Esther Made Queen	Bethany Flanagan
10.15am	45min	Teen Session – Esther Made Queen	Declan Flanagan
11:00am	1hr	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:00pm	45min	Lunch – <u>Sandwiches</u>	
12:45pm	45min	Team Time	
1:30pm	45min	Preaching – It's Easier to Keep Clean	Jerome Pittman
2:15pm	1hr	Teen Session – Looking for Love	John Mahony
3.15pm	2.30hr	Sports and Craft Time	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:45pm	1hr	Dinner – <u>Shepherd's Pie</u>	
6:45pm	30min	Team Time	
7:15pm	1.30hr	Preaching – Perfect Beauty	Matt Williams
8:45pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:00pm	30min	Counsellors' Meeting (<i>Everyone else in Rooms</i>)	
9:30pm	45min	Sports Time	
10:15pm	1:15hr	Bonfire - Singing and Testimonies	Marshmallows
11:30pm	30min	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Kids in bed</i>
12:00am		Lights Out – Sleep	

TRUE GREATNESS = HAVE YOU FOUND YOURS?

WEDNESDAY – Prayer (Our walk with God) Focus Verse: Hebrews 4:16

7:30am	1hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	45min	Breakfast – <u>Eggs, Cereal, Porridge, Toast</u>	
9:30am	45min	Group Devotion – Strength is in the Presence of God	
10:15am	45min	Kids Session – Haman Seeks to Destroy Ruth O’Sullivan	
10:15am	45min	Teen Session – Haman Seeks to Destroy David O’Brien	
11:00am	1hr	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:00pm	45min	Lunch – <u>Hot Dogs and Sandwiches</u>	
12:45pm	30min	Team Time	
1:15pm	1hr	Preaching – Why Hate the Devil	Declan Flanagan
2:15pm	1hr	Guy’s Session – How to Treat a Girl	Justin Hayes
		Girl’s Session – A Biblical Makeover	Bethany Flanagan
3.15pm	2.30hrs	Sports and Craft Time	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:45pm	1hr	Dinner – <u>Curry Chicken</u>	
6:45pm	30min	Team Time	
7:15pm	1.30hr	Preaching – God’s Preparing You!	Justin Hayes
8:45pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:15pm	30min	Counsellors’ Meeting (<i>Everyone else in Rooms</i>)	
9:45pm	1:45hr	Sports Time (LATE NIGHT HIKE)	
11:30pm	30min	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Kids in bed</i>
12:00am		Lights Out - Sleep	

THURSDAY – Submission to Authorities - Focus Verse: James 4:7

7:30am	1hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	45min	Breakfast – <u>Cereal</u>	
9:30am	45min	Group Devotion – Start Each Day Submitting to God	
10:15am	45min	Kids Session – Esther Acts	Lydia O’Sullivan
10:15am	45min	Teens Session – Esther Acts	Kevin O’Keeffe
11:00am	1hr	Sports and Craft Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:00pm	45min	Lunch – <u>Sandwiches</u>	
12:45pm	30min	Team Time	
1:15pm	1hr	Preaching – Safety Under Authority	Layton Kelly
2:15pm	1hr	Teen Session –Your Influence Counts	Matt Williams
3.15pm	2.30hrs	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:45pm	1hr	Dinner – <u>Ziti (like Lasagne)</u>	
6:45pm	45min	Team Time - Memorize verses	
7:30pm	1.30hr	Preaching – Breaking the Rebel-Heart	Layton Kelly
9:00pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:30pm	30min	Counsellors’ Meeting (<i>Everyone else in Rooms</i>)	
10.00pm	1:30hr	Sports Time (NUCLEAR WAR FLAGS GAME)	
11:30pm	30min	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Kids in bed</i>
12:00am		Lights Out - Sleep	

“Prayer is not a part of the work - it is the work!”

FRIDAY – Battling - Focus Verse: Ephesians 6:13

7:30am	1hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	45min	Breakfast – <u>Cereal</u>	
9:30am	45min	Group Devotion – Go With God's Power	
10:15am	45min	Kids Session – God Turns the Tables	Gina Mahony
10:15am	45min	Teen Session – God Turns the Tables	Dan Pero
11:00am	1hr	Sports and Craft Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:00pm	45min	Lunch – <u>Hot Dogs</u>	
12:45pm	30min	Team Time	
1:15pm	1hr	Preaching – How to Be WAY Cool	Craig Ledbetter
2:15pm	1hr	Guys Session – Preparing For Big Battles	Mark Becker
		Girls Session– Preparing For Big Battles	Sharon Pero
3.15pm	2.30hrs	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:45pm	1hr	Team Time - Memorize verses	
6:45pm	1:15hr	AWARDS Dinner – <u>B-B-Q Chicken and Salad</u>	
8:00pm	1.30hr	Preaching – Fight the Right Fight	Jerome Pittman
9:30pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
10:00pm	1hr	Sports Time (CRAZY ACTIVITY)	<i>Start-up bonfire</i>
11:00pm	1hr	Bonfire - Singing and Testimonies	Marshmallows
12:00am		Lights Out - Sleep	

SATURDAY – Praise - Focus Verse: 2Corinthians 15:57

7:30am		Wake-Up	
8:30am	45min	Breakfast - <u>Cereal</u>	
9:15am	1.15hr	Clean-up – EVERYONE CLEANING	
10:30am		Final Meeting – What God Did This Week!	Dan Pero
11.30am		Leave to go home	



Camp Song - True Greatness!

Song for Victory Youth Camp 2008

A Song about the Greatness of Mordecai and Esther

© 2008 By Craig Ledbetter and John Mahony



Chorus

*True greatness, it's greater, there's more than meets the eye;
With a strength, and beauty, that money cannot buy!
The world's glamour and its riches, can never quite compete,
With the power of a pure heart, and a grace that can't be beat!*

First Verse

Mordecai and Esther, Two cousins we should know.
They lived in a land called Persia, a long, long time ago.
It was a time of trouble, it was hard as a matter of fact:
The people were away from God... so God sought to bring them back!

Second Verse

A powerful man named Ahasuerus, was king of all the land;
He had a drunken party, and things got out of hand.
He lost his queen, and honour, and looked for a lady fair.
But when the king met Esther... no other girl compared!
To Chorus



Third Verse

The Jews had many enemies, but Haman was the worst!
Although he didn't know it, ol' Haman, he was cursed -
He was a tool of Satan, who only wants us dead!
But as it was with Haman... God's enemies suffer instead!
To Chorus

Fourth Verse

So when the dust had settled, and Mordecai had won,
The story had not ended, it had only just begun!
Queen Esther found true greatness, it's why we all exist;
God's looking for great servants... for such a time as THIS!
To Chorus

The Scripture Verses to Memorize

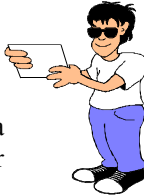
Memorize all of them and you get 1,000 extra points!

Monday GOD'S PLAN	<p>Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are the called according to his purpose.</p>	<p>Esther 4:14 Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?</p>
	<p>Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.</p>	<p>2Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.</p>
Tuesday PURITY	<p>2Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.</p>	<p>Psalm 139:23,24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.</p>
	<p>Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.</p>	<p>James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.</p>
Wednesday PRAYER	<p>Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day.</p>	<p>Psalms 5:3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.</p>
	<p>James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.</p>	<p>Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.</p>
Thursday SUBMISSION	<p>Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.</p>	<p>1Peter 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.</p>

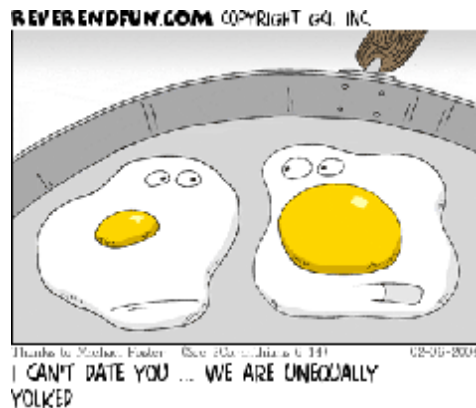
Friday BATTLING	Ephesians 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.	1Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
	Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.	2Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.
Saturday PRAISE	1Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.	1John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

How to memorize God's Word...

Memorize each verse using the following pattern:



- Read the verse *out-loud* no less than **5** times, every time you get a chance – while waiting in line for dinner, or while combing or brushing your hair, or while getting ready for bed.
- Make sure you set out to memorize the word of God, word-perfect (don't leave out any words)
- Have someone check you before you attempt to quote it to a Record Keeper
- After you have memorized a verse, make sure that you go back and review each previous verse you already memorized because someone may test you on your memory and if not satisfactory, you may lose points!
- You will be surprised how much you can remember if you will just TRY.



Bible Word Dictionary – Wise Words

Do these on your own time and be ready to discuss these definitions during Devotion Time

GOD'S PLAN	Know (Romans 8:28) _____
	Purpose (Romans 8:28) _____
	Kingdom (Esther 4:14) _____
PURITY	Clean Heart (Psalm 51:10) _____
	Right Spirit (Psalm 51:10) _____
	Lusts (2Timothy 2:22) _____
	Holiness (2Corinthians 7:1) _____
	Search (Psalm 139:23,24) _____ Any Wicked Way (Psalm 139:23,24) _____
PRAYER	Boldly (Hebrews 4:16) _____
	Draw (James 4:8) _____
	Fast (Esther 4:16) _____
	Direct (Psalm 5:3) _____
SUBMISSION	Submit (James 4:7) _____
	Resist (James 4:7) _____
	Obey (Hebrews 13:7) _____
	Watch (Hebrews 13:7) _____ Clothed (James 1:5) _____
BATTLE	Armour (Ephesians 6:13) _____
	Good Fight (1Timothy 6:12) _____
	Liberty (Galatians 5:1) _____
	Yoke of Bondage (Galatians 5:1) _____
PRASIE	Carnal (2Corinthians 10:4) _____
	Victory (1Corinthians 15:57) _____
	Overcome (1John 4:4) _____
	World (1John 4:4) _____

Making Your Team the Best

So, you've been landed with working in a Camp Team, and you're wondering what exactly to do with them! How do you make the most of your time with them?!

Ice Breakers. The first thing is to get to know one another. Use ice-breaker games to get the kids interested in each other, and get them under your leadership. The first Team hour on Monday is so you can do just that.

After that, the next thing that needs to be done is to **name** your team. Get input from them, and use this time to get to know the spiritual temperature of each member and make sure everyone is recording each other's names on the Team Sheet in their Handbook. With Esther and True Greatness being the theme, extra points will be given for a good Team name that relates to the theme, like The Truly Great Ones (or maybe not!).

Now you need a team **cheer**! If this is new to you then ask someone on your team who has been at camp before to enlighten you. You will be hollering this one all week so make it good! The kids want their very identity to be cool!

Throughout the week your team will need to put together special **songs** and perform hilarious **skits**. Each song and skit is worth some serious points! Find out who on the team can play and sing, and who is a real thinker and joker for your skits. Encourage participation for the shy ones and get everyone to work together, don't leave anyone out! These kids are going to look to you for direction all the time. If they don't sing, work on their memory verses with them. Each kid needs to know they are both needed and contributing to the team, and **praise** them for a job well done! You need to watch them everyday so that they are not falling behind in their points and in participation, and also make sure to lay down what you expect from them.

Work towards the final prize (which is more than just winning, but will actually allow the 3 top teams to drench all the Camp Counsellors with water-balloons on Friday evening!), and be sure to maintain a **good spirit**. Your team this week, is YOUR **ministry**, who knows how God will use you to teach them vital truths, direct them in God's will for them, or even lead a soul to the Saviour!

MY TEAM

Notes on YOUR Camp Team

TEAM NAME: _____

TEAM LEADER: _____

TEAM CHEER: _____

TEAM MATES

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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Thanks to Abri Stegmann 11-06-2006
DON'T JUST STAND THERE ... PRAY SOMETHING

Victory Youth Camp 2008

COUNSELLOR'S HANDBOOK

Monday Evening Preaching Notes

Introducing the Way God Does Great Things

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

Teaching Personal Devotions

How to Teach Our kids to Start their Day with God!

Each day you will need to teach briefly about the following four topics: Clean is Cool! Prayer is a No-Brainer; Yielding is Powerful; and Fighting is Okay! What you need to say each morning at the start of every Devotion is as follows:

Tuesday Morning Devotions - Purity “Getting Clean Everyday”

The teens need to understand the importance of getting clean *everyday!* Use the phrase, “Clean is Cool!” nobody likes people who haven’t taken a bath for days on end because they STINK! The same is true with God! HE can’t stand it when we go day after day, without getting spiritually clean in the blood of His Son. God is righteous and holy and we need to be pure when we come before Him in prayer. As a teacher you must show them how confession (which is admitting your sins to God) breaks down the barriers between us and God.

Teaching Tuesday Devotions

Purity – Being Clean is COOL! (Psalm 51:10; and Matthew 23:27)**Begin with prayer!**

Read Psalm 51:10 and help the kids work on memorizing it .

Explain the Biblical Truth: Confession to God and the fellow believer allows us to have a clean heart before God. It is only the blood of Christ that saves us from guilt (John 14:6). We must come before Him broken as He was broken on the cross. Humility is also essential as we approach the throne of Grace. (Jam. 4:6) As we come broken before Christ, God the Father freely covers all our sin under His Son's blood. Then He removes our sin as far as the East is from the West (Ps. 103:12). A man can only maintain a clean outside; it takes Christ's blood and redemption to save the soul of a man (Hebrews 9:22)

Personal Application: Is it not easy to take a shower, brush our teeth, comb our hair, and spend a minimum of five minutes making sure we look our best? However, how many times have you spent a day and not read God's Word or even prayed? A cup could be spotless on the outside but if we were to see grime and caked on dirt we would not think twice about cleaning the cup or getting a new one. However many of our hearts are full of dirt and grime and yet we focus on what is not important: our outward appearance (Matt. 23:25-27).

Our Choice: Let's purpose to choose to focus on what God honors. Choose a pure and clean heart. Why? *1 Samuel 16:7 states, "...for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."* The first step to getting a pure and clean heart is to accept the payment that Jesus made for your sins. Have any of you done that? Allow Him to cleanse your heart from all unrighteousness. It is called, getting SAVED, and being Born Again. Do not allow sin to build up and produce filth in your heart. Daily seek forgiveness from sin and especially pride. Reading the Bible is God's way of speaking to us. Spend time daily in God's Word, seeking His will and not your own. ***Psalm 119:9 "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."***

Ask the following questions:

- What does it mean to have a clean heart?
- How can a heart get clean? (Prov 20:9)
- Why do we have to confess to God our sins? (1 John 1:8-9)

Give your own personal testimony about how God has cleansed your own heart, and maybe how hard it was to finally deal with some sin, but how it freed you afterward.

Tuesday Devotion
The Greatness of Purity

God develops True Greatness in ME through... PURITY

MEMORY VERSE:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”

Psalm 51:10

Write the Scripture Verse – Psalm 51:10:

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

What does it mean to have a clean heart?

How can a heart get clean? (Prov 20:9)

Why do we have to confess to God our sins? (1 John 1:8-9)

PRAYER LIST:

Tuesday Afternoon Preaching Notes

It's Easier to Keep Clean than to Clean up Afterwards!

Pastor Jerome Pittman

Tuesday Evening Sermon Notes

There IS Such a Thing as Perfect Beauty

Pastor Matt Williams

Teaching Wednesday Devotions

Wednesday Morning Devotions: Prayer “Learning to Truly Pray”

Teach the kids what is real prayer! Sometimes the kids (and even adults) think praying is too complicated, and too hard to do every day. Real prayer is a secret heart to heart conversation with God and not a list of pre-written words or phrases. Talking with God is NOT so hard, but it is THE most important thing to do everyday – more important than eating and sleeping! And today we are going to learn how!

Prayer is a No-Brainer!**Begin with prayer!**

Read Hebrews 4:16 (see also Matthew 6:5-13). The strength we need for every day as a Christian is obtained only when we get into the very presence of God when praying.

Explain the Biblical Truth About Prayer! It has been said that as we read God’s Word, He speaks to us; as we pray, we actually speak to God. When we only do one or the other, than our relationship with God is one-sided. Do you think God cares if we talk to Him or not? Do you think God ever gets lonely? Do you think that God would like to help us, but we just don’t ask? The ability to pray directly to God is an amazing privilege. That we can come directly before the Creator of the Universe, to make our requests known, is humbling.

The Bible is very clear as to how we should pray. Prayer is not for a show. When we pray, we are only asking God Himself to see us. Prayer is not only an act, but also an attitude. It is just fine if you pray sad, and when you are full of excitement when you are talking with God! Just be yourself, and talk to God about what is on your heart – because He REALLY does want to hear all about it! Below is a list of four words to help you pray right – simple things that you can do when praying so that every time you pray, you have done more than just talk into the air!

P—Praise. *Psalm 92:1 “It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:”* We see in Matthew 6:9 that even Jesus praised the name of God. We should start our prayer by reflecting upon what God has done for us and in us. When we acknowledge God’s greatness and blessings we are giving Him all the credit in our lives instead of taking for ourselves.

R—Repent. When you begin to pray, you are entering into God’s presence. You would never dream of visiting a king in your ratty clothes, dirty, and disheveled. You would put on your best clothes and try to look your very best. So when you come before God you want to have a clean and pure heart. The Bible says in *Psalm 66:18, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.”* If we have unconfessed sin in our lives, God cannot hear and answer our prayer.

A—Ask. Don't you love asking your parents for cash or a specific gift and then receiving it? We have many types of request for God. Prayers we need to have answered. Sometimes we may need to ask for something material like cash, other times we may need to ask for a salvation of a loved one. Whatever our request may be, God wants us to ask. *Philippians 4:6* says, "***Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.***"

Y—Yield. By yielding to God in prayer we are seeking His will above our own. Sometimes when we pray, we know the answer we *want*, however, it might not be the answer God chooses for us. God's ways are always best and when we submit to His will we are choosing His way and therefore, the best way. *James 4:3* says, "***Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.***"

Ask the following questions:

- What is prayer? (speaking to God, not just working through the Rosary)
- What can we talk to God about?
- How personal is our relationship with God? (See Jeremiah 29:11-13)
- Can any of you remember what four things to do when we talk to God?

Ask someone to give their own personal testimony about how God has used prayer in their life as well as answered prayers, and how you pray personally etc.

Wednesday Devotion

The Greatness of Prayer

God develops True Greatness in ME through... PRAYER

MEMORY VERSE:

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:16



Write the Scripture Verse – Hebrews 4:16:

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

What is prayer? _____

What can we talk to God about?

Can you remember what four things to do when we talk to God?

P - _____

R - _____

A - _____

Y - _____

PRAYER LIST:

Wednesday Afternoon Sermon Notes

Why We Should HATE the Devil!

Declan Flanagan

Wednesday Evening Sermon Notes

God is Preparing YOU For Such A Time As THIS!

Justin Hayes

Teaching Thursday Devotions

Thursday: Submission to Authorities “Yielding to God”

Start each day submitting to God. Today, the kids need to learn necessity of submitting to God (yielding to Him) through His ordained authorities in our lives. If we are in rebellion to these authorities, we are in fact, in rebellion to God Himself (1Sam. 15:23). Who wants to be against God Almighty?! No Christian can be happy living in rebellion to Him. But if we are under God and our earthly authorities, we can be mightily used and blessed for His glory! Understanding that God is always good will be THE KEY to helping us yield to Him.

Submission – Yielding is the MOST POWERFUL thing you can do!**Begin with prayer!**

Read Proverbs James 4:7 and help the kids work on memorizing it.

Explain the Biblical Truth: Submission to authority starts with submitting to God. God has a wonderful plan for our lives He wants to create a beautiful mosaic out of it. But to accomplish it we must be broken and humble before Him. Realizing just how sinful we are, and how merciful He is to us will certainly humble us! Brokenness before God will allow us to be used by a Holy God. Then when we have learned to submit to God, learning to submit to our earthly authorities comes with the help God wants to give.

We all understand obedience: doing what we are told to do. However submission takes obedience a step further. Submission is obedience with the right attitude. How often have you done this? It is hard to obey and have the right attitude when we don't understand the command or we don't agree with our authority. However, God's Word is very clear concerning our position with authority.

Authority is all around us. At school, at work, family, friends, government, Garda, church, we are surrounded by authority and will never escape it no matter our age. So we must make a choice. Do we do what we think is best or do we do as our authority commands? We live and die by the choices we make and every choice has a consequence.

Choice: Don't turn in my homework

Consequence: Bad grade

Choice: Run a red light

Consequence: Possible accident or fine

Choice: Don't pay attention to your pastors' preaching

Consequence: Ignorance in fighting Satan's attacks

We know that submission is hard and our flesh fights it every minute of every day. However, God has given us the power to overcome our flesh and obey His command as He directs. It is called His Holy Spirit. At the point of salvation God's Spirit

indwells the believer. In essence: God lives inside of us. He gives us the power to do anything and overcome anything, but we must tap into it. We have a choice. Listen to God's Spirit and follow His leading, or ignore God's Spirit and run out of power. When our relationship with God is right, our relationship with all other authorities will be right. *Proverbs 16:7* ***“When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.”*** Let's choose to follow and yield to God so that our obedience and submission to authority is pleasing to Him.

Ask the following questions:

- Why is it necessary to submit to God?
- How does submitting to God enable us to live out the Christian walk?
- How does submitting to God aid us in submitting to earthly authorities?
- How do we learn a submissive attitude?

Ask someone to give their own personal testimony how they might have been very rebellious in their past, and how they have learned how stupid it was, and that now God is blessing and using them with great power!

Thursday Devotion

The Greatness of Submission

God develops True Greatness in ME through... SUBMISSION TO MY AUTHORITIES

MEMORY VERSE:

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” James 4:7

Write the Scripture Verse – James 4:7:

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

Why is it necessary to submit to God?

How does submitting to God enable us to live out the Christian walk?

How does submitting to God aid us in submitting to earthly authorities?

How do we learn a submissive attitude?

PRAYER LIST:

Thursday Afternoon Sermon Notes

Learning the Umbrella Principle

Layton Kelly

Thursday Evening Sermon Notes

Breaking the Rebel-Heart

Layton Kelly



Teaching Friday Devotions

Friday Morning Devotional - Battling “After Devotions then What?”

The kids need to be aware of the reality of spiritual warfare and the effects it has on our lives. We are constantly facing attacks planned by Satan himself! We cannot withstand Satan without God’s help! We need to consciously and purposefully replenish and arm ourselves daily through devotions. Every Christian has to prepare them self for the battles ahead, through devotions to God EVERY MORNING!

It’s Time to Fight the GOOD Fight! Fighting is OKAY Sometimes!**Begin with prayer!**

Read Ephesians 6:13 and help the kids work on memorizing it.

Read Ephesians 6:10-18 and Explain the Biblical Truth: When we read God’s Word we are actually arming ourselves for battle. Many times we think our problems, and our fights are with the people around us who upset us, when really, our fight is with none of them! Our fight is not even with our unsaved friends though we are struggling to do right in spite of them. Our fight is with Satan himself and all his demons.

Once you are a born again Christian, you are God’s child, and will never lose your salvation. Satan lost your soul! He can never get you into Hell now! However, he continues to fight in order to ruin your Christian testimony or make you disillusioned with Christianity so that you are useless as a Christian and so that you will not lead anyone else to the Saviour. The way you live your Christian life will either draw others to Christ or push them away.

God gives us everything we need to fight our battle, and we must fight in order to win. When we stop fighting we have surrendered ground, we have raised our white flag. So today you must choose. Will I fight this battle or will I give into Satan?

In the passage that was read, God gives you a list of the pieces of armour that every Christian must wear in order to successfully fight against the Devil. Armour is only good if it is complete. If part of our armour is missing, we are vulnerable to the fiery darts of Satan. Satan is on the move. He is looking for a chance to get you down. He wants your white flag flying high for the world to see. ***1Peter 5:8 “ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”***

Every piece of the armour is defensive save one: the Word of God. God’s Word is our only offensive weapon. In order to fight we must be in God’s Word and use God’s Word against temptations. God has given us all we need, so let’s use it in our battle. ***1Timothy 6:12 “ Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”***

Ask the following questions:

- What is the armour of God? See Ephesians 6:10-18)
- How does a believer “put it on”?
- Why is spiritual armour needed?
- How real is the fight we are in with the Devil and our flesh?

Ask for a personal testimony (or give it yourself) of how you have had to face spiritual warfare, and what you did to combat it. A personal testimony will go far in this area in helping you explain this truth.

Friday Study Thoughts

Fighting is okay... *When Against the Right Enemy!*

God develops True Greatness in ME through... BATTLING

MEMORY VERSE:

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

Ephesians 6:13

Write the Scripture Verse – Ephesians 6:13:

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

What are the parts of the armour of God?

How does a believer “put it on”?

Why is spiritual armour needed?

PRAYER LIST:

Friday Afternoon Sermon Notes

How to Be a Peculiar People

Craig Ledbetter

Friday Evening Sermon Notes

Fight the Right Fight

Jerome Pittman