

# Good News for Young Life Capernaum

## Communicating God's Word with our friends with disabilities

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*These talk ideas are a simple and brief outline of what many Capernaum staff have done for our talks. With each one we include a personal (and often funny) short story or film clip that related to the big idea. Throughout the talk we repeat the one big idea that we wanted our friends to remember. At the end of each talk we suggest giving your friends something to take home and/or do, along with the Scripture used (printed out). This will give your friends something to remember the talk with as well as something to let their parents know what has been discussed. The more senses your friends use and experience, the more likely we all are to remember what God has to teach us through our talks.*



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\*Additional club talk examples may be found on the Young Life Staff Resources Site.  
Type “Capernaum” in the search feature and then click on the club/Campaigners link.





# Chapter One

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**Club Talk Series for one year**



## Club Talk One

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I am the light of the world

**Scripture:** John 8:12

**Opening:** Have you ever been in a dark room?  
How did you feel?

**Synopsis:** Jesus is the light in our darkness and dark times. He gives us light by letting us know He is with us when we feel alone and afraid.

**Visual:** Turn lights off in the room and use a flashlight or light a candle.



**Concluding Statement:** Jesus wants to be your light when you feel it's dark in your life.

**Application Question:** Is there a dark place, a hard time going on in your life? How could Jesus be a light and help with that situation?

## Club Talk Two

**Topic:** Person of Christ – Jesus is the Bread of Life

**Scripture:** John 6:35

**Opening:** Have you ever been hungry? What do you do when you are hungry?

**Synopsis:** Just like when we get hungry physically, we also hunger for things like: love, purpose, friends, joy, etc. Jesus is the bread that fills us with these things.

**Visual:** Have a loaf of bread, give everyone a slice to hold. Eat the slice yourself.

**Concluding Statement:** Only Jesus is real food that fills us up, everything else is junk food.

**Application Question:** What are you hungry for in life? How can Jesus be your real bread?

## Club Talk Three

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I am the door

**Scripture:** John 10:7-9

**Opening:** Have you ever tried to get into a place and there was no way in? Or if you are in a wheelchair, it wasn't accessible?

**Synopsis:** We want things in life like joy, peace, new experience and friends, but sometimes we are blocked. Jesus is the door through which we enter into these things in abundance.

**Visual:** Use an actual door, with people on the other side having a great time but you can't get in. Then paint the name of JESUS on the door and enter in.

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus is the door, your entrance into life. Life the way it is meant to be.

**Application Question:** What are you wanting in life? How is Jesus our door to our desires?

## Club Talk Four

**Topic:** What are you like?

**Scripture:** John 9:3

**Opening:** God made you NOT as a mistake but as a masterpiece.

**Synopsis and Visual:** Spread kids all around the room at tables with leaders. Get dozens of magazines, scissors and glue. Have kids find pictures that they feel describe who they are and what they are like. Paste pictures on a large sheet of paper. Share them at the end of club.

**Concluding Statement:** Leader presents his or her collage of God and what He is like to kids.

**Application Question:** What would your collage of God be like? What picture could describe Him?





## Club Talk Five

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I am the vine

**Scripture:** John 15:5

**Opening:** Who likes grapes?

**Synopsis:** Grapes grow because the branch they are on is attached to the vine. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. And when we stayed connected to Jesus we grow fruit – grapes! Can a branch grow fruit without being attached to the vine?

**Visual:** Big bunch of juicy grapes. Show a dead tree branch to show what happens when it is severed from the source.

**Concluding Statement:** When we stay connected to Jesus, talk to Him and listen to Him daily, we produce fruit like love, joy, peace, etc.

**Application Question:** Are you staying close to Jesus? What kind of fruit is coming out of your life? Do you see love, joy, peace, patience, etc., in your life?

## Club Talk Six

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I am the Resurrection and the Life

**Scripture:** John 11:17-27

**Opening:** Have you ever lost a friend? Jesus lost his best friend, Lazarus.

**Synopsis:** We have all lost loved ones to death, but Jesus showed that He has power over even death.

**Visual:** Movie clip of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. Movie: *Jesus of Nazareth*

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus loves us as best friends and He will overcome death for us, so we can live in heaven with Him forever.

**Application Question:** How does it make you feel that Jesus is stronger than death? Can you trust Him with the things that frighten you or make you sad?



## Club Talk Seven

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I am the Good Shepherd

**Scripture:** John 10, Luke 15

**Opening and Synopsis:** Jesus is the Shepherd. We are sheep. He protects, feeds and nurtures. If even one is missing He will stop at nothing to find him.

**Visual:** Get a bunch of toy sheep. Dress up as a shepherd and explain who you are. Tell kids about the sheep and introduce the sheep using the kids' names. Suddenly say that one of the sheep (choose a club kid's name) is missing and have everyone search for that sheep. You find the sheep and hold it close to your chest, joyfully celebrating your find.

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus knows each of us by name and watches out for us and takes care of us. And if we get lost He will search for us and find us because He is the Good Shepherd.

**Application Question:** How does it make you feel to know Jesus will never let you out of His sight?

## Club Talk Eight

**Topic:** Testimony – one kid, one leader

**Scripture:** Have the kid and the leader share a Scripture that means a lot to him or her.

**Opening and Synopsis:** Keep it short. Depending on the kid, it might be best to do an interview. Make sure they do not preach or teach but simply share how they came to know Christ and what difference He made in their lives.

**Visual:** They are the visual.

**Concluding Statement:** You wrap it up by telling kids Jesus has made a difference in their lives and He can make a difference in your life.

**Application Question:** Do you think Jesus could help you in your life? If so, how?



## Club Talk Nine

**Topic:** Person of Christ – I AM

**Scripture:** John 8:57-59

**Opening:** What if someone gave you a blank check and you could fill in the dollar amount of your choice? How much would you fill in?

**Synopsis:** Jesus calling Himself “I AM” is our blank check. In the past week we’ve heard Him say, “I AM.” For example: I AM the light of the world, I AM the bread of life, I AM the door, I AM the vine, I AM the resurrection. Whatever your need, Jesus is your “I AM.”

You say, “I am afraid.” Jesus says, “I am your courage.”  
You say, “I am worried.” Jesus says, “I am our peace.”  
You say, “I have no friends.” Jesus says, “I am your friend.”

**Visual:** A large blank check to show them  
A second large blank check

Date _____	
Pay to the Order of _____	Kid's Name _____
Amount _____	I AM _____
Signed _____ Jesus _____	

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus can provide for every need.

**Application Question:** What do you most need in your life? Fill out this statement to meet that need. Jesus says, “I AM \_\_\_\_\_.”

## Club Talk Ten

**Topic:** Need

**Scripture:** John 5 — It's the sick who need a doctor

**Opening:** Have you ever been sick and needed medicine?

**Synopsis:** Jesus helps those who have needs. Jesus helps those who need help in life and are willing to admit it and receive His help. Like the man at the pool, He asks us, "Do you want to be well?" Do you have a need and are you willing to ask for help?

**Visual:** Put a portable small pool of water in the middle of the room and act out the John 5 story. The kids can be all the people around the pool. Someone plays Jesus and a leader plays the man being asked if he wants to be well. After he is healed, have him testify to his need for healing using the synopsis above. Have him emphasize his need, feelings of helplessness and self-pity, and that Jesus healed his inner condition.

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus helps those who know they need help and are willing to ask Him for help.

**Application Question:** What is your biggest need right now? Are you willing to ask Jesus for help?

## Club Talk Eleven

**Topic:** Sin and the Cross

**Scripture:** Romans 5:8

**Synopsis and Visual:** Read *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. Read the story in an animated way showing the pictures. When finished explain this is a story of God and us. We are the little boy who kept leaving God (the tree). That leaving is sin. But the tree gave it's life for the boy because of how much the tree loved him. That tree is Jesus who gave His life for us.



**Concluding Statement:** Jesus gave his life up for you personally. He gave all He had for you. Read John 3:16 by personalizing it with kids names in place of "the world."

**Application Question:** What do you want to say to Jesus for what He has done for you?

## Club Talk Twelve

**Topic:** Resurrection Part One

**Scripture:** John 20

**Opening and Synopsis:** One of your female leaders is acting as Mary Magdalene and telling the story of how she saw Jesus risen. Have her tell the story from the perspective of many years past and what it means to her that Jesus is alive. Emphasize the confidence it gives her that He is with her at every moment and has all power, even over death, to help with any challenge she faces.

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus is alive. He's here and we can have a real friendship with Him.

**Application Question:** Would you like to have Jesus in your life as your friend? Lead kids in a prayer of repetition for those who desire. Explain that Jesus listens and He responds with joy to become your friend.

## Club Talk Thirteen

**Topic:** Resurrection Part Two – Jesus in our sadness

**Scripture:** Luke 24:13-35

**Opening:** Have you ever felt sad and confused?

**Synopsis:** Everyone gets sad and confused. These two friends of Jesus were so sad after Jesus died that they did not even recognize Him after He was risen. Jesus joined them in their sadness and encouraged them.

**Visual:** This is another one you can easily act out if you choose. Another way of doing this is using a professional artist if you have access to one. An artist friend of mine actually gave the talk as he drew out the story on a number of panels. It is creative and really keeps their attention.

**Concluding Statement:** Jesus is with us when we are sad and discouraged, even if we cannot see or feel Him.

**Application Question:** What do you do when you are sad and discouraged? Could you decide to talk to Jesus about it the next time you feel this way?

## Club Talk Fourteen

**Topic:** Resurrection Part Three – Forgiven for mission

**Scripture:** John 21

**Opening:** Peter denied Jesus three times when Jesus needed him most. After Jesus rose from the dead, how do you think Peter felt? Joyful, but also guilty.

**Synopsis:** Jesus lovingly forgives Peter and us when we mess up, and then He gives us a purpose, something to do for Him. We are to love and serve others giving them the love Jesus has given us.

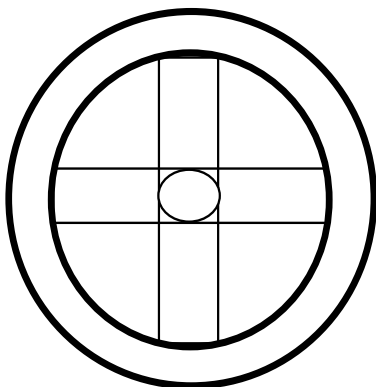
**Concluding Statement:** Jesus has forgiven you and has chosen you to do something special for others.

**Application Question:** Do you feel guilty about anything? Do you know Jesus has forgiven you? Jesus has a mission for you – what do you think it is?



## Club Talk Fifteen

**Topic:** The Wheel



The wheel is an old Navigator's tool to instruct others on how the Christian life works. It looks like this. First you talk to the kids on the dynamics of the wheel. The hub is the center and most important part. Without it the wheel collapses. The spokes center the hub. They all have to be in one line. If one is missing or is shorter, the wheel collapses. These all work together along with the air in the tire to make it roll well and transport you wherever you want to go.

The Christian life is like this wheel. Today we are going to talk about the hub. Who or what do you think it is? It is Jesus.

Colossians 1:27 – Christ is the center of our lives. Our relationship with Him is the most important thing there is. For the wheel to work, for our lives to work, Jesus must be in our lives.

Is He in yours? Give kids a chance to invite him into their lives.

For a visual, it would be great to come with an actual wheel (could be wheelchair wheel) and each week show a point on the wheel. For example, week one you would paint Jesus (or a symbol of Jesus) in the hub.

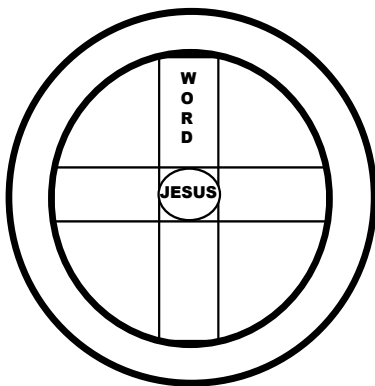
## Club Talk Sixteen

Topic: The Wheel – The Word

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16

**Review:** Review the wheel and talk about the role the spokes have in supporting the wheel. The spokes are ways to connect with the hub (Jesus). Ways of building our relationship with Him.

Visual: The Wheel



Talk about how the Bible is God's love letter to you. It is how God speaks to you personally. Every day God desires to speak to you His secrets, if you will take time to read or hear His Word through the Bible.

**Idea:** In San Jose, a number of us recorded passages from *The Message* on CD. The idea was for kids who cannot read. They would hear God's Word in the voices of leaders they know and loved. It has been a hit. Kids always tell us they listen to the CD every night.

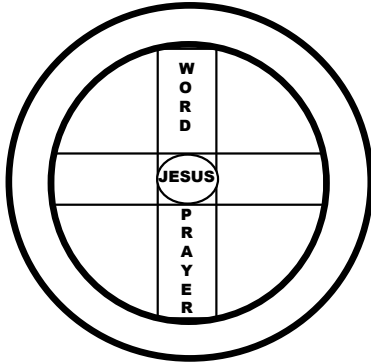
## Club Talk Seventeen

Topic: Wheel – Prayer

Scripture: Philippians 4:6-7

Review: Once again review the wheel and last week's spokes.

Visual: The wheel



### Second Spoke: Prayer

Just as God speaks to us, God desires that we speak to Him. This is prayer. When you have a best friend, what things do you talk to him or her about? Everything, right? God wants you to honestly pour your heart out to Him every day and all through the day. This week talk to Him and listen to Him.



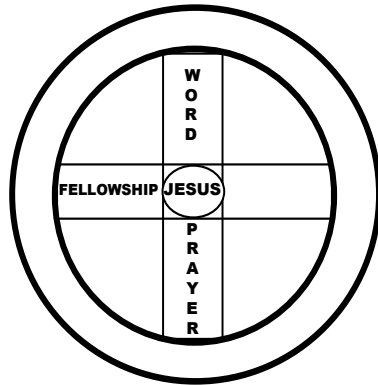
## Club Talk Eighteen

Topic: Wheel – Fellowship

Scripture: Hebrews 10:23-25

Review: Review the last two spokes and their connection to the hub

Visual: The wheel



### Third Spoke:

The first two spokes were about our relationship with God and Jesus. This spoke and the next are about our relationship with others and how they affect our relationship with God.

Fellowship is about our friendship with other Christians. We are to live together building each other up. We are called to love one another, encourage one another, honor one another, pray for one another and forgive one another. As we do, we get to know Jesus better and we have friends.

What are some ways you can build good and growing friendships with other Christians?

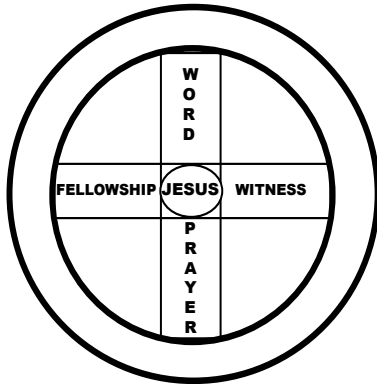
## Club Talk Nineteen

Topics: Wheel – Witness

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-4

Review: Review the previous three spokes.

Visual: The wheel



### Fourth Spoke:

The love of God and our love for each other as Christians spills over to all those around us who do not know God loves them and who have great need. Our world is needy. God wants us to love people with His love by:

- 1) Helping with their practical needs: food, water, being a friend when someone is lonely or encouraging them
- 2) Telling those you help, that you're helping them because Jesus is in your life

Who can you be a help to this week? Who in your life can you talk to about Jesus? Who helped you? Who told you about Jesus?

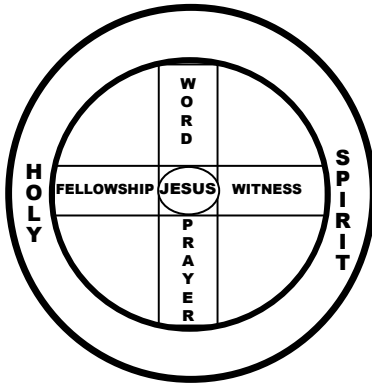
## Club Talk Twenty

Topic: Wheel – The Holy Spirit

Scripture: John 20:21-22, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Review: Review the hub and spokes

Visual: The wheel



### The Rim:

Everything is in place for this wheel, except for one thing. For a tire to move, it needs air, and in our lives that is the Holy Spirit. He is the power to live a life of following Jesus. We can't do it on our own. When you invite Jesus into your life, He sent God, the Holy Spirit, to live in you. He is with you every moment, living inside you. You are never alone. Learn to depend on Him every moment in everything you do. He is God in you! And He helps us to live a life honoring Jesus and building others up.

## Club Talk Twenty-One

Topic: Heaven

Scripture: John 21:1-5

**Synopsis:** Where is God leading us? To heaven. We have a taste of it now, don't we? How have you experienced Jesus so far? How has He helped you? How has He given you joy? That is a taste of heaven. But one day we will get the full meal. God will perfect our bodies and our relationship with Him and others. Heaven is the home we long for, a place where God will bring us to live with Him forever. Disease, death and suffering will be gone, and this is our glorious hope. As we hope for this, we can have hope now in the constant tastes of heaven God gives us.

**Visual:** A couple sitting down in a restaurant eating appetizers. They express to each other how wonderful the meal is and tell the waiter that they are ready to leave. The waiter says, "Wait, that is only the appetizer, here is the whole meal." He uncovers a beautiful roasted turkey and the couple gasps in delight, because they had no idea there was more. They begin to eat the meal.

Jesus is preparing a full meal, a full experience of His love for you in heaven. How have you tasted heaven so far?

## Club Talk Twenty-Two

Topic: Say-So

Give kids a chance to say:

- 1) If they have begun a relationship with Jesus this year
- 2) How Jesus has helped them through club and friendships this year

You will need to keep them on track, directing them constantly to these two questions.



Another idea is having kids write letters to God and then having them or a leader read them.

**Conclusion:** Review in a few simple sentences the Gospel. What you have been saying to them all year long:

- 1) God designed us for a friendship with Himself
- 2) We are wonderfully created in God's image
- 3) God loves us
- 4) We have broken this relationship with God
- 5) But God loved us so much He sent Jesus to die for us, to forgive our sins
- 6) Jesus rose from the dead
- 7) We can now have a relationship with Jesus and get ready for heaven

# Chapter Two

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**Introduction to God; Unconditional Love**  
**Incarnation/Person of Christ; Jesus is Our Best Friend**  
**Sin, Cross and Resurrection**  
**Appropriation**



# Introduction to God

**Topic:** We are God's stars

**Visual:** Ask five kids to come up and hold five stars, each decorated differently. Talk about these five beautiful people who are God's stars. We all are. We need each other (they hold hands).

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:26, Psalm 139:14, Romans 12:4-6

## Synopsis:

- God created the heavens and the earth
- In the heavens were planets and stars
- Each star is unique and wonderfully made
- God made everything else, then made us
  - We are made in God's image
  - We are each unique and wonderfully made
  - We are an important part of the body of Christ

## Questions:

- Does God love you just the way you are?
- Does God want you to belong to each other?
- Who do you belong to?

**Conclusion:** You are God's star and He made you

**Follow-up activity:** Now you're going to decorate your own stars ...



# Unconditional Love

Scripture: Luke 19 1-10

Intro/Visual: Movie clip – *Martian Child*

**Points to cover:** Compare relationship between adopted father and son to the relationship we have with Jesus. He loves us no matter what, no matter what we have done that is hurtful or whatever bad stuff is in our past ... He cares for us just the same!!

**Conclusion:** That Jesus loves us no matter what. Jesus knows everything about you and me and despite everything He knows, He still loves us and really wants to be our friend.

**Follow-up activity:** We are going to end our time tonight by doing a craft that will remind us of Jesus' amazing love for all of us. How many of you put pictures of really important people to all of you on your fridge? Well, I know, in our house we have pictures of all the people we love so much on our fridge. You know, if Jesus had a refrigerator your sweet picture would be on it. Jesus loves you dearly and wants to be reminded of your sweet face every day! Remember Jesus saying to you ... Nothing will change the way I feel about you – I love you so very much!

## Detailed talk:

Tonight I am going to start off with a short movie clip. How many of you have seen the movie *Martian Child*? Well, if you have not you should really go and see it ... parents, it is a great family movie! Anyway, I would like to give you a little background on the movie before I show this to you. This movie is about a little boy named Dennis who really wants to be adopted. He has been in many different homes but it has never worked out and he always ends up back in foster care. Well finally this nice man, named David, comes along and wants to adopt him. He is a single guy who really wants a son.

In this particular scene, Dennis actually thinks he is from Mars and acts out a lot to get attention. He also just got caught stealing from people at school and got expelled. Dennis is really afraid that because he did all this bad stuff that David will send him back to the foster home and he will be without a family again. In this scene, Dennis just accidentally broke one of David's little knickknacks on his desk and right away Dennis said, "Are you mad at me and will you send me back?" David reassured him that he loved him no matter what, even if he broke something. Watch this part and I will explain a little more ...





David said to Dennis, “See? Even though you broke all these things and even though you stole things at school ... nothing will change the way I feel about you.” That is pretty awesome love that David has for Dennis, huh??

Well there is a story in the Bible that kind of reminded me of Dennis. It is about a man named Zacchaeus. Z was the chief tax collector of his town. What that means is that Z was in charge of collecting the taxes of the people in the town that he lived in. He also had lots of other people who worked under him and collected taxes. Anyway, Z was not a very good man because he deceived people and cheated them and had them give more money than they were supposed to and kept the extra money for himself. He was a very rich man because he stole from others. Well in this story Jesus comes to the town where Z lived and Z really wanted to see Jesus and meet Him. Z was a short man so it was hard for him to see around the crowds that gathered to see Jesus. So Z decided to climb a fig tree to see Jesus. When Z was up in the tree, Jesus called out to him and said ... (HOLD YOUR BIBLE AND READ ALOUD LUKE 19:5.) So Z came down from the tree and took Jesus back to his home. Z was ashamed of the way he cheated all those people out of their money and he promised Jesus that he would give it all back and be a changed man.



See these stories are kind of similar. In the movie David said that “nothing could change the way He felt about Dennis ... even though he stole things and broke all those plates, and Jesus did the same to Z. Jesus knew his past and all the horrible things he did but Jesus loved Z no matter what and He wanted to spend time with him and stay at his home.

That is a pretty awesome promise, huh? That Jesus loves us no matter what. Jesus knows everything about you and me and despite everything He knows, He loves us and really wants to be our friend.

End with follow-up activity.

## Introduction to God

“Taste and See” – Psalm 34:8

- Big ideas: God is good. He created **fun**. He created **life**. He longs for us to have friendship (**club**).
- Demonstrate: Cookie Ingredients – Some taste good (sugar), some (on their own) taste bad (salt, baking soda), and some have no taste (flour) but mix them all together and you get something delicious. This is like what God does with our lives – He mixes the good, the bland/ordinary and the bad; then He heats it all up; and all together it makes something delicious.
- Take home: Cookies = Taste good.

“Life to the Fullest” – John 10:10

- Big ideas: Intro to God. God created everything. He created us. His plans for us are the best.
- Take home: Make ice cream sundaes = Delicious, full, good life

“God Created You On Purpose and for a Purpose” – Genesis 1

- You are God’s masterpiece created for good things
- Pictures of masterpieces, artwork, etc.
- Pictures of nature, animals, people – where did they come from?
- Take home: Ice cream sandwiches = Delicious, full, good life



## Incarnation/Person of Christ Club Talk Ideas

Jesus is God's Son – John 1:14-18, Colossians 1:15

- Big ideas: Intro to Jesus, God's son. God became human. He made His home among us.
- Pet Stories
- Fish in fish bowl (or any pet) – How could we communicate with this animal ... we would have to become a fish.
- God became a man, poured Himself (all of His "God-ness") into a man suit.
- Take home: Inflated Balloons (If no latex allergies) = Visible image of something invisible

"Come and see" – Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 1:39-51

- Big ideas: Invitations – "Please come, you are invited, R.S.V.P." Jesus cares about me and my everyday life. He sees me. He notices me. He invites me to "come and follow me." He wants to show me great things.
- Take home: Invitations

Changing Something Ordinary into Something Extraordinary – Wedding at Cana – John 2:1-12

- Big ideas: Jesus can do miracles. Jesus can change something ordinary into something extraordinary.
- Turning water into wine – Punch powder mix in empty pitcher ... pour in the water and watch the pitcher fill up with "wine."
- Take home: We made something extraordinary out of some ordinary things. This can be a food item (cookies, ice cream sundaes, root beer floats, etc.) or an art project (beads into necklaces, pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns, etc.) or make tie dye T-shirts.

Jesus is the "Light of the World" – John 8:12, 2 Corinthians 4:6,7

- Big ideas: Light takes away darkness, shows us where to go, keeps us from tripping/falling down or getting lost.
- Open/Cover eyes, blind walk, lights going on/off, etc.
- Take home: Flashlights, glowsticks, or if it is around Halloween make Jack-o'-lanterns and put the light inside. Jesus wants to shine His light in you and through you.

Jesus Knows Our Name – Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-9

- Big ideas: Our Name – one of the most important things about us. Jesus knows everything about me and He wants to be my friend. Jesus wants a relationship with me!
- Take home: Polaroid of you with your name and a magnet (If Jesus had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.)



### Jesus Wants to Help Me – Jesus Calms the Storm – Luke 8:22-25

- Big ideas: Jesus has miraculous powers. Jesus wants to help me ... the loud storm did not wake Him up, but the cry of one of His friends did.
- Act out the scene in a life-sized boat (call up the kids to participate using fans, squirt bottles, etc).
- Take home: Inexpensive pool floaties from Walmart = Jesus will keep us afloat: He is our life preserver.

### “I See You” – Jesus Raises a Son to Life – Luke 7:11-17

- Big idea: “I see you!” In the story the woman never called for help or exercised great faith or sought a miracle. Yet Jesus SAW her. He NOTICED her ... her grief, sadness and hurt. He pursued her in her pain, because He had such compassion for her. He suffered with her. Jesus SEES us. He NOTICES us. He sees our pain, sadness and hurt, and He wants to pursue us and help us. He does not look beyond us but He looks right into our hearts. His love for us moves Him with great compassion.
- Small groups: What part of your life do you want God to see, to notice, to help?
- Take home: Some kind of eye glasses, or an art project with mirrored paper

### Jesus Feeds 5000 – John 6:1-13

- Big ideas: Jesus cares about our needs and is able to provide for them. Jesus can do miraculous things. Jesus can make a lot out of a little.
- Pass out basket of homemade bread.
- Take home: Bag of little fishies

### Valentine’s Story – Love Story – Luke 15:3-6

- Big ideas: The shepherd loves His sheep. He will go after the lost sheep. He knows each sheep by name. Every one of them is important to Him.
- Take home: Valentine candy hearts and poem or verse

### Love Story – Bleeding Woman

- Big ideas: Jesus will stop everything to listen to me. He loves me. He always has time for me. “I want to hear your whole story.”
- Take home: Valentine candy hearts and poem or verse

### Christmas Story – Luke 1 and 2, Matthew 1 and 2

- Big ideas: Use a Nativity set and hold up each character as you tell the Christmas story (Try to give interesting and new information about each, e.g. Mary was about your age when all of this was happening to her: the stable must have been stinky with all of those animals in it; it was winter so it must have been cold; God went to the shepherds first with the good news; shepherds were often seen as the “least of these,” but that is whom God thinks is important.)
- Act out the story using the kids.
- Take home: Candy canes and the candy cane story

## Jesus is our Best Friend

**Opening:** Story describing my own friend, Jess, and what she does that makes her a good friend. (Show photo for visual.)

**Activity:** Kids in small groups, identify someone they think of as a best friend (peer, coach, parent, sibling, whomever) and what that person does to show them he or she is a best friend (e.g. listens to me, spends time with me, cheers me up, etc.). Kids then gather as a big group and share the characteristics of a best friend. The characteristics are written on a large piece of paper in front of the group.

**Link to Scripture:** Jesus is a great example of a best friend, because he has every characteristic we named (refer to what is written on board) I believe I used the following Scripture and kind of paraphrased what happened: John 6 (Jesus feeding 5,000 – spending time with His friends and went to where they were to spend time with them); John 2 (Jesus turns water to wine – highlight that He celebrates with His friends ... dances, tells jokes, gets goofy, etc.); Luke 8:43-48 (Jesus heals the woman who has been bleeding – highlight that He also spends time with His friends when they are really hurting and need someone to be there).

**Conclusion:** Jesus shows us, in MANY examples, that He is a great friend to have. One of the greatest things about Jesus is that His deepest desire is to be best friends with each one of us. He wants to spend time with us, celebrate with us and be there for us when we need Him.

Note: I think I may have printed out small sheets of a Max Lucado quote for each kid to bring home. I think it is this one:

“If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If He had a wallet your photo would be in it. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He’ll listen. He could live anywhere in the universe and He chose your heart.”



## Sin, Cross and Resurrection Talks

### Lost Son – Luke 15:11-24

- Big ideas: We've all made mistakes. Lost = Wanting to do things our own way. Daddy's heart for his lost son = God's heart for us. Easter = Coming home to Jesus.
- Sin = Two chairs (Represent God and us) – Turning our chair/life away from God. Or use a door closing to symbolize a separation, broken relationship. (We actually had a door built into a casing which we could use for our example.)
- Cross = Jesus took our punishment, so that we could find our way home to God. (You could use that chair analogy to show turning your chair/life towards Jesus. Or you could use the door analogy of opening the door to a relationship with Jesus.)
- Take home: Sticks and twine to make crosses

### God knows us inside and out

**Scripture:** Mark 5:33 – the lady turned and touched Jesus' cloak and it says "she told him the whole truth" and she was healed.

**Intro/Visual aid used:** An onion – many layers. We can only see the outside layer of the onion but there is so much more to the onion than what we see. As we peel away we find more and more layers. And even in the middle some layers are very strong smelling and not that pleasant. Much like an onion, people only see our outer layer, the visible layer. However, there is much more to us, including some layers that are not so pretty.

**Questions:** Do you have layers that you are afraid for others to see, even God?

**Conclusion/Application:** The leader shared that he learned a lot when he realized that God wants us to share ALL of our layers with Him ... and we can pray about ALL the layers in our lives ... hard stuff in our lives and surface stuff like school work or a fun day, praying for relationships with friends and family, and most importantly praying for our relationship with Christ. God wants to know every layer of our lives and He wants us to reveal it all to Him. The challenge was to pray for all layers of our lives. Reference the story in Mark 5:33, how when we reveal all of our "layers" God will heal us and make us new!

### Jesus is Alive! – Matthew 28:1-10

- Big ideas: Jesus died on the cross and now He is alive!
- I got the following idea from the Staff Resources Site's Capernaum club talk page and it was wonderful ...
- Small group activity: Several small containers (We actually made individual bags for each person) with a heart, a cross, a sponge and a rock that have been prepared before club ...

Small group leader discusses meaning of each symbol in your container. Each small group member with a partner takes a turn to get the symbols out of the container and explain their meaning, as they are able.

Heart symbolizes God's love for us. Sometimes we may feel like no one loves us. But that's not true. Jesus promises to love us with a love that never ends.

Cross symbolizes Jesus dying on the cross.

Sponge symbolizes that if we are friends with Jesus, He washes away anything that separates us from God.

Rock symbolizes the rock that was rolled away from the cave where Jesus was buried. Have we taken everything out of the container? Is it empty now? That symbolizes that the cave where Jesus was buried was empty three days later. Jesus came alive again and will be with us forever! When you're feeling alone, remember the rock was rolled away, and Jesus came alive again! He is with you right now and always!

Jesus is alive and He wants to bring us life.

**Scripture:** John 11:25 — "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me shall live even if they die."

**Intro/Visual aid use:** Three plastic Easter eggs containing a cross, a stone and one empty egg to tell the story of Easter. A black garbage bag to illustrate sin, and a white graduation robe to illustrate new life.

**Questions/Points to Cover:** Tell the story of Easter using the eggs – cross, death and resurrection. Have a kid come up and put a black garbage bag over them with a hole cut out for their head. Explain that all of us are dead on the inside because of our sin. Sin is like a disability on the inside that prevents us from living life to the fullest and being the people who we were created to be. We cannot fix ourselves or get rid of our sin. We're stuck in death on our own. Have the volunteer try to remove the bag, but show that they can't because they are trapped in the bag. Because Jesus is alive, He has proven that He is more powerful than death, and He wants to take away our sin and give us life. Remove the garbage bag and place a white robe on the kid to show that Jesus gives us life.

**Conclusion/Application:** Jesus is alive and He wants to give you life now that will last forever.

**Prayer:** Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to take away our sin and give us new life that will last forever.

**Follow-up activity:** Allow each kid to try on the garbage bag then take it off and put on the graduation robe.

## **Appropriation; taking something for your own use**

### Jesus Walks on Water – Matthew 14:22-33

- Big ideas: Jesus wants to be your friend and walk through life with you. Jesus wants to hold your hand and help you up.
- Shoes – Jesus wants to walk through all parts of your life ... Show different kinds of shoes – school shoes, dress shoes, work shoes, exercise shoes, play shoes, slippers and stinky shoes. (Jesus wants to be your friend even when we make mistakes or feel stinky.)
- Take home: Key chains with flip-flops.

### Nothing Separates Me from God's Love – Romans 8:31,38-39

- Door – Invitation or Separation (Give examples of invitations and separations.)
- Jesus' story does not end on the cross. He rose 3 days later in order to take away anything that separates us from God's love. Nothing separates us from God's love. (Romans verses and Matthew 28:20, " ... I am with you always.")
- The decision is thus in our hands ... will we invite Jesus into our hearts, our lives
- Open Door Analogy – Invitation, inviting Jesus into our hearts
- Chair Analogy – Turn your chair toward Jesus
- Take home: Invitation

### New Creation – 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Tie-Dye T-shirts, Tie-Dye Club – We are a new creation. The old has gone, the new is here. We made tie dye T-shirts in club. We did a whole Tie-Dye Club.
- Take home: Tie-dye T-shirts

### Solid Foundation – Matthew 7:24-27 or Luke 6:46-49

- Big idea: Build your house (life) on the foundation of what God says is true, not what the world says is true. God's truth will be a solid foundation in the storms of life.
- What does the world say you need to have to be happy, successful, loved?
- What does God say that you need to have to be happy, successful, loved?
- Take home: Bag with the Scripture, a rock and sand
- Small group or group demonstration: Rock and sand experiment. Build one block house on a rock. Build another on sand. Pour water on both. Which one still stands?



# Chapter Three

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Day Camp Series Example



## Day Camp Series Example\*

(Could be tailored into club talks)

### DAY ONE

Need Bible, shoes

Every day this week I am going to tell you a story and show you a movie clip. Then we're going to talk about a few things together and then in smaller groups with your leaders.

The first story is from the book of Luke in the Bible. It is about two brothers and their dad. How many people in here have a brother?

OK, well the younger brother decided that he didn't like living at home with his brother and his dad anymore and so he asked his dad to give him some money so he could go live on his own. Now, unfortunately he did not manage his money very well and he spent it all really quickly. Have any of you ever gotten some birthday money and you spent it really quick and then you didn't have any left?

That's what this brother did. He had no money left and he had moved away from home, so he got a job and he was working really hard. However, he didn't like his job, and even though he was working really hard he didn't have enough money to buy food, and so he was really sad and discouraged. So, one day he thought – I should just go home. I should tell my dad I'm sorry that I wasted my money and see if he would let me live at home and work with him again. He felt really badly that he hadn't appreciated his dad and that he hadn't been very respectful to him and that he had wasted his money, so he was going to go home and apologize.

Now, let me ask you a few questions before I tell you what happened when he went home:

1. Do you think his dad had a right to be mad at him? Why?
2. Do you think his dad will punish him for wasting his money? Would it be fair to punish him for wasting the money his dad had given him?
3. Who was the son thinking of when he asked for the money and left home? Was the son self centered and only thinking of what might be best for himself when he chose to leave home?
4. Was he still his dad's son?
5. If you make a big mistake, are you still related to your dad and mom?

Let me read to you what happened when the son came home:

Luke 15:20-24

Was the dad mad at him?

Was he still his dad's son even though he had done something wrong?

Did the son realize that he needed to change? That his idea wasn't working too well?

Could the son have done anything that would have made him not be his father's son anymore?

What did the dad do when he saw his son coming home?

OK, now I want to show you a movie clip. The little boy in this movie is afraid that his dad is going to leave him. He wonders if he is naughty if his dad will stop loving him.

Let's watch this and see what happens.

SHOW FILM CLIP – *Martian Child* – section called "Breakthrough."

\* Taken from *Montgomery County, Md. 2009*

This movie and the story I told you both show us sons who are loved by their fathers. Their dad will never leave them all alone. The dad will never send them away. They can have hope because there is someone who loves them and never plans to leave them.

We have a friend like that – Jesus. We have a parent who never will leave us and always will love us – God. I brought something with me to show you. (Get out several types of shoes)

You need to help me with this:

Tell me – If I am wearing these shoes, what am I doing?

Is God with me when I'm doing that?

Dress shoes – church

Work boots – work

Running shoes – playing or exercising

Bedroom slippers – sleeping

Worn out, yucky shoes – even if I'm tired or worn out

## Cabin Time

Make a banner that says, “God is with me wherever I go ... I am not alone.”

- Make sure everyone knows each other.
- Here are a couple questions for you:
  - Do you ever think about what things will be like when you are older? Maybe moving out on your own? Going to college? Doing whatever you want?
  - What might be good about being on your own? (independence, freedom, exciting, do whatever you want, etc.)
  - What might be hard about being on your own? (loneliness, fear, don't have the support you need, etc.)
- God wants for us to feel excited about what life holds for us and He wants to join us for the journey. We are not alone. God is with us no matter where we go, right? Even though we don't see God, He is with us. Can you see the air around you? No. But take a deep, deep breath. Your whole chest filled up, right? The air you breathe in is all around us and keeps us full and alive and moving. I think that's what God is like ... He can feel transparent to us, but he's always with us keeping us full and alive and moving.
- OK, last thing ... let's look at our shoes. Remember when so-and-so held up the different kinds of shoes? What did he or she say? That God is with us in the midst of all that we do; wherever we go; whatever we're going through. What kind of shoes do we have on today? What do we usually use them for? (flip-flops for relaxing, sneakers for exercise, boots for rainy weather, etc.) Trace your shoe print onto a piece of construction paper and then cut it out. Make sure to write your name on it. Next, each camper and buddy can tape/glue their footprints on the large group banner.

## DAY TWO

Need Bible

Joshua 1:9 on poster board

Yesterday we talked about a father who loved his son even when the son did something wrong. The father loved him, celebrated when he came home and would never leave his son. We talked about how God loves us and will never leave us either.

Today I want to tell you a story about one time when Jesus was with His friends in a boat. It was a beautiful day and Jesus fell asleep and was taking a little nap as they went for their boat ride. Have any of you ever taken a boat ride? Sometimes the sun is shining and the boat is rocking a little bit and you get sleepy.

Well, Jesus and His friends were going across the lake, Jesus fell asleep, and all of a sudden a big storm came up. (People with spray bottles of water run in.) There was wind, there were waves, it was a big storm. Water was pouring into the boat and they thought they were going to tip over or sink. They woke Jesus up and said, "Jesus, we are going to drown!"

Do you know what? **Sometimes bad things happened even to Jesus' friends in the Bible.** Do bad things happen sometimes in our life? Yes, they do. Do you know what Jesus did? It says in the Bible – Luke 8:24, "Jesus calmed the storm!"

Have you ever had something happen in your life that felt like a storm to you? I know I have. Do bad things ever happen to you or your family? Are there times when things seem out of control and you wonder what is going on?



Do you think Jesus cares about us in those times? Do you think He can calm our lives?

I want to show you a film clip about a girl who is a great surfer. She was out surfing one day and a shark came swimming near her and bit off her arm. Now that seems like a horrible stormy type of thing to happen in someone's life, right? Let's watch what she did then.

SHOW FILM CLIP – Download from WingClips.com: *Heart of a Soul Surfer*, the episodes entitled: "The Attack" and "Back in the Water."

So, in the story I told you Jesus' friends ended up in a surprise storm and in the film clip this surfer girl lost her arm. Do bad things happen sometimes?

## **Who is with us in the midst of scary or stormy times?**

Let me read you another verse that you are going to talk about in your small group time:

“Be strong and very courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

What does God ask us to do when there are scary times in our lives?

Be strong. Be courageous. Don't be terrified. Don't be discouraged.

Why wouldn't we be terrified and discouraged?

Because God will be with us wherever we go.

Does He always love us? Is He always with us?

Let's pray and do our cabin time activity in our small groups with our leaders.

## **Cabin Time**

Have verses written on puzzles that have been taken apart and have kids put the puzzles together. (You can buy blank puzzle pieces and write the verses on them.)

Put the puzzles together and talk about those verses in small groups.

Each camper can bring home a puzzle at the end of the day.

God is with me wherever I go ... even when things around me are bad.

- Here are a couple questions for you:
  - Wouldn't it be nice if nothing went wrong in our lives?
  - What would your perfect day look like? Describe it.
  - Have you had a time in your life that wasn't so perfect? What happened?
  - When you do go through the hard times ... isn't it easier to do it when you have someone around you to go through it with?
- God wants us to know that He is there in the midst of our storms. Have you ever sat and watched a thunderstorm before? It becomes cooler out and gets windy and loud sometimes. The sky usually darkens. Sometimes we get caught out in the rain and get drenched. Sometimes we are safe and warm inside. Life can be like that too. There are times when things are going well and you are safe and warm. There are other times when it seems like things are all going wrong and we get caught unprepared. I know that either way ... God is there and will make something amazing happen. When the storm is calmed down ... birds start chirping, the plants have been watered, we pick up the branches that have fallen down, and we get out and look for rainbows and the sun.
- OK, last thing ... the egg drop. Use the materials you have in your cabin time box to make something that will protect your egg from a really big fall onto the concrete. Wrap your egg up as well as you can. Once you have finished we will do the “drop” and see what happens.

## DAY THREE

Big rocks to write on and a marker  
Backpacks) to carry them in  
Cross set up at the front of the room

We've talked about how God always wants to be with us, that He always loves us. But sometimes we feel far from Him. God is so holy and good and perfect, and we aren't. Sometimes we choose to do wrong things or think thoughts that are unkind. Can you name some things that happen that make you feel far from God or not good enough for God? I'm going to write those things on these rocks:

Anger, stealing, yelling, name calling, hitting, fear, broken relationships, pain, death, rejection, sadness, disappointment, rebelliousness, disobedience

Sometimes we feel weighted down by these things (several people wear the backpack with rocks in it). When Jesus died on the cross, He took these things so we don't have to carry them around. (Have kids put rocks at foot of cross and read aloud what is written on the rock.)

SHOW FILM CLIP from *Daddy Day Camp* – Snack Bar clip

Do you want to leave your negative thoughts or experiences at the cross?  
The Bible says we used to be living in the world without hope and without God, and we were far from God. But Christ offered His life's blood as a sacrifice and brought you near to God. (Ephesians 2:12,13)

In cabin time I want you to discuss with your leader what happens that sometimes makes you feel farther away from Jesus. Write those things down on the squares of paper and then bring them here to the foot of the cross with your group when you're ready.

Let's pray and then divide into your small groups.

## Cabin Time

God is with me wherever I go ... even if I make a mistake.

- Here are a couple questions for you:
  - Do you have a best friend?
  - What makes him or her your best friend?
  - Have you ever hurt his or her feelings before? Have your feelings been hurt by him or her? What do you usually have to do to make things right again?
  - Do you think it's easy to choose to do the right thing? What about when you're alone and no one knows the difference? Any easier? What about when there are people around you? Do you tend to do the right thing when they can see what you're doing?

- God wants us to know that He is our friend. This week we've been talking about how much He loves us and how He never wants to leave us. Remember day one? We said that God is with us wherever we go (remember the shoes) and there is nothing we can do to make Him leave our side. Remember yesterday? We said that God is with us even when things get bad, and we feel cracked and broken (like our eggs). Know this too, God is with us even if we make a mistake. He's with us when we not only make a small mistake, but when we really mess things up royally! Just like your best friend, if you choose to do something that hurts him, he forgives you and forgives your mistake. Do you know how many times God will forgive you? An infinite number of times! That's a lot! His love smothers any mistake you make.

To end cabin time today, if you'd like to you can take a piece of paper and write down a mistake you've made recently (or draw a picture of something). No one will see it but you. When you're done, you can bring it to the bottom of the cross. You can let it go and know that God forgives you and your mistake. You can leave it there and walk away. (You can do this as a group if that is easier for campers/leaders.)





## DAY FOUR

Need: big wrapped present with something inside you can hand out later; glove with an object to try to hold; and something to use to hit the glove.

(Walk in holding the gift.) I brought something for you today – but I’m just going to leave it up here in front for now. Does anyone know what’s in here?

For the past couple days we have been talking about how God loves us and is always with us and gives us hope even when things are hard. Can we do anything to show God that we are not His children? Is there anything that could happen where He wouldn’t be with us? Does He celebrate when we turn to Him and want to be with Him?

Let me start with a film clip today. This young man was born with no legs and no arms. His name is Nick.

SHOW FILM CLIP – *Life Without Limbs* (about Nick Vujicic), the part called “My Story”

When Nick was born, his parents had a choice. They could be angry, they could do nothing or they could do their best to raise Nick because God had given him to them as their child. Later Nick had a choice. He could be angry, he could do nothing or he could choose to believe that God loved him and believe that he has gifts and opportunities and choose to use those gifts to serve God.

Do you see this gift up here? Is it doing anyone any good? No, it’s just sitting here.

I want to show you something.

Here is a glove. What can this glove do all by itself?

It can’t hold someone’s hand.

It can’t hold an object.

It can’t stop someone from hurting it.

It is lifeless and useless.

That’s how our lives are without the gift of a relationship with Jesus. That’s how this gift is sitting up here in this box. It is useless just sitting there.

When I put my hand in the glove, the glove can now:

Hold someone’s hand

Hold objects without dropping them

Help someone who needs help

It is now useful; it can help and act.

In the Bible, Colossians 2:6 says, “You received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him.”

In Revelation 3:20 Jesus says, “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with Me.”

Just like this box sitting up here or just like the glove without a hand, we need help. We need to receive Jesus’ help. We need to say thank you for this gift He is offering us.

In order for this box to do anything useful, we need to say thank you, to open it and receive what’s inside. Who would like to open it and have what’s inside?

If you want to tell Jesus right now that you want Him to live in you and use you and give you hope,

then you can say this prayer out loud after me.  
"Jesus, thank you for loving me. (wait)  
Thank you for being my friend. (wait)  
Thank you for giving me gifts to use for you. (wait)  
Thank you for giving me new life. Amen." (wait)

## Cabin Time

There is a certificate for each camper and leader. Have group members talk about how we see God working through each individual person and have someone write what was said on each certificate. These will be laminated and made into placemats for the celebration dinner. After which each person can take home his or her personal affirmation certificate.

God is with me wherever I go ... even inside my heart.

Today's cabin time is going to look a little different ... we are going to do a craft! We're making a pillow. (You can make it for yourself or for someone you care about.)

Everyone grab two pieces of fabric. (Whatever colors you want to use will work) You are going to lay the first piece down on the table and then lay your second piece right on top of it. (so that the frayed edges match up). Next, tie your edges together around three of the sides. Then, add stuffing to the inside of your pillow and finish off by tying the fourth side.

Think about your favorite pillow ... when do you usually use it? Probably at night right? There is something so nice about nighttime ... things quiet down, you have a chance to rest and be alone. It is a great time to think about your day and how things went or about what's coming the next day. When you slow down, that can be a great time to talk with God too. He's there with you and wants to hear about what you're feeling and thinking. Life can become more full as we connect to God and when we let Him into our lives.

Think about the pillow you're making ... what would it be like if we didn't put any stuffing into it? Flat, right? It wouldn't really work the way it is supposed to work. There is something "flat" about our lives when we're disconnected from God too. Adding the stuffing to the pillow turns it into something special! The two pieces of fabric go from being flat to being full and rich and soft. Something on the inside changed and now the outside becomes something new too!

Connecting with God really turns us into something amazing too! Being friends with him makes life become full and rich. He comes into our hearts and changes us on the inside. We are able to shed things that we talked about yesterday ... things like hurts and fears and mistakes. You notice things on the outside changing too ... we start to care about the people and things around us the way God does.

## DAY FIVE

Need: PowerPoint family picture with rings to give away

- I. Introduce our family; photo with girlfriends together
- II. Andrew and Rachel broke up – they no longer wanted to be together. They wanted to date other people.
- III. Lindsay and Ashlea started dating in college. They **chose** to go out with one another. They were happy and faithful to that choice. They chose to spend time together and get to know one another better. They chose not to date other people.
- IV. In January Lindsay **asked** Ashlea to marry him. They want to spend the rest of their lives together and they knew that. But it helped to have a specific time that he asked her to make it official and real.
- V. She **accepted** that invitation to spend the rest of her life with him. She made a choice too – the choice to accept his offer. They have made a commitment to one another to move toward marriage. She is wearing an engagement ring to symbolize this commitment and they will both give each other wedding rings during their wedding ceremony.
- VI. How do they feel? They each feel **loved**. They feel like part of each other's family. They belong to one another. John 15:9.
- VII. When they told us that they were going to get married, we **celebrated**. We are so happy for them that they have each found someone who loves them so much.
- VIII. They have made a **commitment**; they have made a choice to be together for the rest of their lives.
- IX. Jesus loves us like that. He has chosen to be with us. He wants to spend time with us and wants us to want to spend time with Him. He is asking us to spend the rest of our lives with Him. He wants us to accept His offer and make a commitment to be faithful to Him. Jesus says in the Gospel of John, chapter 15: "I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. You didn't choose Me, remember; I chose you."

If you would like to wear a ring to be reminded of Jesus' love, I brought one for you. When you wear this it symbolizes that you are His. Please come up here to get a ring from me or your leader if you would like to wear one as a reminder.

Let me close us by praying.

## Cabin Time

God is with me wherever I go ... and loves me more than I can imagine.

- Here are a couple questions for you:
  - Do you have a boyfriend or girlfriend?
  - What does it mean to be a boyfriend/girlfriend with someone?
  - Do you know anyone who's married?
  - What does it mean to be married to someone?
  - Why do people wear wedding rings?
- There are a lot of things that are really cool about being married. You have a partner and friend to go through life with. You know that you will work things out if something happens between the two of you ... you are committed to each other. You know that when things are rough, you'll be together through it. You know that when things are going well, you can celebrate together. That is what it's like when you are friends with God. He is there with you to go through life with. He forgives you when you mess up and is always waiting for you with open arms. He is with you even when you are in the middle of your saddest or loneliest moments. He is so happy in your happiest moments and loves to know that you are celebrating. Just like a husband or wife, God is REALLY in love with you ... just as you are, for better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness or in health, if you're smart or not, cute or not, behaving or not, able to walk or not, etc.
- Remember the egg drop from day two? We talked about things in our lives that make us feel heavy, weighed down, cracked or broken. After looking inside the little protective capsules that each team made, all of the teams' eggs were indeed cracked and broken. Take a look at your eggs now! This is what God sees when He looks at us ... even though we may feel like we are cracked or broken, even if things aren't perfect in our lives or if we've made mistakes, even if we have a disability ... God sees us as whole and perfect and loves us just the way we are. And He's hoping that we'll love Him right back!