



# *Come & See*

DEEP IMPACT / WORLD MISSIONS WEEK

July 2022

Church Group Devotions

**2022 Church Group Devotions**  
**Deep Impact/World Missions Week**  
**July 4 – 9, 2022**

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 on the Deep Impact page at our Baptists on Mission website -- <https://baptistsonmission.org/BOM/files/cd/cdbfe877-5798-4f7d-9812-4d51eb4dc7b3.pdf>. Scroll down the page for 2022 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. Don Strader of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC. 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 2022 Deep Impact/World Missions Week. Our theme this week, “Come & See” is taken from Matthew 28:6 (NIV) – ***“He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.”***

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 make signs, provide pens/pencils, sticky notes, basins and towels, etc. Items needed for each evening are mentioned in the devotion. You will need to read and prepare this ahead of camp.

Each camp participant will be provided with a workbook providing 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.

2022 Deep Impact/World Missions Week Church Group Devotions are included in this booklet and may also be downloaded from <https://baptistsonmission.org/camps/world-missions-week>.

We look forward to our week together at Fort Caswell.

A Message to Church Leaders:

Welcome to Deep Impact/World Missions Week at Fort Caswell for the year 2022. By the time you lead your Monday night church group devotion time, we will have been introduced to Tom Richter, our camp pastor; and our musical worship leaders, Rush of Fools. We have left an awesome service of worshipping God. We've even had an opportunity to see a fantastic fireworks display across the harbor in Southport. As a group what are your goals for this week? For some, a major goal was just getting here. Now you're here. What are your goals for the next 4 days?

**Matthew 18:20 (NASB) - *"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."***

You are at Fort 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 each Church Group Night Devotions.

**The First Option** is aimed at using Tom's evening message as the foundation for your devotion time. There are sections to fill in details from the message to 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 that is most personal for your group.

**The Second Option** uses a group building focus to challenge your individuals to look at the group with the same love they have for themselves. There are suggested discussion questions, scriptures and ways to connect your group with their mission in the Kingdom. 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 plans know your students the way you do, we all realize God's plan for them is the greatest priority.

Overview of Section 2 Topics:

Monday – Direction

Tuesday – Key Ingredient (Love)

Wednesday – God Never Changes

Thursday – Jesus Ended the Difference

Friday – Fort Caswell To Go

### **SPECIAL REQUEST!**

**Utilize a notebook for prayer requests this week. Pass it around each evening during group devotions and allow group members to write prayer requests and answers to their prayers. This way you can pray with & for one another as well as celebrate together.**

**MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022**  
**CHURCH GROUP DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE**

**MAIN PASSAGE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MAIN THEME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:**

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**STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)**

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**GO ONE STEP FARTHER**

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

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

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**Before presenting the devotion consider the following:**

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

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

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

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**Monday, July 4, 2022**  
**Church Group Devotions**  
**“Finally, We’re Here”**

For this opening exercise, you may choose to keep your group all together or break into smaller groups to encourage discussion. Possible opening questions for your group to begin a conversation:

- How was your first day of Caswell 2022?
- How different was your trip to camp and getting settled in than in years past?
- What did you like about today in and outside the service?
- 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**

We want to get closer to each other as a group.

We want to seek God’s will for our lives and our group

We want to make a difference.

See our church and group grow.

**How Do We Get There?**

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**Some individual goals may be:**

I want to discover God

I want to know His will for my life

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Bring some poster board or large note pad to write and display the goals your group shares with you. Determine your top few goals and make them the requests within your prayers both globally and individually. You may want to keep these on display all week.

*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 you 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. Your plans will be established.

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

Many of us had online classes, Facebook live church services, Zoom meetings, used Uber Eats, had groceries delivered to our homes, and other changes, over the last few years. Deep Impact/World Missions Week has been quite different the past two years. Now it seems, we are in a new stage of normal. There is still much concern over Covid issues, but most churches, schools, businesses, camps are operating with more of the normalcy we experienced before our world was rocked.

So, how do we celebrate this new year at Camp? How will Caswell play out over the next few days? It is in our hands to make this a great week.

***Prayer: Pray for each person who is at Fort Caswell to discover God’s will and SOAR in their relationship with God. Pray for purpose for your group and individuals. Pray for open ears, open minds, and open hearts to listen, hear, and seek God.***

**TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022**  
**CHURCH GROUP DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE**

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**Tuesday, July 5, 2022**  
**Church Group Devotion**  
**“The Key Ingredient”**

One of the goals this week for your group and our campus is to become closer together through our relationships with Christ and each other.

**What do you think the key ingredient is for you to become closer as a group? (Have students guess the key ingredient by writing it on a post-it note and sticking it to a specific place in your meeting room.)**

*John 13:35 (NIV)- “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

So how do we show we are followers of Christ is our love for one another.

Love is the key ingredient. Love is mentioned throughout scripture.

*John 13:34 (NIV) – “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”*

This week as we continue to “Come & See” Christ, we will see true example of an unselfish love. Our love toward one another is a choice. Make a conscious effort to put others before ourselves.

(For this next reading break into smaller groups if you wish. Have students to read 1 John 3:18 and reflect on the questions below. Instruct them to be ready to share.)

*1 John 3:18 (NIV) – “Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”*

How can we put others before ourselves this week? How do we show our love to others?

The center of a family is love. It is no different for our group. Love does not reflect self; it reflects putting others before ourselves.

**No other love - Rush of Fools**

(Chorus)

No other love

Looks beyond the things I have done

That I'm not proud of

No other love

Lifts me up and holds me in its arms

And lives within my heart

As we want Christ to look beyond the things we have done, we should be a reflection of Him by looking beyond the things others have done. Love without judging.

**Prayer:** Pray for each person and group who is at Caswell to grow closer to God and to each other through the key ingredient -- our love for Christ and each other. To love and not judge, to reflect the grace we have received to others.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2022**  
**CHURCH GROUP DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE**

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**MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:**

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**STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)**

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**Wednesday, July 6, 2022**  
**Church Group Devotion**  
**“God Never Changes”**

Start this evening by breaking the group into smaller groups for discussion. We understand changes occur every minute, hour, day..... Think about some changes you are facing as you consider these questions:

- ✓ How have you changed over the past few years?
- ✓ Have you grown taller? Are you smarter?
- ✓ Have your friends changed?
- ✓ Has your personality changed?
- ✓ How have you changed over the past few weeks? What about your faith?
- ✓ Has anyone told you in a negative or positive way you have changed? If so, do you feel comfortable sharing with the group?

In the Bible Jesus changed many lives even while on the cross, as he told one of the criminals ***“today you will be with me in paradise.”*** Jesus was a change maker in the lives of others but not one who changes.

***Hebrews 13:8 (NIV) “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”***

Jesus is, was, and forever will be a life changer. He is still changing lives today.

The same Jesus who was here over 2000 years ago wants to change your life. Before going into prayer have participants think about things in their lives they would like to change or need to change. Some may want Jesus in their lives, others may recognize changes need to be made in their actions, habits, friends, or the time they spent with God in serving Him.

***James 1:17 (NIV) “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”***

**Prayer:**

**THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022**  
**CHURCH GROUP DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE**

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**MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:**

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**STORY OR ILLUSTRATION TO CONNECT MAIN POINT(S)**

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**Thursday, July 7, 2022**  
**Church Group Devotion**  
**“Jesus Ended the Distance”**

As we saw last night, Jesus changes many lives and he can change ours. Before COVID-19 we did not have the term social distancing, but today we do. Social distancing recommends to be 6 feet apart or two arm’s length away from others. Sometimes we observe this, other times we ignore it. There is a new normal. Is it a good or bad normal? Only time will tell?

What has social distancing impacted in our lives as a group? Individually?

What is sin?

What do you think the term “sin distancing” means?

God despises sin, Adam and Eve committed sin by not being obedient to Him. Sin created distancing between God and man. This distancing did not allow for man to be with God due to sin.

We all have sinned against God. *Romans 3:23 (NIV) – “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”*

God sent a vaccine or cure to sin distancing. God sent Jesus to carry the sins of the world on the cross. Jesus carried the sins for each of us. Jesus is the cure to sin distancing. Each of us needs the cure no matter how hard we try, we sin.

*John 3:16 (NIV) – “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

Many of us may need the cure of sin distancing and it is available right now by believing in Jesus Christ. We need to turn away from our sins, believe Jesus died on the cross and rose three days later, and confess Him as our Lord and Savior. We can now look forward to a new life in Christ with assurance there is no distancing between us and Jesus.

Some of us may feel distance in our relationship with Jesus and we desire to become closer to Him. He never moves, we do. The same Jesus who accepted us originally will still welcome us back right now. The one who died on the cross with His arms wide open, still has His arms open today for all of us.

**Prayer:**

**FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2022**  
**CHURCH GROUP DEVO BUILDER FROM MESSAGE**

**MAIN PASSAGE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MAIN THEME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIN POINTS OF THE MESSAGE:**

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**Friday, July 8, 2022**  
**Church Group Devotion**  
**“Fort Caswell To Go”**

During the Covid 19 all of us have taken a meal home to eat. Many restaurants now offer “to go” services to go along with those choosing to eat in the restaurant. How cool would it be to take Fort Caswell home with us like we do meals?

What were your favorite parts of Fort Caswell?

What parts of Fort Caswell will you take home?

How have you changed this week? How do you feel?

How can/will Fort Caswell impact your life at home?

Fort Caswell is a beautiful creation by God on the coast of North Carolina and a beautiful gift to the Baptist State Convention. The Fort Caswell campus is nothing more than God’s beauty and the facilities. We have heard many pastors say the church campus is buildings but the true church is its members. We love this campus but the same is true of Fort Caswell.

The feelings we have leaving hopefully center on the time we spent with God, friends and family, and the time we spent learning, serving, and worshipping. We can still spend time doing these things when we are home. We can listen and sing to Christian music, we can spend time in prayer, we can read our bibles, we can continue to pray, we can continue to serve and we can invite others to join us virtually or in person. We can record and post a video about our Fort Caswell experience or how my life changed or has been impacted by Jesus. Some of us may have felt the Holy Spirit at Fort Caswell as we have never felt before. Yes, we will take Fort Caswell home with us but it’s not the sun, or the sand, or the sea, or the buildings -- it is the Spirit. The Spirit which has changed and impacted our lives at Fort Caswell is within us and available to us anytime or anyplace.

***Romans 13:13 (NIV) – “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”***

**CLOSING THOUGHT**

It is a step of faith to continue doing all the things you’ve done at camp when you are home. Continue to grow and make disciples. Maybe God would rather see you do a cannon ball into your faith pool, than merely dip your toe in the water.

**Prayer:**

**Thank you for attending Deep Impact/World Missions Week at Fort Caswell. We hope you have grown closer to God. We pray your life has been impacted and changed. You have impacted and changed our lives. We are praying for your continue growth as individuals and as a church family.**