

2023 Deep Impact/World Missions Week

Adult Leader/Chaperone Guidelines

INTRODUCTION

The Caswell experience generates years of memories for persons who have participated. For most, the week is a "mountaintop experience" which challenges and strengthens them in their walk of faith; for a few others, the week is full of frustrations, strained relationships, and the "I don't want to go back" taste in one's mouth. What is the difference?

The difference between a good experience and a bad experience at Caswell is directly related to preparation prior to the week and participation during the week. We are most thankful we are all in this together. Here are some ingredients to help this be a positive experience for you and your church group.

To Prepare for Camp:

1. Pray for yourself, the adult sponsors, and the students who will attend camp.
2. Identify the needs of each student.
3. Communicate to your adult sponsors their responsibilities before they agree to attend.
4. Assign to each adult sponsor students for whom they should pray and with whom they will seek to develop relationships as they prepare to attend camp and while at camp.

Three Divisions of Labor

1. Caswell staff provides pleasant accommodations, meals and other great facilities.
2. Baptists on Mission provides faculty to lead the program taking place in Hatch Auditorium, Bible Study, missions opportunities and Deep Impact/DI Kids mission opportunities, etc.
3. Each church provides the participants and the adult leaders. In order for the week to be successful, there must be committed, prepared and "in charge" adult leaders. The church is responsible for participation and discipline of their group during the week.

GUIDELINES

Please see each of your leaders has a copy of the guidelines and discuss with them their responsibilities and expectations during the week.

1. *Pre-Caswell*

Before going to Caswell plan to have at least one meeting of all children, youth and adults who will participate in Deep Impact/World Missions Week, as well as parents of youth and children.

- ◆ Prepare the items you will need to take to Caswell.
- ◆ Discuss responsibilities and expectations, including behavior and appropriate dress, with all participants.
- ◆ A few years ago, we initiated a cell phone policy for morning celebration, Bible study, and worship times. Please be sure to review this information and develop a plan with your group.

2. *Adult Expectations*

- (a) There must be one adult sponsor, age 21 or older, for every 8 youth/children. A group of male and female youth must have at least one male and one female sponsor. The sponsor(s) must reside with the group and supervise the group's participation/activity on and off campus.
- (b) Adults should be adults! They should model the behavior and participation expected of the youth --in worship, in study, at play, while dining, and in the residence building.

3. *Adult Responsibility*

- (a) Assign each adult certain teenagers/children they are responsible for this week. Example: 1 female chaperone and up to 8 girls. Make sure you have assigned places to link up before each activity in order to keep up with your students.
- (b) During the *ornings*, adults should be with their youth during Quiet Time (8:30 – 8:45), and with their church group in Hatch Auditorium (8:55). Adult Bible Study and missions emphasis time is held from 10:00 to 11:30 in Conference Center Room 5. It is important adults be example for youth in terms of attendance and participation. The adult Bible study and training will be a special time to help you in your own spiritual journey.
- (c) During the *evening*, all adults should be in Hatch Auditorium with their youth. Church groups are requested to sit together.
- (d) The behavior of your group is your responsibility. Please ask them to be quiet. If need be, ask others distracting your group to be quiet as well.
- (e) Be an encourager. Find out special things about the group from your church. Then let them know you appreciate the special part of who they are.
- (f) Know who in your assigned group has made a personal commitment/profession of faith in Jesus Christ.
- (g) Pray daily for each person under your responsibility.

Adults do help set the tone for behavior during worship. Please help the group understand the dress guidelines and purpose of the evening service prior to going. Then monitor their behavior during the service.

4. Appropriate Dress

The following guidelines are outlined in the "Caswell Guideline Sheet for Youth" which you will be providing for each of your youth.

Please dress appropriately for a Christian assembly at all times. We like the fact that the other people who will be with you at Caswell are a very diverse group of people. However, this means things which might not bother you offend some people. Therefore, we make the follow suggestions:

- a. When not at the beach or pool, wear "cover ups" over one-piece bathing suits.
- b. Do not wear T-shirts or other clothing with offensive language, advertisements, or pictures.
- c. Remember the evening service is worship. Please dress appropriately. (No short shorts or tank tops, no one shoulder, halter or strapless tops - including tops of dresses, spaghetti straps are to be 2 fingers or more in width)
- d. There must be no bare feet in the cafeteria, in Hatch Auditorium, or in the classroom building.
- e. Please remember to monitor your group so others will not feel led to complain.

Being mindful of the above requests, please talk with your group before coming to Caswell about appropriate dress for both evening worship and other times during the day. Please encourage your group to establish modest dress guidelines consistent with Christian principles. You might also want to discuss with your youth this concept is a biblical, Christian principle. (See Romans 14)

Individuals should be encouraged not to bring expensive jewelry or large sums of money to be left in suitcases in their rooms or can be easily misplaced.

5. Skate Boards, CD Players, and Laser Pointers

Essentially, these items above are not allowed at Caswell. The prohibition of skate boards is for safety reasons; the prohibition of the large portable radio system is to respect the airspace and noise level of other people and church groups; laser pointers are distracting and blinding and may be confiscated by a program leader if necessary.

If you need a CD player system for programming you are doing, this is understandable and acceptable. Please bring a small CD player and be responsible for how and when it is used.

6. Smoking/Vaping

Again, each church may have a policy in place regarding underage smoking/vaping and tobacco use. Please review your policy with your group before arriving at Caswell. We remind you Caswell's policy states "smoking/vaping is prohibited in any building on campus." We further request any smokers/vapers do so at a reasonable distance from non-smokers/vapors.

7. After Hours

The program schedule is designed to give you adequate time to have church group devotions, clear the campus, and get ready for bed prior to lights out (11:30 pm). Church group devotions should be over by 11:00. Groups assigned meeting places for devotions outside their sleeping areas should move quickly at 11:00 to their housing. Caswell staff will expect the campus to be completely cleared shortly after 11:00 pm. If lights remain on after 11:30, this will be an indication you need help and someone will check with you. Doors to the classroom building will be locked at 11:15 pm.

If some of your group are discovered on the grounds after hours, security will bring them to you. Before the fact, please decide on appropriate discipline for this trespass; communicate it plainly to the group before the first night (or even better at the Pre-Caswell Devotion); and be prepared to take action as needed.

If you are staying in the barracks - please help us enforce the lights out and quiet time rules. If your group is not trying to sleep, others who are will be affected. Teamwork among the adults will go far in helping all enjoy camp to the fullest.

8. Church Group Devotions

All of the program materials are interrelated -- the morning quiet time, the small group Bible study, the morning celebration and evening worship, and the church group devotion all help develop the theme. Thus, the church group devotion is not an after-thought at the end of the day; rather, this is material to bring together what has happened during the day and provides opportunity for reflection and personal or group application.

We encourage all of you to use the devotional material prepared for the churches. You may choose to lead this time yourself or ask one of the adult sponsors to be responsible for this material. Either way, it will require you familiarize yourself with the material and prepare for this prior to leaving for Caswell. NOTE - there may be things to bring with you to Caswell covered in the Church Group Devotion material.

Also, Caswell staff and Deep Impact/World Missions Week faculty will be available to share their testimonies or lead praise songs in Church Group Devotions.

9. Post-Caswell

What happens when you return home is just as important as what happens at Caswell. Please begin planning now on how you might follow up on what happens to your group at Caswell. Pay particular attention to those who make decisions concerning their Christian faith and find ways to help them apply their Caswell experiences in their everyday lives.

10. Cell Phone Policy

Our cell phone policy is a bit different for morning celebration, Bible study, and worship. Cell phones are not to be used in morning celebration, Bible study, and worship (we will use printed Bibles). We encourage each group to think of this prior to our week and set a "cell phone" policy right after a meal time or church group devotion for youth to use phone.

11. Disturbing Note - Please Read!

Space is reserved for those who participate in the program and take care of the facilities. Thus, if a church group consistently or flagrantly disregards the guidelines, they will be denied a reservation the following year.

12. Guest Arrivals During Camp

If a guest or parent is coming to visit your group, please give his/her name to Guest Services at the Reception Center ahead of time to avoid delays at the gate.

13. Most importantly -

Bring a good attitude, openness to hear God's voice, flexibility, and a prayerful spirit. God is going to do a mighty work. Be prepared to help by praying daily for your group members. Find out all you can before you come as to where they are spiritually. Let us know on your arrival names of those who have not committed to a personal relationship with Christ. Let us know also those who will need our special attention and prayer.

14. In Conclusion

We want to work together so we can have satisfied church groups participating in quality programming at a first-class facility.

These are the ingredients for a successful Caswell experience. It is up to all of us to mix these ingredients in the proper proportions as we continue to prepare for Deep Impact/World Missions Week. We pledge to do our part in preparing for a good experience. We trust you will do similar preparation with your group. By working together, we can ensure a good growth experience for all of those who participate. This is our goal. Thank you for helping to make this possible.