

Bridging Camp Back Home



“Having a bridge between camp and the rest of your year won’t happen by chance. Someone has to build it.”

-A really smart man

After Camp Ideas

Keep the camp experience going by creating events and teaching that ties into the camp theme. Here are some suggestions:

“BURN, BABY, BURN”

Application: Story of Moses’ Encounter with God

Have a bonfire where students can cook up some hotdogs and marshmallows. Then talk with them about Moses’ encounter with God at the burning bush. The Bible explains that what drew him to the bush was that it burned but it didn’t burn out or burn up. It wasn’t burning on its own resources but on the power of God. Many students come home from camp having made decisions but their decisions quickly fizzle out. Even though they might have changed at camp, their home and their friends didn’t, but they can be like the burning bush if they keep trusting in and relying on God.

SKIT NIGHT

Divide your students into groups of 3 to 5 and have them look up the verses below and create a short skit that illustrates the truth found in that verse. Each of these verses deal with doing right and following Christ. This is a great way to challenge your students to continue living for Jesus every day. Take time to also re-read the camp verse and remind them of the camp theme, and, if you want, have some judges choose a winning skit. Give them a prize for it. You might even want to video the skits to show them the following week.

Drama Verses:

1 Corinthians 15:33—Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

Romans 12:17, 19, 20, 21— Never pay back evil for evil to anyone...Never take your own revenge...but if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Colossians 3:8—But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander and abusive speech from your mouth.

2 Corinthians 5:17—Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

[The Living Bible rephrases this verse as: "When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!"]

Proverbs 1:10—My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them.

[The Message Bible rephrases this verse as: "Dear friend, if bad companions tempt you, don't go along with them."]

Ephesians 4:25—"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor.."

Ephesians 4:26-27—"In your anger do not sin." Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

Ephesians 4:28—He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

Ephesians 4:31—Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice [hate]. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ in God forgave you.

DODGE BALL BLAST

Use ideas below to have a “Dodge Ball Blast.” For this you can either use paper wads or play full-body dodge ball using the soft-feeling balls such as the water-balls that many people use in their swimming pools.

Game: Paper Dodge Ball

Discussion: What you should and shouldn’t dodge in life

YOU WILL NEED: Instead of using the playground balls, use wadded up pieces of paper and be sure to tell your students to aim at the feet. The only hits that count are ones that hit below the knee. .

Dodge Ball, Version 1

Regular Dodge Ball: One hit and the student is out. When out, the student needs to sit down away from the game. If a student catches the ball, NO ONE is out.

Spiritual Application

A minute ago you wanted to “dodge” the balls. There are few things that God wants you to dodge in life. God wants you to dodge sin. Give me an example of sin. What are some ways you can dodge sin? (Walk with Jesus, Go to church, pray, read your Bible.) How can you help others dodge sin? (Tell them about Jesus; if they are doing something wrong, help them to choose to do what’s right.) If you want, you can tie in Ephesians 6 where Paul talks about how the fiery darts of the devil are deflected by the shield of faith.

Dodge Ball, Version 2

*3-Hit Dodge Ball—*First hit, drop to one knee; Second hit, sit down, cross-legged; Third hit, now they’re out.

Spiritual Application

A minute ago I told you some things that God wants you to dodge in life, but there are also some things that God does not want you to dodge or “miss out” on—He doesn’t want you to miss out on REAL life—which only comes from Jesus, or to miss out on giving your life to Christ, or to miss out on the love, joy, and peace that comes from knowing and following God.

ASK: What are some ways that you can follow Jesus?

ASK: What do you think stops some people from following Jesus?

Dodge Ball, Version 3

Side-Trading Dodge Ball— When a person is hit, he or she switches teams. Have a time limit for this because this game can go on a long time.

Spiritual Application

When you hit someone with the ball, what happened? They came to your side. In life we want to live on God’s side and we want to help others come to Him as well. What are some ways that you can help others come to know

Jesus? By the way you live your life, do you think other students would want to know more about your Jesus? Do you think your friends know that you are a Christian? What do you think they would say if they knew that you followed Jesus—would they be surprised?