

Children's Message – "Build a Camp" – Gretna Glen Camp Sunday 2019

Resources: We have provided cut-outs of the items and a backdrop for you to use. If you'd like to use real objects, please feel free to gather these items and have the children use the real objects instead of the provided cut-outs if applicable. Place all of the items you will be using in a bag for the lesson.

Goal: Have the kids help you build a picture of camp, and realize the good things we get to experience there.

Activity Instructions:

Start by asking the kids: What do they know about camp? Who has been to Gretna Glen or another camp? What are some things that might be at camp? etc. Next - tell them you are going to work together to build a picture of camp. Show them that you have a bag with different pictures of things that are at camp and some that are not at camp. Invite the kids to pick things out of the bag. As each thing is picked talk about whether it belongs at camp or not, and what the item represents. Have them explain why or why not these items belong at camp. Your goal is to fill up the blank page creating a picture of camp and all of the good things you experience there. Help fill in the things that they miss. Below is an "answer key" of sorts to help you with the props for this activity.

Optional: Once you've "built your camp" have the students help you show the congregation what they made by walking through the sanctuary to show everyone.

Answer Key:

Belongs at Camp

- Paper doll chain- at camp you can make new friends and build lifelong friendship
- Cross- at camp you get to build your relationship with God
- Trees – at camp you get to be in nature
- High ropes/canoe – at camp you get to try new things and conquer new challenges
- Backpack- at camp you are given age appropriate responsibility

Does not belong at Camp

- Phone – camp is a chance to unplug for a week
- Nintendo switch (an older kid might know what this is) – camp gives you an chance to have real life adventure
- Homework- while there is a lot to learn at camp, you learn through experiences and exploring
- Clock- camp is a place where you can relax
- Lonely face- at camp we learn about how we are never alone. God is with us always and we get to practice making new friends.

When you have talked about all the items, ask the children's if they have any questions about camp.



