

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP
GUIDELINES FOR CAMP COUNSELORS

Thank you so much for volunteering your services to the Lord at this camp and to these children. We are so grateful for your time, talent, and treasure and your presence at camp.

We'd appreciate it if you would use the following guidelines during your time with the kids.

We'd like you to keep as much to the "Daily Schedule" as possible and go to or remain in the appointed places at the appointed times. If you have any consistent problem with any of the kids please see either Marilyn or Steve for help. Our cell #s are at the bottom of these pages.

1. The cabins are private for the girls and boys. Please help us enforce this rule during the time the kids are with you: the guys are not allowed in the girls' cabins and the girls are not allowed in the guys' cabins. If the kids want to get together to talk, for games, or to play cards they can use any of the following: the recreation room adjacent to the Everglades meeting room; the smaller meeting room between the cabins by the pool area; or outside in the common areas at appropriate times.
2. Each day we'd like you to accompany your group per the "Daily Schedule" which you all have on your clipboard. Here are some specifics for certain days:

Monday - day 1 -When majority of campers are present.

Orientation and cabin assignments - counselors must attend this orientation. After orientation and assignment of campers, take your campers to their cabins to unpack and get settled including yourselves. If there isn't enough time to finish you can do so after lunch.

Tuesday - Wednesday - days 2 & 3 - Start between 7:00 - 7:30 AM

Gather and lead morning devotions. Please make sure you have prayer before each morning and evening devotions. Devotion time is great for you to present the Gospel message to the kids in case one or more is an unbeliever. Devotions for camp can go according to the theme of camp or that of your own choosing as led by the Holy Spirit. The "Camp Flyer" is included in your clipboard and contains the camp theme (separate flyers for 2 age groups). You can present whatever you like since the Holy Spirit is always our inspiration. You should probably teach them and then open it up for questions and discussions regarding the subject. Kids love this part...at least most do. Let the Holy Spirit guide your devotional sessions. Be flexible so the kids can understand the Word you are presenting to them. We want to promote Christ and His life to them.

It's important that you keep track of the kids each day so they can take part in the devotions...it is one of the most important parts of camp besides the Bible teaching from the evangelists and VBS program because the groups are smaller and more focused. The kids tend to open up in intimate settings. After devotions bring them to breakfast.

Tuesday - Wednesday - 8:00 AM

Bring the kids to the cafeteria for breakfast. **They must wear shoes and shirts at all meals.**

Tuesday - Wednesday - 8:45 AM

After breakfast have your group of kids go to their respective meeting rooms for Bible classes. If you have little ones going to VBS (ages 8-11), please escort them to the VBS room (Gold Coast Room) adjacent to the office and then come to the Everglades meeting room for Bible class (unless you are part of the VBS team). If you are part of the VBS team, Margie will give you assignments for the VBS.

Monday - Wednesday 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 PM

Bible classes usually last until just before lunch (noon). So as soon as the kids are released from their classes they can go into the lunch room if it is open or in the recreation room to wait for the lunch room to open.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP
GUIDELINES FOR CAMP COUNSELORS

Again they must wear shoes and shirts at all meals. After lunch they can start the free time activity. They'll have to change into their suits for the pool area (opens with a life guard at 1 PM) or lake. If the kids want to spend time in the recreation room or in their cabins for a while in the afternoon that is permissible but they cannot spend the entire afternoon in the cabins unless they are ill. We don't mind them resting but we want them to join in at least some of the activities. Some may prefer the recreation room, or the meeting rooms for movies. Counselors are welcome to use the recreation rooms as well. You may have free time in the afternoon but please try to keep track of where your kids are during this time. We have chaperones and are flexible with the afternoon time but we all need to help each other. Thank you so much for understanding.

Monday - Tuesday 5:00 PM

Gather the kids into the cabins after their afternoon activities so that you and the kids can shower and change into clean clothes for dinner at six. **CAMPERS MUST TAKE SHOWERS DAILY.** Please have them clean up after themselves after showers...we don't want spotless but we don't want the cabins or bathrooms to be a mess or a safety hazard either. We don't want them to slip and fall in the bathrooms so make sure there are no puddles on the floor. I have extra towels in my cabin (Black Bear) so just ask and I'll give them to you. We also have extra paper towels available for clean ups. We'll supply paper towels in the bathrooms.

*Wednesday Only 5:00 PM

After the kids take their showers please have them pack up as much of their stuff in their backpacks and suitcases as possible. We were told that we have to have the cabins completely cleaned up and their gear out of the cabins by 11:00 AM. Please oversee that all belongings are removed from the showers, bathrooms, and especially from under the bunk bed areas. I know this seems really hard to do but if you plan ahead and have **them** do this after their showers, it can be done. Thank you for your cooperation.

Monday - Wednesday 6:00 PM

Dinner is promptly at 6:00 P.M. Please make sure all your kids are present for dinner. Take a head count. Again **they must wear shoes and shirts at all meals.** After dinner have the kids help clean up their tables. There are cleaning rags in the kitchen and we expect the kids to help out after meals by cleaning up messy tables and by picking up anything that has fallen on the floor. This is a servant's heart and we wish to teach that to them as well.

Monday - Wednesday 7:00 PM

After dinner have your group of kids go to their respective meeting room for Bible class. If you have little ones going to VBS (7-11), please escort them to the VBS room adjacent to the office and then come to the Everglades meeting room for Bible class (unless you are part of the VBS team).

Monday - Tuesday days 1 & 2 - 9:30 PM

After Bible study please accompany your group of kids especially the smaller children as they spend time together outdoors, in the meeting rooms, or around the campfire if weather allows. At 11:00 P.M. get everyone back into the cabins for devotionals. If you have a problem getting the kids to cooperate, please call Steve, Marilyn, or any of the chaperones to help you get their cooperation.

*Wednesday Night (our last night) after Bible class and VBS - 9:00-11:00 PM

On this last night of camp, we are having a talent show in the main meeting room (Everglades Room) for the kids and the counselors. This is so everyone can show us their talents and enjoy each others company, perform and just have some fun on the last night of camp. All counselors and chaperones of course must attend to chaperone the kids and hopefully join in on the talent show fun as well.

*last night instructions.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP
GUIDELINES FOR CAMP COUNSELORS

Thursday (our last day together), start devotions between 7:00 - 7:30 AM

Lead devotions (your final lesson and divine advice for them) and have them bring their gear to the recreation room or meeting room when they have completed cleaning up and packing. It is important that you keep track of the kids today (our last morning together) because time is tight and we need full cooperation to get everyone ready before the 11:30 AM dismissal. We really appreciate your cooperation.

Thursday 11:00 A.M. or after the final message.

We will do a group picture at this time. Remember all their gear is either in the recreation room or Main Meeting room by now so there is no need for them to return to the cabins unless they forgot something. Please remain in the Everglades meeting room with the kids and their gear until their parents arrive to pick them up.

Here are the rest of our guidelines for you. Again thanks for cooperating. Remember we welcome any suggestions.

3. The kids will not be permitted in the areas outside the immediate grounds after dark. Specifically no one is allowed on the boardwalk, woods or near the lake after dark for obvious safety reasons.
4. During morning and evening devotions emphasize to the kids that they really need take part in the time we give to the Lord for worship and learning and this to their advantage. They will get to know Jesus more and get to know how much He loves them...this is a Bible camp. No better way to get to know Him but through His WORD! This is so very important for them to have this close time with you and the Lord. Don't allow them to play any game systems at this time. We don't mind if they play these systems after devotionals to help them fall asleep or in the afternoon during play time but NEVER during devotionals. We have asked them to leave their worldly music at home for the four days of camp so they can concentrate on worshipping God and learning His Word instead! We want them to be themselves and take part in the discussions. This may be some of the only time they can get specific and divine guidance in their lives especially those who may have problems they are experiencing at this time and need to open up about. So many of the kids suffer silently.
5. If you see anyone disrespecting the feelings of other campers or see anyone picking on or ganging up on another camper, please don't hesitate to notify us if you, their counselor, cannot get the situation under control. Patience, understanding, and divine viewpoint imparted to those offending and those offended go a long way in calming a situation. I know you are all sensitive to such things and probably had to deal with it many times in the past. If you are new at counseling apply the Word of God to the situation and ask God to help you find the right words. Listen to the Holy Spirit who is your divine conscience. We don't want any of the kids humiliated, embarrassed, or tormented by any other campers. This isn't what we do at camp or any other time for that matter. As you all know this is a time for fellowship and love toward one another by the guiding of the Spirit but we know no one is perfect and problems will arise. We feel confident that you can handle all such situations but we are always here if you need assistance. Don't hesitate.
6. If you see any of the kids getting into the flower beds, or destroying the grounds or property, please stop them and if you don't get cooperation, call on us. Many of them love to find lizards and frogs and that's okay as long as they don't harm them or freak anyone out with the little critters. Have them throw their trash in trash containers and keep the cabins in order. If you see trash lying around, pick it up or have your kids pick it up as service to the Lord. Have them keep their stuff in your own space as much as possible but be flexible because we want them to enjoy their time at camp and we want you to enjoy it as well. They should clean up or pick up each day so they don't have a big mess at the end of camp. We will be inspecting the cabins regularly to make sure the kids cooperate with the clean up.
7. Encourage the kids to participate and enjoy every part of the camp program. There are a lot of new activities. Talk to them about having a good attitude especially the older campers as a role model for the little ones.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP
GUIDELINES FOR CAMP COUNSELORS

8. Please be on time for each planned activity so everyone can enjoy themselves by not having to wait on others.
9. If any of your kids show scorn for the camp program, shun the activities, or complain and you can't persuade them to change their minds about it, see us for help especially if it is disrupting your cabin.
10. Please get acquainted with the schedule and learn the rules so you can teach them to the kids. You are a leader and set the example especially for the younger campers.
11. Please talk to the kids about having good manners during Bible study...no talking etc. so everyone can benefit from the lessons but encourage them to participate in the devotionals and ask pertinent questions. Make devotions fun. Some kids love to share their experiences with everyone in the room.
12. Above all, have fun with the kids and get to know them. They will never forget their time at camp with you, their counselors. I constantly get feedback from them and their admiration and love for their counselors. We want you to enjoy yourselves also and we have a heart for all of you and the service you are doing for these kids. We love the kids and know they will benefit greatly from you, their counselors.
14. If you have any questions about the above guidelines or have any suggestions, please let us know so we can help.
15. Counselors who have the VBS kids (ages 8-11) must accompany the kids to and from the VBS room every morning and every evening. Margie is the director for VBS. She will need the VBS kids' counselors to help out in VBS. Follow the Margie's instructions. We have a separate VBS theme for the kids. They also can watch movies, play games and whatever the staff has for them while the teen class is still in session. They must be accompanied at all times during Bible classes and afterwards while they are outside in the evening. We don't want them wandering around in the dark or getting injured. Counselors must accompany them back to their cabins.

All general information forms for camp are on our website (address below) for you to access.

Thanks so much for your cooperation.
Love in Christ
Steve 954-520-1674 Marilyn 954-658-2085