

2018 Church Group Devotions Deep Impact/World Missions Week

The following pages contain church group devotions for those attending Deep Impact or World Missions Week at Fort Caswell this July. “Pre-camp” devotions are found at <https://baptistsonmission.org/camps/deep-impact>. Scroll down the page for 2018 Pre-Camp Bible Studies. These were prepared by this year’s Deep Impact Staff and are available to any church attending a Deep Impact or World Missions Week.

The studies listed in this booklet have been prepared by Rev. Derek Bailey and Rev. Don Strader. These have been written specifically for the 2018 Deep Impact/World Missions Week - Monday through Friday, July 2 - 6, 2018. During camp, there will be a time scheduled each evening for Church Group Devotions. Two options are provided for you on these pages. You are welcome to use these devotions or provide your own. These are provided as a service to you.

Thank you for joining us at Fort Caswell for the 2018 Deep Impact or World Missions Week. Our theme this week, **“Good. Right. True.”** is taken from *Ephesians 5:8-10 (ESV)*– *“for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.”*

You are responsible to provide your group with any additional materials needed for nightly church group devotions. Depending on the option you choose to utilize, you may need to download music ahead of time and provide some type of player for use during the devotional times.

Each camp participant will be provided with a workbook that provides morning devotions; note spaces for morning celebration, evening worship, and church group devotional times; and morning Bible study notes for the WMW youth. You may want to bring pens or additional supplies to aid your group devotions.

Pre-Camp Devotions are found online at <https://baptistsonmission.org/camps/deep-impact>.

2018 Deep Impact/World Missions Week Church Group Devotions are included in this booklet or may be downloaded from <https://baptistsonmission.org/camps/world-missions-week> (scroll to the bottom of the page).

We look forward to our week together to find what is **“Good. Right. True.”**

A Message to Church Leaders:

It's the first night of camp and we have just been introduced to Caswell for the year 2018. We have been introduced to our camp pastor and our worship leaders for the week, and we have just left an awesome service of worshipping God. As a group what are your goals for this week. Your group may be just a few or it may be over 50. The size of your group does not matter.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." - Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

You are at Caswell, and God is with you this week! Start every day and meeting time by inviting Him into your conversations, thoughts, decisions, and activities.

There are 2 options provided for Youth Group Night Devotions.

The First Option is aimed at using the evening message from Hatch as the foundation for your devotion time. There are "note taking sheets" for each evening in this guide. If you choose option 1, use the sheets to fill in details from the message and help organize your devotion time. There is a challenge to take application to the "next step". Before you begin your devotion, please take a minute to think and pray through the last set of questions to ensure you take the devotion time in the direction most personal for your group.

The Second Option is aimed at using a "youth group building focus" to challenge your students to look at the group with the same love they have for themselves. There are suggested discussion questions, scriptures and ways to connect your youth group with their mission in the Kingdom. Each of the devotions in the second set connect your devotion topic with a song by our worship leaders - "The Museum". Please pray for the Spirit's guidance during this time. Students will be tired, and often distracted, but this is an incredible ministry time. While these devotion sets offer structure and planning, they do not take the place of Holy Spirit direction or the specific needs of your group. No one knows your students the way you do. God's plan is the greatest priority.

Overview of Section 2 Topics:

- Monday – Direction
- Tuesday – Love God (Devotion)
- Wednesday – Love Others (Unity)
- Thursday – Make Disciples
- Friday – Steps of Faith

SPECIAL REQUEST!

Make prayer a priority for your group. Bring a notebook for prayer requests and pass it among your group daily. This will allow students and leaders to write down prayers and answers to prayers during the week. Be sure to celebrate the answers. It will manage your time well. It will give written requests for individuals and the group to pray over specifically.

MAIN PASSAGE: _____

MAIN THEME: _____

MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:

STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)

GO ONE STEP FARTHER

What is the next step to go beyond where the speaker ended?

How specifically can my students respond to what they have learned?

Before presenting the devotion consider the following:

What main takeaway do I want my students to take from the message?

What is the main verse I want them to keep with them?

How does this relate to contemporary issues with our youth or our community?

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE (OPTION 1)

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

MAIN PASSAGE: _____

MAIN THEME: _____

MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:

STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)

GO ONE STEP FARTHER

What is the next step to go beyond where the speaker ended?

How specifically can my students respond to what they have learned?

Before presenting the devotion consider the following:

What main takeaway do I want my students to take from the message?

What is the main verse I want them to keep with them?

How does this relate to contemporary issues with our youth or our community?

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE (OPTION 1)

Wednesday, July 4, 2018

MAIN PASSAGE: _____

MAIN THEME: _____

MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:

STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)

GO ONE STEP FARTHER

What is the next step to go beyond where the speaker ended?

How specifically can my students respond to what they have learned?

Before presenting the devotion consider the following:

What main takeaway do I want my students to take from the message?

What is the main verse I want them to keep with them?

How does this relate to contemporary issues with our youth or our community?

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE (OPTION 1)

Thursday, July 5, 2018

MAIN PASSAGE: _____

MAIN THEME: _____

MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:

STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)

GO ONE STEP FARTHER

What is the next step to go beyond where the speaker ended?

How specifically can my students respond to what they have learned?

Before presenting the devotion consider the following:

What main takeaway do I want my students to take from the message?

What is the main verse I want them to keep with them?

How does this relate to contemporary issues with our youth or our community?

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE (OPTION 1)

Friday, July 6, 2018

MAIN PASSAGE: _____

MAIN THEME: _____

MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:

STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)

GO ONE STEP FARTHER

What is the next step to go beyond where the speaker ended?

How specifically can my students respond to what they have learned?

Before presenting the devotion consider the following:

What main takeaway do I want my students to take from the message?

What is the main verse I want them to keep with them?

How does this relate to contemporary issues with our youth or our community?

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO (Option 2)

Monday, July 2, 2018

Possible opening questions for your youth to begin a conversation:

How was your first day of Caswell 2018?

What did you like about today in and outside the service times?

What were some of the things you thought were interesting?

What are some goals for our group this week? What do we hope we get out of this week?

Group Goals for Caswell - Examples

How Do We Get There?

- We want to get closer to each other as a group.
- We want to seek God’s will for our lives & our group.
- We want to make a difference.
- We want to see our church and group grow.

Some individual goals may be:

- I want to discover God.
- I want to know His will for my life.

Write down goals your group mentions for the group and individuals. Determine your top few goals. Make these the requests within your prayers both globally and individually.

How do we seek direction from God both individually and as a group?

Consider using one or more of the following verses.

James 1:5 - Pray for wisdom when you want to please God. He will give decision-making wisdom.

Romans 12:1,2 - Focus your mind this week. It will be a daily task.

Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your works to the LORD And your plans will be established.

Proverbs 16:9 -The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

The Museum - The Grace of Jesus -- Listen to the beginning of this great song.

Awake my heart, God I need you now
 I could drown alone here in my doubt
 Prone to wander from your side
 I'm getting tired of tired eyes
 God I'm coming here for you

Wake up this week with an excitement for your relationship with God. Worship, read, listen, be open, connect in honor of what God wants to do in your life.

Prayer: Pray each person in this group will discover God’s will and purpose for the group and as individuals. Pray for open hearts, ears, and minds to listen and seek God.

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO (Option 2)

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

A lot of schools and teams are using the phrase “All In.” This is a simple way to say everything about you is focused toward the goal of your team or school. The word “ALL” is common, but when we think of how Jesus used it, the meaning becomes almost uncommon.

Jesus said the 2 most important things are: (*Matthew 22:37-39*)

1. “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*”
2. (Second, but equally important) “*Love your neighbor as yourself.*”

Perhaps you have thought loving God with your “ALL” seems almost impossible. Since Jesus told us to do it, we need to trust we can do it. How we can get started, or refocused?

HEART: Worship with your thoughts and emotions. Be open to the passions God wants to give you for the lost and broken. Give in the mission offering with love for those you may never know. Don’t let your desires distract you in your pursuit of God. Be selfless instead of selfish. Don’t complain.

SOUL: When it comes to major spiritual decisions, yield to God. Consider where your relationship with Him stands, or whether you have begun a relationship with God. Think about how you can know God now like you will in Heaven. Surrender doesn’t mean give up, it means give “ALL” to God.

MIND: Use ALL your focus to discover what God is telling/showing you. Listen to His voice. Take time to think about what you are learning. Read and finish your personal devos daily. Remember your commitments.

STRENGTH: Serve someone in your youth group. Sleep enough at night so you don’t struggle through your devotions or in services. See what God is doing around you.

The Museum - I Will Love You

And I will love you, I will love you with all that I am
For you forgave me, you forgave me in the depths of my sin
When I gave my heart away you still held on, you kept me safe
When I turned and ran away, you kept your eyes upon my face
Keep your eyes upon my face

God deserves our first and best attention.

In what area (heart, soul, mind, strength) do you find it easiest to love God?

Which area (heart, soul, mind, strength) is the most challenging?

Prayer

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO (Option 2)

Wednesday, July 4, 2018

Loving others is as important as loving God. However, it only happens in the way God wants when we learn to love God first. We are going to explore loving others from the perspective of unity in our youth group. (Read *Ephesians 4:1-3*) These verses help us understand we have an incredibly important responsibility on the inside of our youth group. Notice the main points of instruction:

- Live worthy of being called a Christian.
- Be humble and gentle with each other.
- Make room in your hearts for the mistakes people will make.
- Work hard to stay united together.
- Come together over peace not drama.

This sounds like the youth group everyone wants to be a part of. It sounds healthy. Just like our physical bodies, when our youth group is healthy, we grow better, see evidence of greater strength, and accomplish greater things.

The Museum - What We Stand For

Verse 1:

we are Your hands, we are Your feet
we're rising up to be who You have called us
let us be love for all to see
to shine Your light, to shake the world

Chorus:

let the whole world sing glory to our God
every nation believe You are Savior
let your Spirit pour out like a river on us
this is what we stand for

Verse 2:

You are the hope for all the world
we're here to shine the light of love and mercy
so give us grace and make us bold
Your love oh God, can change the world

Bridge:

we stand for mercy, for Your glory
we stand for justice, for Your honor

Sometimes we need to establish our common ground for unity. This song talks about the stand we are called to make together. Just like in our physical bodies, our thoughts control our movement and actions. When we agree on our purpose in Christ we move, live, and love in unity.

DISCUSSION

What things challenge unity inside of OUR/A youth group? (You don't have to make it personal)

Think about the size of your youth group (small, medium, or large). What can you do to build unity?

Why do you need to be part of a unified youth group when you return home?

Unity doesn't help only those in the group. Jesus told his disciples the way they loved each other would show those on the outside they followed Jesus.

Prayer

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO (Option 2)

Thursday, July 5, 2018

Youth Leader: What qualifies you to do your job? What qualifies the youth to be students?

What is your main purpose as a student, employee (ones that have jobs), athlete?

Read *Matthew 28:18-20*

Jesus gave us a great responsibility (commission). He gave it to us with all the authority of Heaven. The charge is simple. Make disciples. Basically, as Jesus said, teach people to obey “everything” or “all” he taught. Baptize them, because they are making their faith public. This is a huge step. When you have doubts, fears or questions be assured Jesus is always with you.

Perhaps you don't think you can stand up and teach a lesson, lead worship or plan activities. That's okay. It is not what Jesus is saying. You can do everything Jesus said without ever being a public speaker. There isn't a minimum age either.

What lessons did Jesus teach?

What commandments did he give?

What does it mean to make your faith in Jesus public?

Great news! You are ready to make disciples. Making disciples means working with people. We know to help people we may sometimes get into messy situations. Teaching is correcting and helping someone to be better. Everyone needing to be disciplined will not show up at your youth group. Most likely, the best place (mission field) will be your lunch table or one of your classes. Disciples don't happen; they are made. It takes time. Giving up will hurt the process.

The Museum - The Call

I can feel this on the table
I can taste the moment's near
I can see the stakes are rising
Yeah, this is the war
Now our time is here

I can feel the waters rising
I can see the tide is here
We are broken and beaten
Tired and weakened
Will we run, will we hide or
Will we stand, will we fight
When will we get up and answer the call

We shine brighter and love bigger
Run to the dark
And we carry Your heart
To the lost and broken
We'll embrace our rescue mission
To live out your heart in the depths of the dark
For the lost and broken

We shine brighter and love bigger
We'll run to the dark
And we carry Your heart
To the lost and broken
We'll embrace our rescue mission
To live out your heart in the depths of the dark
For the lost and broken; This is the call.

Making a disciple is a mission of love. Jesus teaches us to speak truth and grace equally. Judgement and persecution are never part of the recipe for discipleship.

Who can you influence, teach, and help to become a disciple?

Prayer

YOUTH GROUP EVENING DEVO (Option 2)

Friday, July 6, 2018

Leader Open: Share a PERSONAL STORY where you “stepped out” in faith.

In scripture there is a very familiar story where Peter asked Jesus to call him to walk on the water (*Matthew 14:22-32*). Peter had learned a very important lesson. If Jesus tells us to do something he will make us able to do it. Peter never showed signs of worry over the water for the rest of the story, but the wind scared him.

The Museum - Solid Ground. Listen to these words.

All I see is a hurricane
All I feel is an earthquake
When I'm weak you are stronger now
So I walk on water like it's solid ground
I walk on water like it's solid ground

You can be confident when taking steps of faith even when you are most scared. You can be like Peter who “walked on water like on solid ground,” you can step out in confident fear. Beware though, our enemy wants to distract us with fear.

Our biggest steps of faith rarely go in the direction of our strengths or areas in which we are confident. In this morning's devotion we read Paul's words, ***“I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.”*** (*Philippians 4:13 - NLT*) He also wrote the following verse:

“Each time he said, ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness. So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.’” - 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NLT)

Paul agrees steps of faith are scary. When we are weak in an area of our life it is actually a chance for Christ to be the most effective He can be.

End the devotion by allowing the group to discuss:

What steps of faith scare you?

If God's Word tells you to do it, do you believe you are able to do it?

What is the greatest step of faith we can take together?

What is your great step of faith this group can support as we return home?

CLOSING THOUGHT

It is a step of faith to continue doing the things you have done this week when you return home. Will you step out in faith so you continue to grow and make disciples? Maybe God would rather see you do a “cannon ball” into the deep end of than pool rather than just dip your toe in the shallow end.

Prayer