



LEADER





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WELCOME

An experience like no other. A life-changing week. A legacy event that students look forward to the entire year. All three of these statements are true and really do describe Beach Camp!

We are so grateful you have chosen to join us as an Adult Leader this year. We know you have made a real commitment to be part of this week, sacrificing time and energy to pour into the **lives** of students.

For that, we are **so thankful!**

We pray you will receive a **great blessing** from the Lord through your week serving God, by pouring into the amazing teenagers that He sends to you.

Pray hard, rest up, and prepare for the best week of your life at the beach. We are grateful you're joining us at Beach Camp 2019!



PASTOR

I am so pleased to be with you at Beach Camp. It is wonderful to witness our ministers and volunteers pouring into students, making a positive impact on this next generation of believers.

I've often talked about my life-changing experiences at high school camp. I attended Sagamore Hill Baptist Church in Fort Worth, a church well known for its youth ministry and summer camp at Latham Springs near Waco. As a 15-year-old attending camp, I surrendered to Christ unconditionally and my life was changed. Not long afterward, I heard God's call to preach.

God spoke to me, and I know He is going to speak to you. I love that you are devoting time each day to Silent Sounds. Be still. Meditate in His Word. Listen for His voice. It will transform your life.

Jack Graham



IMPORTANT

STAFF NUMBERS

Jameson Barker | Leaders | 812-786-6230

Steph Williford | Leaders | 214-793-6204

Canaan Chapman | Waterscape Condo Co-Captain (Guys) | 615-225-7419

Dane Leake | Waterscape Condo Co-Captain (Guys) | 901-233-5543

Hannah Holloway | Waterscape Condo Co-Captain (Girls) | 972-215-6716

Anthony Vargas | Island Echos Condo Co-Captain | 601-616-0059

Bryant Forshee | Island Echos Condo Co-Captain | 479-926-5456

Erin Edwards | Azure Condo Captain | 214-240-6811

PLACES OF INTEREST

Emerald Coast Convention Center (ECCC) (*Worship, Lunch, Rec*)

1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

*We will be shuttling students to/from the convention center and resorts via our charter buses for Worship, Rec and Lunch (approx. ½ mile).

Waterscape Resort | 1110 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Azure Resort (*Girls*) | 1150 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Island Echos Resort (*Guys*) | 676 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

FALL EVANGELISM

PLANO CAMPUS & ESPANOL

HS Dodgeball Tourney, Sept. 22

JHigh, Sept. 25

NORTH CAMPUS

Block Party, Sept. 22

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY | JUNE 14

- 3:00 p.m. Check-in @ ECCC
- 3:45-4:00 p.m. Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts/
Free Time
NO BEACH
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00-7:15 p.m. Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 7:30 p.m. Worship
- 9:30-9:45 p.m. Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 10:00 p.m. Curfew/Condo Time
- 11:30 p.m. Lights Out

SAT. | JUNE 15

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:45 a.m. Silent Sounds
- 10:00 a.m. Family Groups
- 11:00-11:15 a.m. Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 11:30 a.m. HS Rec/JH Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Transition
- 12:30 p.m. JH Rec/HS Lunch
- 1:15-1:30 p.m. Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 2:00 p.m. Free Time
- 5:30 p.m. Cleanup
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00-7:15 p.m. Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 7:30 p.m. Worship
- 9:30-9:45 p.m. Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 10:00 p.m. Curfew/Condo Time
- 11:30 p.m. Lights Out

SUN. | JUNE 16

- 8:00 a.m.** Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.** Silent Sounds
- 9:30-9:45 a.m.** Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 10:00 a.m.** Morning Worship
- 11:00 a.m.** Family Groups @ ECCC
- HS in Ballrooms 3 & 4
 - JHigh in Parking Lot
(*weather permitting*)
- 11:30 a.m.** HS Rec/JH Lunch
- 12:15 p.m.** Transition
- 12:30 p.m.** JH Rec/HS Lunch
- 1:15-1:30 p.m.** Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 2:00 p.m.** Free Time
- 5:30 p.m.** Cleanup
- 6:00 p.m.** Dinner
- 7:00-7:15 p.m.** Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 7:30 p.m.** Worship
- 9:30-9:45 p.m.** Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 10:00 p.m.** Curfew/Condo Time
- 11:30 p.m.** Lights Out

MON. | JUNE 17

- 8:00 a.m.** Breakfast
- 8:45 a.m.** Silent Sounds
- 10:00 a.m.** Family Groups
- 11:00-11:15 a.m.** Buses:
Resorts >>> ECCC
- 11:30 a.m.** HS Rec/JH Lunch
- 12:15 p.m.** Transition
- 12:30 p.m.** JH Rec/HS Lunch
- 1:15-1:30 p.m.** Buses:
ECCC >>> Resorts
- 2:00 p.m.** Free Time
- 4:30 p.m.** Cleanup
- 5:30 p.m.** Load Buses @ Resorts
- 5:45 p.m.** Dinner
- 6:30 p.m.** Group Picture
- 6:45 p.m.** Baptism
- 8:15-8:30 p.m.** Buses >>> Resorts
- 8:45 p.m.** Curfew/Condo Time
- 10:30 p.m.** Lights Out

TUES. | JUNE 18

- 5:30 a.m.** Load Buses
@ Condos
- 6:00 a.m.** Leave for Plano
- 10:30 p.m.** Buses Arrive
@ Prestonwood Plano

GUIDELINES

All attendees must agree to abide by the following guidelines to be able to attend camp. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN YOUR BEING SENT HOME AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE.**

1. Please let your behavior reflect what Beach Camp is about. We have a zero-tolerance policy toward pranks, hazing, drugs, alcohol, pornography or any other behavior deemed inappropriate.
2. Obey the rules of all camp facilities (condos and ECCC).
3. No one will be allowed to leave any of the camp facilities unless permission has been received from Jason Mick. No visitors are allowed without prior permission from Jason.
4. Stay in the designated areas during Recreation/Free Time.
5. No balconies...ever!
6. Guys are not allowed in the girls' rooms; girls are not allowed in the guys' rooms. Violators will earn an **AUTOMATIC TRIP HOME AT YOUR EXPENSE.**
7. All students must be supervised by an adult leader at all times. No student or group should ever be in a condo without an adult present.
8. Participate in **EVERYTHING.**
9. If medical attention is needed, report the incident immediately to the camp nurses.
10. No one may leave his/her room after curfew. Lights Out is designed for your benefit.
11. You are not allowed to bring or have the following items at camp: drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, pornography, weapons, fireworks, balloons or any electronic cigarette/vaping devices. Do not bring or watch questionable entertainment on personal devices. **WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO INSPECT YOUR LUGGAGE SHOULD WE HAVE REASON TO DO SO.**
12. Any property damage must be reported immediately to Jason Mick and the condo captain.
13. Nametags and wristbands must be worn at all times.
14. Be on time for all Silent Sounds, Family Groups, Worship times, meals, Rec, etc.

DRESS CODE



We expect you to use discretion in dress. Only modest one-piece suits; no two-piece suits or “tankini” tops and bottoms. “Midribs” must be covered. No speedos. Students must wear tank tops or T-shirts over bathing suits to and from Free Time. T-shirts with sleeves are required during all Worship sessions. Shoes must be worn at all times, except when on the beach or swimming.

**Leaders, please check your students before you leave the condo each day to make sure every student is meeting dress code.*

THE IDEAL BEACH CAMP LEADER

BEACH CAMP LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Leaders will be assigned a group of students. These students will be with you in your condo, during Family Group times, and will be part of your Rec team. You are responsible for this group of students and making sure they are on time and where they are supposed to be.
- All leaders and students must be outside during Free Time. No exceptions. All leaders will have at least one Free Time assignment for one of our camp days.
- Leaders help in decision-encouraging each day. Decision-encouraging time will take place usually after the evening session (please see pages 18-19 on how to share Christ).
- Leaders help maintain and enforce camp guidelines with students during the day and evening activities. This includes enforcing dress code, keeping students off of balconies at all times, and making sure everyone is wearing his or her lanyard.
- One of the leader's main responsibilities is to facilitate the Family Group times. It is important that leaders take notes during the Worship service (mornings and evenings) to help during these breakout times. Questions will be provided at the Leader Meeting on June 13.
- Leaders should help provide an atmosphere of energy and excitement to camp during the week.
- Sit with your students during all Worship sessions.

AT BEACH CAMP

1. You will receive all your condo information when you check in at ECCC. Do not, under any circumstance, give your room code to a student at any point during the week. Students should never be in their condo without their leader.
2. Upon arrival, leaders will exit the bus and check in their group at ECCC. Leaders will receive a check-in packet with everything needed for their group.
3. After check-in, leaders and their group will board their bus and go to the resorts. Then the entire group will go to the condo. Make sure students take everything off the bus including luggage from underneath the bus. All students will go directly to the condo.
4. Help the students in your condo stay on schedule! You are expected to make sure that the students are up, eating breakfast and having a devo time prior to leaving for ECCC in the mornings.
5. Camp nurses will be available to treat students and leaders if needed. Nurses will be located in the Sandcastle Room at ECCC and at their respective locations at each condo during Free Time. Please encourage students to drink plenty of water and wear sunscreen during the day. While in the condo, if your student should need the nurse, please contact your condo captain, and the nurse will come to you.
6. Be loyal to all the other leaders and church staff. This means no gossiping or griping about another sponsor or a staff decision.
7. Honor our instructions and time schedule. You are an example to your students. Set the example in dress, modesty, passion and attitude.
8. Quiet hours for all condos begin at 10 p.m. Please enforce this time in your condo.
9. Students are not allowed on the balconies at any time.
10. Nightly condo checks will be done by Prestonwood Students staff members. Condos with exemplary tidiness will be awarded the Golden Condo Award and receive a special treat for their condo that evening.
11. Guy leaders counsel guys; girl leaders counsel girls. All counseling should be done with other adults or students present. You should never be in a one-on-one scenario with a student. If you find yourself in one, please move to a more public area.
12. Be available and ready to help during the invitations!
13. Leaders, do not share a bed with the students. Leaders should sleep in a twin bed, sleeper sofa, roller bed or bunk bed. Do not close your door while you are sleeping. Furthermore, please use discretion when changing clothes, showering, etc. Please do all of this alone and in private, behind a closed bathroom door.
14. All students will be asked to leave their cell phone on the kitchen bar/counter during Family group sessions, during dinner, and at night while sleeping. Students should not have their phones in their rooms during sleeping hours.

BEACH SAFETY GUIDELINES

1. The Beach Safety Captain is responsible to organize and oversee all lifeguards, as well as make sure guidelines in this handbook are adhered to strictly. The lifeguards are in consultation with the Beach Safety Captain, and they will point out the swimming boundaries including how far out into the water students may go.
2. Each student who goes in the ocean must have a buddy. Solo swimmers or trios are forbidden. If a lone student comes to swim, ask him/her to wait until someone else comes to swim alone. The two buddies are to put their nametags on the board before they enter the water. When the two buddies get out of the water (even if for a few moments) they must together immediately remove their nametags from the board. Make certain you know exactly how many students are in the water at all times. If the count of students in the water does not match the count of nametags on the board, call everyone out of the water and have a roll call.
3. Blow the bullhorn siren to signal buddy check every 15 minutes. The buddy check number must match up with the number of nametags on the board.
4. Watch for sunburn. Anyone who appears to be sunburned must apply sunscreen or put on a T-shirt.

SILENT SOUNDS

- Silent Sounds is a time for students and leaders to be still before God and listen to His voice by reading His Word. Each student and adult will receive a camp notebook that includes Silent Sounds for each morning session during which students and leaders will complete the material for the corresponding day.
- Before leaving your condo each morning, be sure students have their camp notebook, a Bible, a pen, name tag and wristband.
- The Silent Sounds Captain (at the beach of each resort) will have extra Bibles, notebooks and pens. We want students to have their own Bible.
- Both you and your students, as a complete group, are to arrive promptly each morning for Silent Sounds.
- Your students should walk down to the beach, past others who are already there and sit down in the next open area spreading about six feet apart from each other.

LIFEGUARD DUTIES

The Beach Safety Captain is responsible for overseeing and organizing the beach lifeguards. The captain is responsible, with the help of other lifeguards, for seeing that the following items get to the beach 30 minutes before Free Time: sunscreen, bullhorn, nametag board, buoys and rescue tubes.

The Beach Safety Captain assigns lifeguards to the following tasks:

- **Swimmers** – Four lifeguards will go into the water and station themselves on the border of the swimming area, looking for anyone in trouble. Three of the lifeguards will be on the perimeter of the swim area, and one lifeguard will be in the middle of the swim area.
- **Taggers** – Two leaders will stay at the nametag board checking buddies in and out, as well as keeping a count of nametags at all times.
- **Counters** – One counter should look for students coming out of the water and remind them to remove their nametags from the board immediately. This person may assist the taggers as well when the line gets long.
- The beach opens each day promptly at 1:00 p.m. Please arrive for lifeguard duty 30 minutes early.

POOL DUTY

- Never lie down in a horizontal position to catch rays while on duty.
- No rough play near the edges of the pool. No diving into the pool. Absolutely no one (leaders included) is allowed to push, pull, or throw anyone into the pool.
- Watch for sunburn. Students who appear to be sunburned must apply sunscreen or put on a T-shirt.
- Help students be considerate of other guests. We need to avoid “overtaking” all of the pools or being rambunctious, especially if small children or senior citizens are in the pool.

- Students may bring their own towels to sit on, but they cannot bring a towel from the condo bathrooms.
- All leaders and students should participate in Silent Sounds. If you cannot take part in Silent Sounds because of an emergency, do not gather with other leaders and talk. This might give the students the impression that spending time with God is not important for adults.
- Everyone is to remain seated until the siren is sounded.
- If anyone needs to be corrected, do so quietly and immediately.
- If you see students engaged in the following, get up quietly and correct their behavior:
 - Sitting too close to each other
 - Sharing Bibles
 - Sitting on or near beach chairs or the water
 - Sand doodling or sand castle building
 - Laying down or laying on their sides (students and leaders must sit up)
 - Throwing sand or beach debris (shells, algae, etc.)
 - Talking to other students

FREE TIME

WATERSCAPE

Each Day, Sat.–Mon.

- Pools
- Beach
- Lazy River
- Snack Shack

Saturday, June 15

- Spike Ball

Sunday, June 16

- Beach Volleyball

Monday, June 17

- Flag Football

ISLAND ECHOS

Each day, Sat.–Mon.

- Pools
- Beach

Saturday, June 15

- Beach Volleyball/Nukem

Sunday, June 16

- Flag Football

Monday, June 17

- Spike Ball

AZURE

Each day, Sat.–Mon.

- Pools
- Beach

TOURNAMENT RULES

VOLLEYBALL RULES

1. Rally scoring.
2. Play to 21: Win by two (2) or be the first team to 25.
3. You and your body + the net = One (1) pt. for the other team.
4. Call your own line – be fair.
5. Double hits are NOT allowed.
6. No blocking, re-serves or attacking the serve ... or server.
7. Subs during serves ONLY.
8. Serves + the net + going over = It's good!
9. Six (6) people per team (playing).

SPIKE BALL RULES

1. Rally scoring.
2. Play to 15: Win by two (2) or be the first team to 15.
3. Start by serving the ball down onto the net.
4. Returning team has up to three (3) hits between them to return the ball back onto the net.
5. Points are scored when the ball hits the rim, the sand, or bounces more than once on the net.
6. Teams of two (2).

COMMON RULES

1. Single elimination.
2. NO CUSSING.
3. NO TIMEOUTS.
4. Only one (1) adult, older person, leader per team.
5. Maintain a positive attitude at ALL times.
6. Dress code still applies.
7. Rules are subject to change per Tournament Staff. They have the final say—they are law.

REC

Rec is a highly interactive and competitive three-day challenge that begins on Saturday of Beach Camp and ends Monday afternoon. All our JHigh and High School students and leaders will be split into four different teams. These teams will battle it out over the weekend as they compete to earn points to see who comes out on top. During Rec, students will be challenged in some type of physical or mental mega game.

Your job is to keep the students of your condo excited and engaged each day during Rec. It's simple—your students will follow your lead, so if you're not excited and all-in, don't expect them to be. Each condo leader will be placed in a "tribe" with the students and staff of your entire condo. You will be given your Rec team assignment the week before Beach Camp so you can pack accordingly, but please know, there is a chance that it will change due to late signups. Please remain flexible!

The most practical and effective thing you can do to be prepared is simply bring whatever outrageous clothing, costume, and flair you have that matches the color of your assigned team.

Your involvement, excitement, and leadership with Rec is an absolute must for it to be successful. Please come ready to lead by example.

TEAM COLORS

While at camp, all students should wear their lanyards and wristbands at all times while at ECCC and the resorts. The color wristband that a student is wearing will delegate which Rec group they belong to:

STORM

Black

STAMPEDE

Blue

NITRO

Green

CRUSH

Orange

FREE TIME

Out of the three days we have Free Time (Saturday, Sunday and Monday), you will have up to two Free Time assignments. During the entirety of Free Time, you will man the assigned station depending on your resort. Please check your assignments and then verify the location.

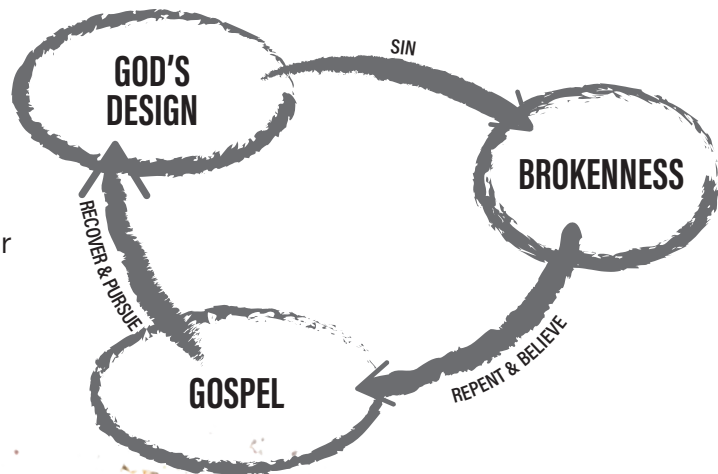
While “on duty,” you need to monitor all students to make sure they are where they are supposed to be and following all Beach Camp rules. This will help us ensure that we are conscious of all the other families at the resort and that we don’t ruin their vacations.





SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH A STUDENT

1. Ask the students why they decided to come forward at the time of the invitation. We want students to be able to share with you the reason for their decision. It is important that students make a personal decision, not one that they feel we want them to make. (**Remember: Guys counsel guys and girls counsel girls.**)
2. Once students communicate that they want to receive Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, you can take them through the 3 Circles Method (see graphic below) or any method you are comfortable using.
3. If students indicate to you that they want to rededicate their life, please have them retell their conversion story. This is when they came to know Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior. It is important that students are not rededicating their life when they really need to accept Christ for the first time.
4. Steps to sharing Christ:
 - **Identify the Problem:** Sin
Jeremiah 17:9; Psalm 51:5
 - **The Solution:** Jesus
Philippians 2:7-8; Hebrews 9:22; Romans 5:6-8
 - **The Response:** Accept God's Offer
Mark 1:15; Romans 6:23



God loves you and offers you abundant and eternal life.

John 10:10 – ... *I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.*

John 3:16 – *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.*

But people are sinful and separated from the life God has to offer you.

Romans 3:23 – *For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.*

Jesus Christ is the only provision for sin and the life God has to offer.

John 14:6 – *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

We receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior through personal invitation.

Revelation 3:20 – *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.*

We participate in believer's baptism as an outward expression of our faith in Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior.

Baptism is, according to the Bible, an outward testimony of what has occurred inwardly in a believer's life. Christian baptism shows a believer's identification with Christ's death, burial and Resurrection. Romans 6:3-4 says, "*Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*" In biblical baptism, the action of being immersed in the water symbolizes dying and being buried with Christ. Coming out of the water is a picture of Christ's Resurrection from the dead.

***Students who indicate their decision to be baptized should first share how they became a Christian. We will have a baptism service at the end of camp. Students need parental permission in order to follow through with Believer's Baptism at this camp service.*

COUNSELING STUDENTS

1. Listen ... Listen ... Listen. Listen with understanding and objectivity. Identify the problem or need, but remain objective. You must feel with them without allowing yourself to be so totally immersed in the situation that you cannot help them get a mature perspective on it.
2. Uncover the real problem. The real problem is usually several layers beneath the immediate problem. However, be sensitive and remember that, to them, any problem is still a problem.
3. Guide students to an understanding of themselves. Lead students to see the real problem themselves. As they see the problem, they may also see at least part of the solution. Allow them to make some suggestions toward a solution, but do not fail to give them directions.
4. Take students to the Word of God. The Bible is the only infallible source for the direction and guidance they need. It is your first and only authority. Be careful not to simplify the problem by relating to an experience you had when you were younger. Also, don't simply quote verses ... explain and apply them.
5. Commit students to the Lord. God, not their friends, can best help them. Don't over-counsel. You don't have to have (and won't have) all the answers. Carefully guard confidential conversations. Never repeat anything said to you when counseling a student, unless it is to a church staff member. Never promise that you will never tell anyone.
6. Instruct students to an immediate course of action. If possible, direct their attention away from the problem, away from themselves, and away from you. Get them to work on some phase of the problem that can be resolved immediately.
7. Never promise students that you will keep their problems a secret. If they ask for secrecy, let them know that you have to let staff members know of any situations where a student's safety could be jeopardized. Please be open with staff about situations with your students. If you feel the issue/conversation is too much for you to handle, please ask one of the ministers to help.
8. If a significant spiritual decision is made, please fill out the decision record in its **entirety**. We do our best to follow-up with students, but cannot do that if we don't know what's going on. Please refer to the decision record and use it if a decision is made in your condo.
9. Remember, you are not a professional counselor. You are a Beach Camp Leader. If you believe a student might need professional counseling, please contact a staff member immediately.
10. Remember, under law, you are required to report any abuse. Contact a staff member immediately.



FAMILY DINNERS AROUND THE TABLE

For many of you, that phrase brings back a torrent of childhood memories: slipping your vegetables under the table to the dog when mom wasn't looking, the meal your mom loved to cook because she knew it was your favorite, or even the assigned roles for either serving the meal or cleaning up the mess (dishes were the worst!). The truth, though? Much more was happening during those family dinners than anyone really knew at the time. The strands of lives seated around the table were being woven together, forming a cord that would not be easily weakened or undone. The laughter, discussions, disagreements and lessons all worked together to strengthen and develop each individual strand, thus making the whole that much stronger. Family bonds were forged. Lives were being changed.

At Beach Camp, every moment we have with the students is a moment the Lord has to work in their lives—including dinner. This year, instead of eating at ECCC, we will eat in our condos as a family. Not scattered throughout the condo, in bedrooms, or in front of the TV – but around the dinner table. No cell phones, tablets, or gaming systems—just real conversations with real people using real words. Laughing. Discussing. Growing. Bonding as a condo ... bonding as a family. The Lord wants to mend and make new the broken strands that are around your table. There are other strands He wants to refine, strengthen, and test. You don't have to spend the entire time buried in deep conversations, but don't shy away if they begin to take place. Embrace them and watch the Lord move in those moments.

Take time and assign some roles to help make this experience happen—just as you would at home. The questions listed for each afternoon in this leader guide can jump-start or even direct the conversation. Most importantly, use this time to get to know your students and help set the table for what the Lord has prepared for them during evening Worship.

#PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS



WEDNESDAYS

HIGH SCHOOL

IN-HOME BIBLE STUDIES,
EVANGELISM, FUN WITH FRIENDS



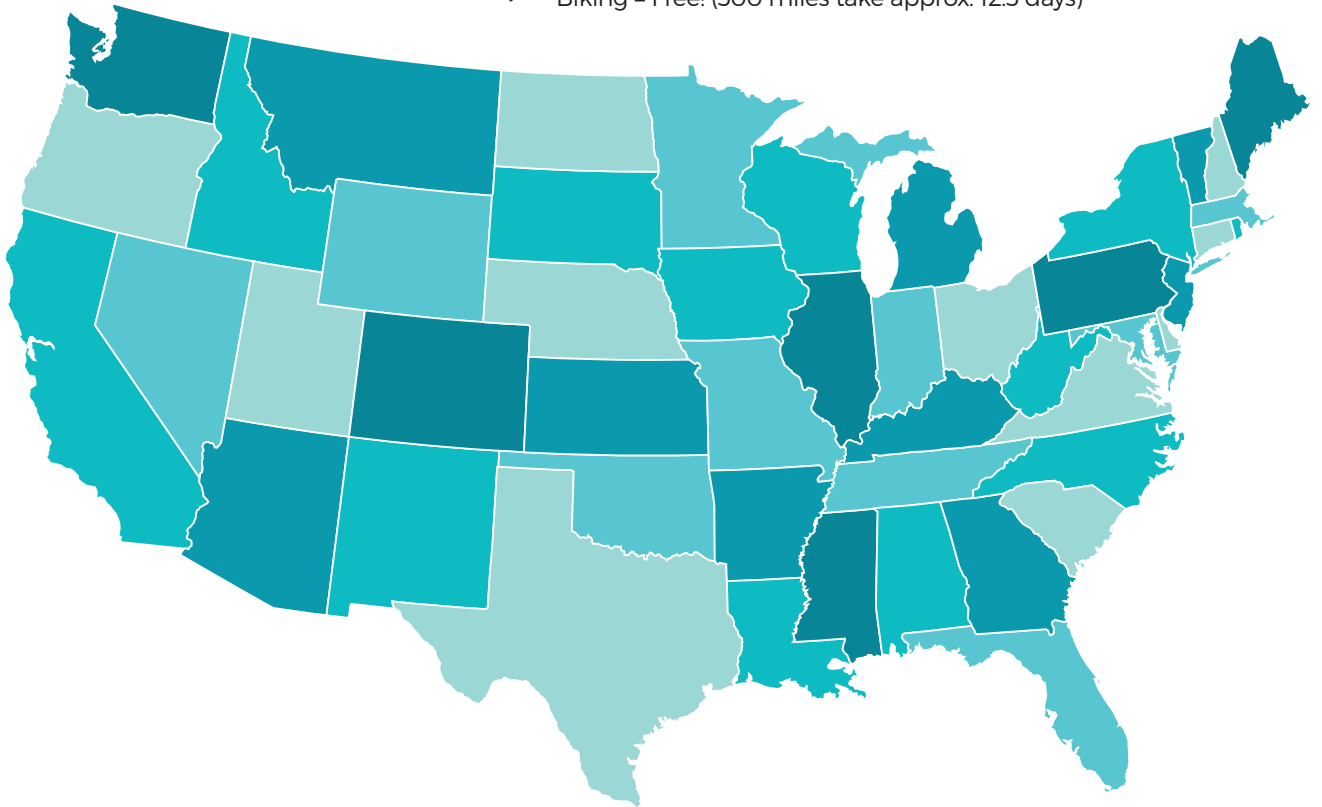
THEME NIGHTS, COMPETITIONS,
TREAT YO' SELF TO YUMMY FOOD, WORSHIP,
BIBLE TEACHING AND SO MUCH FUN!

JUNIOR HIGH

ROAD TRIP

INSTRUCTIONS: *you have \$2,000 to spend*

- Gas for car = \$50/500 miles (500 miles take approx. 7.5 hrs.)
- Airplane = \$100/500 miles (500 miles take approx. 1.5 hrs.)
- Train = \$25/500 miles (500 miles take approx. 10 hrs.)
- Bus = \$30/500 miles (500 miles take approx. 15 hrs.)
- Boat = \$50/500 miles (500 miles take approx. 75 hrs.)
- Walking = Free! (500 miles take approx. 25 days)
- Biking = Free! (500 miles take approx. 12.5 days)



Seattle to Anchorage = 2,300 miles driving


Seattle to Anchorage = 1,400 miles flying

San Francisco to Honolulu = 2,400 miles flying

San Francisco to Honolulu = 2,400 by boat



FRIDAY



DINNER DISCUSSION

As a group, maybe while making dinner, do the activity on page 24 titled “Road Trip.”

Can anyone name everyone around the table?

What is one thing you learned today about someone else at the table?

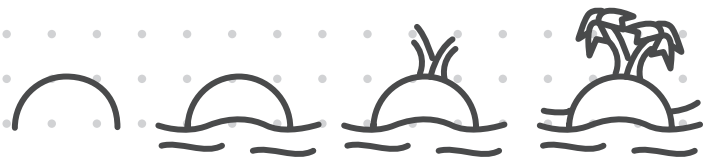
What do you expect to get out of tonight?

What does God expect out of us tonight?

What is the purpose of Worship tonight?

How can you be sure that you get the most out of tonight?

NOTES & SKETCHES



POST WORSHIP

What was your takeaway from the message tonight?

What is one thing you can practically do in your life tomorrow in response to what we talked about?

How can we pray tonight for tomorrow?

To prepare for tomorrow, think about your story.

If you know Christ, think about your testimony.

If you don't know Christ, what's your story? Who are you?

LEADER TIP:

Give them some things to think about/parameters as they formulate their story. Helpful thoughts:

- Where were they born? Where did they grow up? Did they grow up in a Christian home? What do they like to do for fun? Have they walked through a divorce? Do they have any siblings? What do they struggle with in school? What food is their favorite? Etc.

NOTES & SKETCHES



JUMP IN AND SERVE. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



LEAD
TEAM

TEXT ...

IF YOU ARE A PLANO CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOLER:

PCHSLEAD

PLANO CAMPUS JUNIOR HIGHER:

PCJHIGHLEAD

NORTH CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOLER:

NCHSLEAD

NORTH CAMPUS JUNIOR HIGHER:

NCJHIGHLEAD

ESPAÑOL STUDENT:

ESPLEAD

TO 74788 TO SIGN UP!

1 5 T H A N N U A L

— FALL —
FOLLIES

OCTOBER 19

2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 20

3:00 & 6:00 p.m.

For details, e-mail ilee@prestonwood.org.

OVERCOME

BY ELEVATION WORSHIP

This song has been a very special one for me personally in a few seasons of life. I remember leading at an event and singing the words in the chorus where it says, “I will not be moved when the earth gives way, for the risen one has OVERCOME.” I quickly realized in the moment of singing that I was only singing the words, and not LETTING the truth and reality of the lyric become the reality of my life. Much more than song, I was reminded again that Jesus has absolutely trampled and destroyed the lies, the distractions, the brokenness, whatever it may be in my life. He has paid the price and debt I deserved to pay. But instead, Jesus paid it for me for all of eternity! And I’m here to remind you that He did the same for you. My prayer is that while you sing this song, John 16:33 would become your place of rest where it says, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!” Whatever you do, let the simple truth of this song sink into your heart that Jesus loves you, that He has overcome your situation, and He carried the cross with your name in mind! Amen.

BY TYLER GILLILAND



SATURDAY

ONE LORD



WELCOME TO SILENT SOUNDS

Life is busy. We get it. Sometimes we get so busy that we forget to stop, be still, and listen to what God has to say to us. But during Silent Sounds, you will be away from all distractions and alone with God as you discover what He has in store for you. He loves you, and His plans for you are big. We encourage you to be real with Him. Read the verses in your Bible, reflect on what you're reading, and talk to Him as if He were sitting right next to you, because He is. The best way to start your time each day is to spend a few minutes in prayer asking God to speak to you through His Word. We truly believe that these times of stillness will be one of your favorite parts of Beach Camp.



WE ARE
PRAYING
FOR YOU!

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

SILENT SOUNDS

Every morning you will begin the day with some time alone in God's Word on the beach. This is a time to spend with God and allow Him to speak to you through the Bible. God has a very different view on unity. He never intends for us to focus on our differences but to focus on the one thing that we all have in common ... Him. But who is He? With the ocean God created crashing in front of us, let's take time this morning to consider exactly who God is.

Our theme this year at Beach Camp is "United." This word is used quite often in the media and on the news. There is so much to divide us and so much to tear us apart that we tend to focus on the negative side of things more than the positive. We focus more on the things that separate us than on the things that we have in common. This week, we want to look at exactly what unites us through the lens of Scripture.

Open your Bible and **READ Ephesians 4:4-5.**

*There is **ONE** body and **ONE** Spirit—just as you were called to the **ONE** hope that belongs to your call—**ONE** Lord, **ONE** faith, **ONE** baptism.*

PAUSE. Read it again, but this time read it slowly. Think about every word you are reading.

» *What stands out to you as you read these verses?*

Let's look at what Paul is saying in verses 4-5 when it comes to unity.

One Body = The Church

(EPHESIANS 1:23; 2:16; 3:6)

Everyone who believes in Christ as his or her personal Lord and Savior comprises the Church.

One Spirit = The Holy Spirit

(JOHN 14:26; ROMANS 8:14, 26)

When we personally accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit begins to live inside our hearts (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20). He teaches, guides, comforts, and intercedes for us (Romans 8:14, 26; John 14:26).

One Hope = The Future Eternity with God

(EPHESIANS 1:4, 18; 2:7; 4:1)

» *What do you put your hope in right now?*

When we trust in Christ, our future changes forever, and we are no longer destined to die and spend eternity separated from God. Now we long for the day that we will spend eternity in heaven with God. Our hope changes from temporal (temporary; concerned only with this present life; worldly) to eternal with one simple decision. Our hope is placed in something more than the here and now.

One Lord = Jesus Christ

(EPHESIANS 1:22-23 AND COLOSSIANS 1:18)

» Everything hinges on Him. He is the crux of all that happens in the story of the Bible. There is only one Lord and that is Jesus. He came to die on the Cross for our sins. He gave up everything so that we may be saved. But there is only one Lord. There is only one way to heaven and that's through Him (John 14:6).

One Faith = Belief in the Lord and Savior

(EPHESIANS 2:8)

» *What does faith mean to you?*

Our faith is simply believing and trusting in Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior. It's giving up control of your life and putting your faith not in yourself but in someone else. It's trusting someone unseen, all-powerful, to be the ruler of your life. Is it scary? Yes. Will it require change? Most definitely. Is it the best decision you will ever make? Yes, 1,000 percent!

» *When have you experienced a change in your life?*

» *Do you like change in your life, or do you avoid it? Why?*

» *If you haven't put your faith in Christ, what's the biggest thing holding you back?*

One Baptism = Outward Symbol of Our Faith

Why baptism? Baptism is symbolic of the decision you have made to follow Christ. This is why you get baptized *after* you have given your life to Christ (Matthew 28:19–20). Baptism is an outward expression of an inward decision to trust Christ (one faith). It symbolizes Jesus' burial and Resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:3–4; Colossians 2:12). Water submersion represents the former, sinful self being washed clean of all sin. Coming out of the water illustrates new life in Christ, and forgiveness of sin. (Romans 6 tells us that baptism is a picture of death and resurrection; we are "baptized into his death" and "just as Christ was raised from the dead ... we too might walk in newness of life.")

» *When were you baptized? If you haven't, what's holding you back?*

» *We are united by so much when we love God and we put our faith in Christ. But why would you do that? What separates God from all other (false) gods? Why is He different?*

READ Ephesians 4:6.

one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Let's unpack this a little more...

One God and Father of All

» *Describe a time when you have felt alone.*

» *Describe a time when you felt you didn't deserve to be forgiven by God.*

While there are many places in life where you feel you don't belong, being with God will never be one of those places. Everyone belongs here. No matter how bad you think you are, no matter what you have done in this life, no matter what other people say about you, no matter how much you feel you don't deserve it, no matter who you are on social media or at school, you belong with God. No one is left out or alone.

Read John 3:16. Jesus came to die on the Cross for all sinners (which is everyone on the face of the planet). He came to make us His children. He came to adopt us as His very own flesh and blood.

Over All

He is sovereign over us. That means He has supreme power and authority over our lives. There is nothing higher or more powerful than He. We have three big, fancy words that we use to show this about God (and they all start with "o"):

- **Omniscience**
God is all-knowing. There is nothing that God doesn't know about us, about the world, about the universe, about anything.
- **Omnipotence**
God is all-powerful. If you can dream it, He can do it. There is nothing outside His limits.
- **Omnipresence**
God is everywhere all the time. Much like gravity is everywhere on planet Earth all the time, God is everywhere all the time.

» *Which one of these are you most thankful for when it comes to God and why?*

Through All

He works through all to accomplish what He wants to accomplish. His power flows through us when we are in a relationship with Him. Due to our relationship with Him and because of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross, we are to live in an active faith. This means that we pursue Him and grow closer to Him and we do what the Bible and God ask us to do. We are not passive bystanders but active runners.

» *What does an active faith look like?*

In All

This is best seen by the Holy Spirit who lives in us when we are His children. Again, when we accept Christ, the Holy Spirit lives in each of us and teaches, guides, comforts, and intercedes for us. He never leaves us.

A perfect example of this is the creation story in Genesis 1. We see God, over creation (1 Corinthians 8:6; Psalm 95:4-5; John 1; Romans 11:36). God is the one who spoke everything into existence.

READ Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 29.

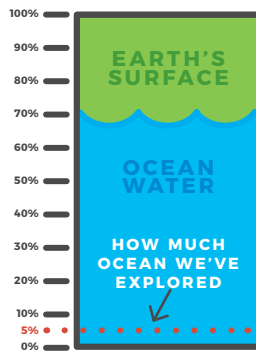
- » With mere words, He made the entirety of the world and the universe and the expanse of space. Talk about having complete power over something! Create it and you have it. Make it out of nothing, and it's yours.
- » He doesn't stop there, though. God continues to work through His creation. Think about spinning a basketball on your finger. God isn't a God who started the ball spinning and then just walked away and left it up to its own power. No! God is continually working through creation to keep the ball spinning. He is continually interacting with the earth and us to keep it in motion (Colossians 1:15-17; Acts 17:28). He doesn't just leave creation to fend for itself.
- » We see God in creation. As we look at creation, we can't help but constantly see God *in it* (Job 12:7-10; Romans 1:20).

Stop & Rest in This

We want this to be a time to position yourself for the day, to get in a mindset where God is your focal point. Whether you have been a believer for 10 years or 10 days or if you're not a believer, we want this to be a time that the rest of your day flows out of. We pray this is a crucial part of Beach Camp for you this year. The name "Silent Sounds" is really what we want you to get out of this. While being silent and undistracted, you will inevitably hear the Lord.

This morning, **STOP** for a moment.... **PAUSE** and look in front of you. You are sitting in front of the ocean. Just close your eyes and listen to the waves crashing. Listen to the birds. Listen to the silence between the crashes.

- » *The ocean is magnificent. Think for a moment about how big it is. The water in front of you stretches for miles and miles, as far as your eyes can see. How much water is there?*



Scientists have done the math, and they believe the earth's oceans contain approximately 332,519,000 cubic miles of water. What is a cubic mile? Imagine a box that's $14\frac{2}{3}$ football fields long, $14\frac{2}{3}$ football fields wide, and $14\frac{2}{3}$ football fields deep. Fill that box with water, and that's one cubic mile of water. You would need 332,519,000 of those boxes to equal the water in the oceans.

We also only know about five percent of the oceans. That's how much of it has been explored and mapped out. Considering that the ocean makes up 70 percent of the earth's surface, there is *much* that we don't even know about.

- » *How do these two stats make you think about the magnificence of God?*

God, however, can measure the oceans in the palm of His hand. How much water can you hold in your hand? $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup? $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cup? God can hold much more than that. God is a giant God. God's handiwork and beauty is right in front of you.

Reflection questions:

» *What do you take for granted in all of this the most?*

» *What aspect of this do you struggle with the most?*

» *What's your takeaway from this morning's Silent Sounds?*

PRAYER
Close out your Silent Sounds time in prayer. Thank the Lord for who He is. Praise God for being bigger than you will ever comprehend.

Thank Him for having the oceans in the palm of His hand. Ask that He would open your eyes to see Him today in a new way. Ask that He would reveal new truths about Himself and that you would see them and not be distracted. Lastly, pray that He would change your life this week in some way, shape or form.

FAMILY GROUP

Go back to the reflective questions from Silent Sounds:

- » *What stood out to you as we talked about God this morning?*

- » *What aspect of all this do you struggle with most?*

READ Ephesians 4:7:

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Grace...

What is grace? Unmerited favor.

- » *Have you ever received something you didn't deserve? If so, what was it and why did you get it?*

Unmerited means that it's "not deserved." We do not deserve it. In fact, what we deserve is the exact opposite of grace. We deserve, since the sin of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, eternal separation from God. Since they chose selfishly to do what God had specifically told them not to do, they turned their backs on God. In that moment, our relationship with God was broken. It was splintered. It was fractured. God could have left it that way and left us that way. BUT, He chose to give us something we didn't deserve.

- » *When was the last time someone was randomly kind to you? What did that person do or say?*

Favor means “excessive kindness.” In the midst of betrayal and sin, God looked at us, who deserved death, and acted with excessive kindness. He made a way that would repair the relationship. God acted out of excessive kindness. It was extravagant, and it was generous. It is what saved us out of sin and death and brought us back into life. Another beautiful thing about it is that it’s given freely to all.

... was given to each one of us ...

» *Have you ever been given something? Ask two or three students to share a story of when they were given something.*

The answer to that question is yes, no matter who you are. Whether it was a birthday present, Christmas present, a piece of candy at Valentine’s Day, a simple gift from a friend such as coffee when you were having a bad day. Just as we have all been given something in the physical world we live in, we have all been given something spiritual. We have been given grace. We have been given unmerited favor.

In fact, there isn’t a person on the earth to whom God didn’t give His grace. Some of you may be thinking, “There’s no way God would do that for me.” Why? Because ...

- I lie
- I steal stuff
- I drink
- I do drugs
- My relationship with my boyfriend or girlfriend isn’t pure
- I struggle with depression/anxiety
- God knows who I am, and I can tell you that He would never offer me grace

» *What is your biggest reason why you think God wouldn’t give you grace?*

» *Why is it so hard to overcome those thoughts of not being good enough for this gift from God?*

But that's not what God's Word says. It says that God gave grace to each of us. That's everyone, that's you, that's Bible people of long ago. If God wouldn't give you grace, then why did He give grace to...

- » David, who coveted Uriah's wife (2 Samuel 11:2-3), committed adultery with her (11:4), effectively stole her from him (12:9), lied to Uriah about it (11:12-13), and murdered him (12:9)
- » Noah, who got drunk (Genesis 9:20-21)
- » Jacob, who was a pathological deceiver (Genesis 25, 27, 30)
- » Rachel, who was a thief (Genesis 31:19)
- » Moses, who had serious temper issues (Exodus 2, 32:19; Numbers 20:11)
- » Saul, who had episodes of deep depression and outbursts of anger (1 Samuel 16, 18, 19, 31)

We all struggle with being found worthy of gifts as valuable as unmerited favor (grace). But the truth of the matter is, God has given us a second chance at a life with Him. He doesn't ask for anything in return. It's a true gift. Free and clear. But how is the gift of grace made available to us?

... according to the measure of Christ's gift.

God used a system that was established in the Old Testament by which people would make sacrifices for their sins. Imagine our modern-day justice system. If someone commits a crime, he or she is punished. In the Old Testament, a sacrifice had to be offered to atone for sin. This could have been an animal or crops, for instance. Once the sin was forgiven, people would go back to their everyday lives.

There came a point, though, that God sent a sacrifice to cover *all* of humanity's sin. This sacrifice would be personal to Him. It wouldn't be an animal or a crop; it would be His one and only Son, Jesus. So God sent Himself in the form of His Son to die for our sin. He was beaten, spit on, mocked, tortured, and hung on a cross by nails through His hands and feet. His shed blood would atone for our sins and be our source of forgiveness.

And it was all a gift. So no matter what you are struggling with, and no matter where you are in life, the Bible tells us we are not too far from God to be covered by Christ's blood. The Bible tells us that no matter who we are, we have been given this gift. We are all bringing different things into Beach Camp this week. We are all coming from different places. We are all here for a reason.

» *What's your story? Share your story.*

Take the rest of the time in Family Group to have everyone share their stories. It doesn't matter if each student is a Christian or not; just have each one share his or her story. If a student doesn't mention it within his or her story, ask if he or she knows Christ as Lord and Savior. Be delicate with this as not to call them out, but just understand where they are in life.

TIP:

- **GIRL LEADERS** - Most likely you will have to hurry girls along to get through everyone. Maybe set a timer for two minutes per story. As the leader, set the example and show them what you want.
 - **GUY LEADERS** - Most likely you will have to beg boys to share for more than 20 seconds. Think of five or six follow-up questions you could ask if they are struggling to tell their story. As the leader, set the example and show them what you want.
- » *Leaders, please refer back to the Leader Tip on page 28 for more help.*

PRAYER

Close out your Family Group Time with prayer. Pray and thank God for His unmerited grace that He gives us on a daily basis.

Thank Him for how He sent Jesus for all of us and not just some.

Spend a few moments asking God to open the eyes of the


students before you go into the Worship service tonight. Pray and

ask God to use Chris's message and, most importantly, His Word

to pierce the students' hearts.

#PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS





DINNER DISCUSSION

What is one thing you learned today about someone else at the table?

What was the best part of today?

What is one thing you took away from Silent Sounds today?

What stood out to you about last night's message?

What do you expect to get out of tonight?

What does God expect out of us tonight?

What is the purpose of Worship tonight?

How can you be sure that you get the most out of tonight?

NOTES & SKETCHES



POST WORSHIP

What was your takeaway from the message tonight?

What is one thing you can practically do in your life tomorrow in response to what he talked about?

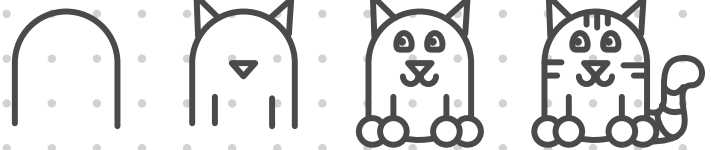
How can we pray tonight for tomorrow?

Read Ephesians 4:11-13 together as a group as you finish. Just let the Scripture rest on them—don't discuss it.

LEADER REMINDER:

Take everyone's phones and charge them in your room. If you are sleeping in the living room, put them all in the kitchen. If you are in a bedroom, put them all in your room. No student is to have his or her phone after Lights Out.

NOTES & SKETCHES



girl's NIGHT OUT

MOVIE ON THE LAWN
JUNE 21, 7:00-10:00 P.M.
free! @ NORTH AND PLANO



BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
KICKOFF
AUGUST 18

&

TABLE GROUP
SCRAMBLE
AUGUST 25

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME

BY HILLSONG WORSHIP

While there are a lot of special worship songs out there, this one is the “Home Run” for me! This song, all throughout, gives so many reasons why the name of Jesus is WORTHY. I love the lyric in verse 2 where it says, “You didn’t want heaven without us, so Jesus, you brought heaven down...” God, in ALL of His goodness and sovereignty, didn’t have to do anything at all for you and me but, instead of doing nothing, He left His throne, took on flesh, lived a perfect life, and nailed YOUR SIN to the tree where He died. Not only that, but three days later He rose from the dead and sits at the right hand of God! He came and went back to heaven for you and me! Wow. All of this to simply showcase His love for you!

My encouragement and hope for you is this: that you would think about the love that God showcased for you and that you realize you really do matter to God! For no other could ever rival this love, and no other name could ever equal the love that God has extended to you. Now and forever, He will REIGN! Amen.

BY TYLER GILLILAND



SUNDAY

ONE CHURCH

SILENT SOUNDS

Good morning! Welcome back to the beach for Silent Sounds, day 2. Remember to put away your cell phone and be still before God. Take a moment to pray and ask God to let the words of Paul jump off the page of the Bible to you this morning. Ask God to allow you to focus and listen.

Yesterday, we dove headfirst into Ephesians 4:4-7 and learned about the unity in the Lord and the unity we can find in Him through the grace He gave to each one of us. In Ephesians, Paul not only talks about the unity of God Himself, but of the unity we can attain together as a church.

READ Ephesians 4:11-13.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers

» *Who is "He" who gave these gifts? (See Ephesians 4:10 for help.)*

Christ is the one who gave these gifts. After ascending from the earth, Christ equipped His people with spiritual gifts. A spiritual gift is a God-given ability, given to Christians by the Holy Spirit, allowing us to help the Church reach people and advance the Gospel. Christ didn't just leave us with teaching to ponder, but with gifts to use. This is where we see our active faith in use.

Remember that everything that comes in verses 11-13 is founded on the idea that you have put your faith in Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. Once you have believed in Him, then, and only then, can you move on to understanding fully what follows.

» *What do you know about the gifts listed? Write down your best guess.*

- » **Apostles** – Historically their role was in starting the Church and being the first eye-witnesses of Jesus’ ministry.
- » **Prophets** – Those who brought words of encouragement [and correction] and reminded people of God’s promises in specific situations. They were viewed as speaking the very words of God Himself.
- » **Evangelists** – Those who share the Good News of Jesus through personal story [and truth of Scripture].
- » **Shepherds and Teachers** – People who care for others of all ages, teaching Scripture to them.

This short list certainly isn’t the only one in Scripture that contains spiritual gifts, but perhaps Paul listed these because of their importance in the Church at the current time. Maybe you didn’t initially recognize your spiritual gift(s) here. Interested in learning about more? Read Romans 12:6-8 for an additional list of spiritual gifts. Even still, these are not the only passages that talk about them.

» *Why do you think that Christ chose to give His people spiritual gifts, including you?*

Think about it this way: Why do you want to give people gifts? We give people gifts for all kinds of reasons. Sometimes it’s out of obligation (in other words, we feel like we have to). Sometimes it’s out of a desire to make them happy without reason. Perhaps, we just want to boost their spirit a little bit by reminding them we are thinking about them. At other times, it’s a combination of all of these.

Did Christ feel obligated to give us spiritual gifts? Did Christ do it just to make us feel a little better about ourselves? Christ had a reason for giving us spiritual gifts that goes far beyond ourselves. After all, Christ’s ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts are higher than our thoughts, so we shouldn’t limit them (Isaiah 55:8-9).

» The next verse, Ephesians 4:12, answers this question for us.

to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

Ephesians 4:12 clarifies what the goal of the gifts Christ gives us is—to equip the saints for the work of the ministry and for building up of the body of Christ. Paul is telling us that our gifts equip us to serve others, and they also help to strengthen the Church.

» *Describe a time in your life when you were served by someone.*

» *Describe a time when the unity of the Church was encouraging to you. If you haven't seen this before, what difference do you think being part of a unified church could make in your life?*

The outcomes Paul mentions are the goal of our gifts, but this goal isn't realized unless we choose to use our gifts in the manner Christ intended for us.

» *In what ways have you treated your spiritual gift as you would a normal gift, something that simply makes you happier or something that makes you feel a little better about yourself? How is Christ's goal for your gift different than how you have been treating it?*

Paul continues in Ephesians, not just talking about spiritual gifts and why they were given, but he also talks about how long we must continue being obedient by serving with them.

until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

Paul doesn't stop with just a couple of outcomes of spiritual gifts. Instead, he goes on to talk about how long we must continue using our gifts until Jesus returns or calls us home to heaven and what we must ultimately strive for.

One such thing is the "unity of the faith." In our culture, we can be unified around a lot of different things: trends, sports, friends, culture, etc. But in Christ, our unity is not based on a circumstance or cause that can quickly change, but in a God who is consistent and who never changes (Remember: "one God and Father of all...through all and in all").

- » *What is the difference, to you, between unity in our world, and the unity to which Christ calls us?*

Have you ever noticed how shifty our world can be? Often, our definition of unity is so narrow that we miss the big picture. Have you ever been a part of some friend's drama, or seen it unfold? Did you pick a side and feel unified with the side you chose? You see, that's the picture of unity our world paints, unity in separation. When we are united in faith in Christ, we are united in faith with all believers. But, the goal here isn't just to be united with those we want to be united with. Instead, we are called to be united as a Church—no ifs, ands or buts.

- » *What are some things that you have been united around before? How was this unity different than the unity Paul calls us to?*

- » *Who unites us (Read Psalm 133:1)?* _____
- » *What do you think unity of faith can look like in Prestonwood Students?*

This is only possible through Christ. We cannot stay united in our own desire or power. We must be dependent on the Lord, and not ourselves, if we want to see this unity become a reality.

The remainder of verse 13 begins to discuss maturity in Christ.

» *What does maturity mean to you?*

» *How would you describe a mature person?*

As we dig into our Family Group Time, we will discuss together what maturity in Christ looks like and how it changes the way we live our lives as a result.

This morning, we have learned that Christ gave us spiritual gifts to serve others, instead of just serving ourselves, and to help strengthen the Church, instead of boosting our self-esteem.

We know it has only been a couple of days, but no doubt you have come across multiple situations where you had the option either to serve yourself or others.

» *In what ways can you serve others at Beach Camp, even today?*

» *In what ways can you use your spiritual gifts to serve the Church as you get back from Beach Camp?*

We don't just serve to fill a position and get a job done. We serve because God has given us a gift to be used. Even if you are not sure what that gift is yet, that's okay. Begin serving and watch as you learn more about who the Lord created you to be and what gifts He has given you.

» *If you are interested in discovering your spiritual gifts, **text GIFTS to 74788** and take the survey.*

As you close out your Silent Sounds this morning, spend some time reflecting on what is possible when the Church is united and strong.

PRAYER

Close out your Silent Sounds time in prayer. Thank the Lord for the gifts He has given you and the greater purpose He has for those gifts. Pray that He would convict you of the times in which you are using your gifts to serve yourself instead of others. Lastly, pray that He would give you the desire to serve those around you.

FAMILY GROUP

READ Ephesians 4:14-16.

“... so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

This morning, in your Silent Sounds, you learned about the goal of spiritual gifts and saw a few outcomes of a united Church.

Harold Wilmington, in his *The Outline Bible*, points out that Ephesians 4:14-16 focuses on Christ's goal for us: We are equipped (v. 12), mature (v. 13) and settled (v. 14-16). You wrapped up your Silent Sounds thinking about the topic of maturity. Let's unpack this second goal, maturity in Christ, together. Flip back to your Silent Sounds where you answered the questions: What does maturity mean to you? And How would you describe a mature person?

» *How did you answer the first question?*

» *How would you describe a mature person?*

» *In what ways are you more mature now than you were three years ago?*

TIP:

Have students give a specific instance, example or story.

As we grow in Christ, the goal of our maturity is much more than just not annoying someone with our random antics. Instead, our maturity in Christ strengthens us in our relationship with Him and prepares us for tests and trials to come.

- » *If you went to the beach as a kid, did the waves scare you away or invite you in? Did you ever bravely take on the waves, only to be tossed around in them, wondering if you would ever make it back above the water?*
-
-
-

While this may thrill some, for many it only increases the fear of the water, a place where they can't find their footing and have nothing to grasp on to as the waves toss them back and forth.

However, as we get a little older, and grow a little taller, the waves become just a bit more bearable, and slightly less frightening because we know we are stronger than we used to be, and their force isn't quite as effective on us as it once was.

- » The waves haven't changed; we have changed, and we are now more prepared to take them on. Ephesians 4 paints a very similar picture, but instead of size, it speaks of our maturity in Christ and our ability to withstand that which is contrary to God's Word.

READ Ephesians 4:14.

“so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”

- » *Why are children prone to being tossed back and forth by the waves?*
-
-

- » *What does Paul say leads us to being tossed back and forth by the waves?*
-
-

Paul says it is by “every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”

» *What situations in your life make you feel like someone being tossed back and forth by the waves?*

» *In what ways have others tried to convince you to believe something other than truth? In what ways have others tried to convince you to live out something other than truth?*

TIP:

Describe a time when your maturity in Christ enabled you to withstand “every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”

Part of our maturity in Christ comes from being united with those around us. We are not able to withstand things contrary to the truth on our own. Rather, as we are first unified in Christ and then unified with other believers, we grow in maturity in Christ as other believers remind us of the truth and point us back to it consistently.

“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,”

– Ephesians 4:15

Paul then continues on, talking about the way in which we grow up, by growing in Christ. At this point, Paul begins describing a unified Church by comparing it to the human body. Paul uses all kinds of examples we are familiar with today, such as the ocean and the body, to help us understand the point he is trying to communicate to us.

» *What do you think it means to grow into Christ, to look more like Him?*

- » *If you were to grow more like Christ, how would your thoughts change? Actions? Interactions with others?*

from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

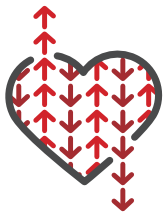
- » *Why do you think the Church is referred to as a body? How is the Church like a body?*

The Church is like a body in that the Church and body are both made up of many different parts. These parts, in both the body and Church, function together for a specific goal. Not only that, but just as the whole body is affected when one part isn't working properly, so is the body of Christ affected when one part, or multiple parts, do not realize and fulfill their role.

TIP:

Talk about the 12 different systems in the human body and how they work together every moment to allow us to function every millisecond. If one system is off, our body has to compensate or it doesn't work properly.

Check out and read about how your heart works and how many moving parts are in it: <https://wb.md/2v3W1es>.



Snippet:

Your heart continuously pumps oxygen and nutrient-rich blood throughout your body to sustain life. This fist-sized powerhouse beats (expands and contracts) 100,000 times per day, pumping five or six quarts of blood each minute, or about 2,000 gallons per day. The vast system of blood vessels—arteries, veins and capillaries—is more than 60,000 miles long. That's long enough to go around the world more than twice!

The human body and the body of Christ are not exactly the same, but Paul's image and analogy helps us to grasp a clearer picture of God's goal for us, His Church.

Now that you have begun to read and unpack Ephesians 4:16 in one translation, look at the same verse in the New Living Translation to see how it communicates this truth from Paul.

Ephesians 4:16 (NLT)

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

» *According to verse 16, what happens when each part plays its role?*

» *According to verse 16, what is the outcome of the body's functioning as it should?*

At the end of verse 16, Paul talks about how the Church is built up "in love." Now, when he says, "in love," he isn't talking about the same type of love we talk about when you ask someone if they are "in love" or "falling in love" with someone else. Instead, the love Paul talks about here is the kind of love that serves to unite us as brothers and sisters in Christ, and this love is the only way in which unity in the Church is maintained. Unity of the Church can be maintained through the love that the believers have first for Christ and secondly for one another.


» *Paul calls us to grow in maturity in Christ. What is one aspect of your relationship in Christ in which you know you need to mature?*

» *How do you think the Church's being built up in love would impact the world?*

» *In what way can you specifically contribute to the Church's being built up in love?*

PRAYER

Close out your Family Group Time in prayer. Pray that the Lord would give your students an increasing desire to grow in maturity in Him, not being tossed back and forth by the waves as they once have been. Pray that they would not just desire this for themselves, but for their friends as well, as the Church is built up in love.



DINNER DISCUSSION

What is one thing you learned today about someone else at the table?

What was the best part of today?

What is one thing you took away from Silent Sounds today?

What stood out to you about this morning's message?

What stood out to you about last night's message?

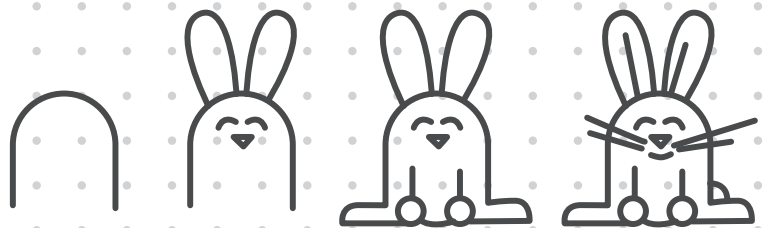
What do you expect to get out of the message tonight?

What does God expect out of us tonight?

What is the purpose of worship tonight?

How can you be sure that you get the most out of tonight?

NOTES & SKETCHES



POST WORSHIP

What was your takeaway from the message tonight?

Tonight, there were many who gave their lives to Jesus. Take a moment to celebrate that. Ask your group if they made decisions or if they had friends that made decisions.

Why is salvation so significant?

What is one practical thing you can do in your life tomorrow in response to what he talked about?

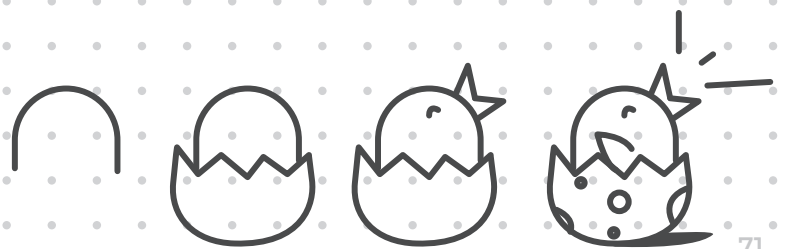
How can we pray for tomorrow?

Read Ephesians 4:22-31 together as a group as you finish. Just let the Scripture rest on the students, but don't discuss it.

LEADER REMINDER:

Take everyone's phones from them and charge them in your room. If you are sleeping in the living room, put them all in the kitchen. If you are in a bedroom, put them all in your room. No student is to have his or her phone after Lights Out.

NOTES & SKETCHES



#PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS



2 0 2 0
J A N . 3 1 - F E B . 2

FREEDOM WIKEND



TREMBLE

BY MOSAIC

When I first heard this song, I was surprised at how easy and simple the lyrics were—yet, they packed such a BIG punch to my heart and instantly moved me. When I first sang the chorus where it says, “Jesus, Jesus, YOU...make the darkness tremble...” it was so easy to sing and was the exact thing I needed to declare over myself. The reality that when we are in the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ, there is no amount of brokenness, confusion, pain, YOU NAME IT, that He can’t handle and heal in our lives. It’s easy to go through the motions and hear Scripture after Scripture, or even get caught up in what might be happening at home and forget who God says He is in all things. Just remember this—that God can do MORE in a moment than any man, situation, or thing could manufacture in a lifetime. God is the one who commands the seas. He is the one who can make the “mountains” of your life bow just by hearing the sound of His mighty voice. He is the only one in control! My hope for you is that this week you would experience Psalm 16:11, “You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; and at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore!” So, remember to take a breath and know that you, yes YOU, are loved by a Father in heaven, a Father in heaven that even the “shadows” of life can’t deny! Amen.

BY TYLER GILLILAND



MONDAY

ONE PURSUIT

SILENT SOUNDS

It's our last morning on the beach! Take advantage of this amazing time. Remember to put away your cell phone and be still before God. Take a moment to thank God for all that He has already taught you and for everything He will teach you today. Pause. Breathe. Rest in Him.

READ Ephesians 4:22-31.

To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Paul has been encouraging unity and love over the past several verses as he talks about the Church, but we all know there are two sides to every coin ... a “head” and a “tail.” When we have *unity*, there is a potential for *disunity* as well.

» *When have you experienced disunity?*

» *When have you experienced disunity in the Church?*

Paul then goes on to talk about what could possibly kill the unity that we strive so hard to achieve. Simply put, unity is destroyed by not walking in holiness. What does this mean though? Let’s look at the specifics of what Paul mentions in these verses.

to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

If we want to cause disunity, we first must live in our old selves.

» *What’s wrong with our old selves (hint ... look at the rest of verse 22)?*

Our old selves belong to our old way of life when we lived for ourselves and did whatever we wanted to do. We didn’t have a set of standards (the Bible) to guide what we did, said, and thought. That former way of living was corrupt through our deceitful desires. The things that we wanted were from a sinful place.

» *When you accepted Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, how did you begin to think differently? What changed in your life?*

Second, our old lives and flesh say we must not renew our minds.

This means we shouldn't take on the new attitude that comes with being a Christian.

READ Romans 6:2-10 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.

» *What do these passages say we should be doing with our minds?*

Thirdly, our old lives and flesh say we should refuse to put on our new self.

» *Whom is our new self created after?*

» *What is our new self created in?*

» Our new self is created, just as in the Garden of Eden, in the likeness of God. He created man perfectly in His image in Genesis, and then we chose sin. We broke His creation. But then He sent His Son to pay the price for our sin and to make us whole again so that, when we accept Him and put on our new self, we are again in the likeness of God. It comes full circle!

» Our new self is also like God in true righteousness and holiness. This means that we throw away our old selves, renew our minds/attitudes, and jump into our new self in order to pursue the holiness of God. When we do that, we will be able to maintain the unity that God so desires from us.

Practically speaking, what are some tangible ways we can do this? Paul goes on to mention several. Take a look.

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

We must speak truth to build up our unity. How can you trust someone who lies to you all the time? You can't. Trust is built on honesty. When we walk in holiness and follow after God, we will speak the truth and not lie or deceive others (falsehood). Speaking the truth comes from a foundation of knowing that we are all in Christ and pursuing holiness together. However, we feel the pressure to be perfect so we have a tendency to lie. We tell little lies that snowball into big lies. All lies have one common thing though: They are not true, and that is why we are told to put away falsehood.

*Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
and give no opportunity to the devil.*

– Ephesians 4:26

Anger is not a sin in and of itself (John 2:13-16). Still, it is easy to lose control of our anger, to let it control us instead of our controlling it. Anger becomes sinful when it is inappropriate. We never want to give Satan the opportunity to influence our lives, and this is one way we can open up to allow him to do so.

» *On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you struggle with anger?*



It's okay for you to be where you are but it's not okay to stay there.

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

– Ephesians 4:28

This is a reaffirmation of the seventh commandment (Exodus 20:15; Deuteronomy 5:19). We shouldn't steal anything, but we should work for it so that we can give it away. We work so that we can be generous to others.

» *Have you ever been tempted to steal something? Have you ever followed through with taking it?*

» *How easy is it for you to justify taking it?*

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

– Ephesians 4:29-30

READ James 3:2-10.

Many times we can disguise “helping another person” as gossiping or putting others down. We think we are doing what’s best by “being honest” but we say things in a way that doesn’t help the other person; it only hurts. We can also be very blatant with this and say things to his or her face that aren’t building up that person. Paul is saying that we must get rid of all that “corrupting talk.” In those moments where we really want to just lay into someone, we must back off and breathe because our anger is not going to build them up.

Sometimes how you say something is just as important as what you say. We have to remember that tone and body language communicate just as much as words do. You may say one thing with your words, but your tone communicates something very different.

» *How have you been hurt by a friend who was “speaking the truth” but was really mean about it?*

» *Is there someone you need to apologize to for this very thing this morning? Send that person a text or talk to him or her after Silent Sounds is over.*

*Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander
be put away from you, along with all malice.*

– Ephesians 4:31

Paul encourages us to get rid of all bitterness (the opposite of sweetness and kindness). Bitterness harbors resentment and keeps a record of wrongs. We are not to be bitter toward anyone. What flows out of bitterness? Wrath and rage, which are outbursts of uncontrolled passionate frustration. We are not to be angry in an inappropriate way. We are not to “clamor,” which means “to fight” or “shout.” Again, we must react out of grace and kindness, not the heat of the moment, so that we don’t give an opportunity for Satan to influence our life. We must not hurt another person with our words or slander him or her. We must not have bad feelings toward another person (malice).

» *Which one of these do you struggle with the most? Why?*

*Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.*

– Ephesians 4:32

Now Paul switches from six things we should avoid to tell us three things we must do as we continue to walk in holiness. We are to be kind. Again, kindness is the opposite of bitterness. We can be kind when we do something selflessly and serve others. We are to be tenderhearted. This means that we should be compassionate. When we see a need, we try our best to meet it because we feel for that person. When one of our friends is hurting, we have a softness for him or her. Lastly, we are to be forgiving. Why? Because Christ forgave us more than we will ever have to forgive someone. He gave everything so we can give something.

» *Whom can you be kind to today?*

» *Whom can you show compassion to today?*

» *Whom do you need to forgive in your life?*

Close out your Silent Sounds time in prayer. Thank the Lord that you get a new self to “put on” when you accept Him as your personal Lord and Savior. Ask God to give you the strength and the mind to walk in holiness today. Ask Him to work with you on some of the specific questions you answered this morning and ask for strength to follow through with them. Lastly, pray that He would give you the chance to be compassionate and forgiving today.

FAMILY GROUP

READ Ephesians 5:1-2.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

This morning in your Silent Sounds, you read about Paul's instructing the church at Ephesus on how to walk in holiness. How did you answer the last three questions?

» *Whom can you be kind to today?*

» *Whom can you show compassion to today?*

» *Whom do you need to forgive in your life?*

Paul, in chapter 4, has told the church to walk in unity (1-16) and also to walk in holiness (17-32). Now he transitions to talk about how we are to walk in love at the beginning of chapter 5.

Therefore ...

The "therefore" in this verse is a continuation into what will follow in verse 2. So what Paul is writing is in addition to, and not a conclusion of, what he has already said in chapter 4. What is about to follow is the next step in his instructions.

... be imitators of God, as beloved children.

It is only normal and natural for children to imitate their parents. Remember the game you used to play when you would mimic every word that your parents said as a child? If they said "hello," you would say "hello." If they said, "What's the weather?" you said the exact same thing. This game was fun, but became really annoying really quickly. This is how we are supposed to be with God. We are supposed to imitate everything He does.

» *When you were a kid, what did you imitate about your parents?*

» *What do you think God wants you to imitate in Him?*

» *How are we to imitate God? What can we do to imitate Him well? Look at verse 2.*

And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

We imitate God by walking in love. The measure and model of our love should be Christ's love for us. He loved us to the extent of dying for us. We also express our love most when we lay down our lives for those we love, particularly for God (1 John 3:16).

This love we are mimicking and imitating has three pieces to it.

The first piece is that we **love the Lord.**

This is where our holiness comes into play. As we follow after and learn more about Christ, we love Him more and more every single day. As we love the Lord daily, we will begin to be sanctified. This is our process of becoming holy. When we accept Him as our personal Lord and Savior, we are saved from our sins in that moment. After that, we are continually working to love Him, follow Him, and obey Him. This process is how we are sanctified or "set apart."

» *What does your daily walk with the Lord look like?*

» *How are you loving God daily?*

The second piece is that we **love the Church.**

We have already discussed what this is and what it means. We mimic God's love for the Church by building it up, being involved in community with other believers, and making it a priority. In a world in which everything is competing for our attention, we can become sidetracked when it comes to making this a priority. So many things vie for our time, energy and effort. Sometimes our intentions are to make Church and loving it a priority, yet months down the road, we see no difference.

» *What are five of your most important priorities?*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

It's like the old metaphor of boiling a frog alive. If you put a frog in boiling water, it will jump out immediately. However, if you put the frog in room temperature water and slowly heat it, the frog won't jump out and it will die (don't try this at home because it's not true and doesn't work). The same principle, though, is true in our lives. Our intention is not to give up on loving the Church, but slowly, over months or years, we realize we have fallen away from loving the Church. How do you get back to where you want to be and where you need to be in loving the Church? Decide to make daily changes to your life in order to reflect that desire.

The third piece to loving God and being an imitator of Him is to **love those who don't know Him.**

We are called to show this love to everyone (Matthew 28:19-20). Whether the person is our best friend, our mother or father, or someone we pass in the hallway at school and don't even know, we are called to share with that person. We are commanded to reach those who don't know Christ with our words and actions. After a week at Beach Camp, we should be ready to go reach anyone and everyone. We have seen students come to know Christ, and we have seen students and leaders baptized. What is more energy-giving than that?

» *When was the last time you told someone about Christ and your relationship with Him?*

» *Who's one person that you will share your faith with once you are back from Beach Camp?*

Have your students share these names and have them write them down in their student books so that they can pray for everyone mentioned.

TIP:

Write down each student's "one" and a couple days after getting home, text all your students individually and check in to see if they have had a chance to share with that person. Accountability is key and crucial to growth as a Christian.

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

STUDENT

PERSON

PRAYER

Spend time praying as a group today. Have the group pray over their personal walks with the Lord. Have them pray over their priorities. Take time today to pray over all the “ones” that your students mentioned by name. Close your Family Group Time out by praying over the students before they go into the last session tonight with Chris.

BEACH
CAMP

AFTER PARTIES




Text “PCAfterParty”, “NCAfterParty”
or “ESPAfterParty” to 74788.

Follow on Insta for additional info.

 @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS  @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS NORTH

 @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTSESPANOL

DINNER DISCUSSION



What is one thing you learned today about someone else at the table?

What was the best part of today?

What is one thing you took away from Silent Sounds today?

What stood out to you about last night's message?

What do you expect to get out of the message tonight?

What does God expect out of us tonight?

What is the purpose of Worship tonight?

How can you be sure that you get the most out of tonight?

NOTES & SKETCHES



POST WORSHIP

Baptisms were amazing! Celebrate anyone who was baptized.

What was your takeaway from tonight?

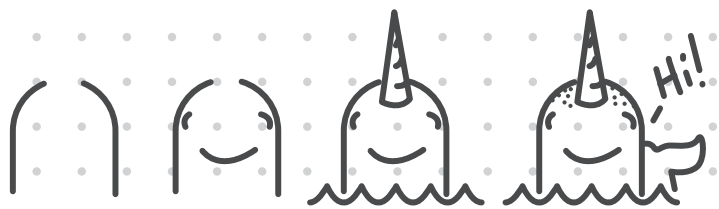
What is one thing you can practically do in your life as we return home?

How can we pray for you?

LEADER REMINDER:

Take everyone's phones from them and charge them in your room. If you are sleeping in the living room, put them all in the kitchen. If you are in a bedroom, put them all in your room. No student is to have his or her phone after Lights Out.

NOTES & SKETCHES



A SIX-WEEK DISCIPLESHIP
PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

SIGN UP TODAY BY
TEXTING "PCSP",
"NCSP" OR "ESPSP"
TO 74788"



STARTING POINT

**STUDENT
EDITION**



WEEKEND BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

PLANO CAMPUS

SATURDAYS, 6:30 PM

SUNDAYS, 9:30 AND 11:00 AM

*JHigh in the Sports & Fitness Center / HS in the
Student Ministry Building*

NORTH CAMPUS

SUNDAYS, 9:30 AND 11:00 AM

JHigh in the Lounge / HS in the Gym

PRESTONWOOD EN ESPAÑOL

Plano Campus

SUNDAYS, 12:45 PM

In the Student Ministry Building

Lewisville Campus

SUNDAYS, 12:45 PM

At Northview Baptist Church

PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS.ORG/BIBLE-FELLOWSHIP

PLANO CAMPUS

ESPAÑOL

NORTH CAMPUS

 @PWSTUDENTS

 @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTSESPANOL

 @PWSTUDENTS NORTH

 @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS

 @PRESTONWOODSTUDENTS NORTH



TEXT

DEVO

TO 74788 TO JOIN OUR
DAILY DEVOTIONAL TEXT



"Our devos always seem to have some relation to my life! It's always a cool reminder that God will use that time every day to reveal Himself and the things He's trying to teach me!" Kyndra Samaniego



POST CAMP

DEVOS

TUES

1 Corinthians 12:11-14

First Corinthians is a letter Paul wrote to the church in Corinth. Paul writes to stress the importance of unity in the church and specifically addresses the areas of disunity within the Corinthian church. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, you are an important part of the body of Christ. Differences can divide us, but the most significant commonality in every believer is Jesus. The Holy Spirit unites us across lines of class, status, race, age and social standing. It was vitally imperative for the early church to lay aside their divisiveness and remember their oneness in Christ for the advancement of the Gospel. It is just as crucial for each of us today to remember this truth.

» *How can disunity hinder the sharing of the Gospel?*

» *What stands out to you about the fact that the body of Christ is made up of many members?*

1 Corinthians 12:15–20

God has given every believer unique spiritual gifts for our good and His glory. In Corinth the church had begun to praise certain gifts over others, and people had become prideful of their gifts. In fact, everyone coveted the same gift and felt other gifts weren't as important. Paul seeks to remind the church that part of their unity in Christ is the necessary diversity of spiritual gifts. Each unique gift helps the body function not only properly but better! Spiritual gifts are given to build up other believers, build up the Church, create unity, express love, and reach new Christians.

- » *Why do you think it's important to have different spiritual gifts within the body of Christ?*

- » *How can you see God using your spiritual gift?*
(For a list of gifts, check out Romans 12:4–8 or take a quick test here: <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey>.)

THURS

1 Corinthians 12:21–30

President Theodore Roosevelt once said, “Comparison is the thief of joy.” To avoid comparison, some people have gone as far as trying not to see any differences in others, or to find all differences wrong. To compare simply means “to see similarities and differences.” The answer, then, isn’t for all of us to be exact same. Instead, we need to learn how God uses comparison. As believers we are set apart from the world; we are called to be different. We are united in the body of Christ, and we should rejoice in each different gift He gives within the body. Encourage one another to use the gifts God has given us! When we start to allow our differences to make us feel “less than,” we allow comparison to steal our joy. We’re putting our focus on how we look or what we have instead of seeing the bigger picture and God’s purpose. We don’t want to praise someone else’s gift of teaching because we are only focusing on our own lack of ability—instead of seeing the gift of mercy He has placed in our own life..

» *Whom can you encourage today who is using their gift for God’s glory?*

» *How does 1 Corinthians 12 deepen your understanding of God’s call for unity?*

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8

Much of the dissension within the church of Corinth was because of the people's desire to puff up themselves coupled with a lack of love for one another. Paul shows them a more excellent way to be unified based in *love*. In our desire to stand out for Jesus, we must always remember that His love should be the common thread woven throughout all we do and say. We should always strive for holiness. We speak truth in love by allowing the Holy Spirit to daily work in our lives and staying deeply rooted in God's Word. The more we look like Jesus, the more we will be unified and able to show God's love to a world that desperately needs Him.

» *How does God's Word define love?*

» *How does love truly unite us?*

A

B

C

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E

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G

1

2

DRAW

Use the grid to draw the dolphin on the next page.

3

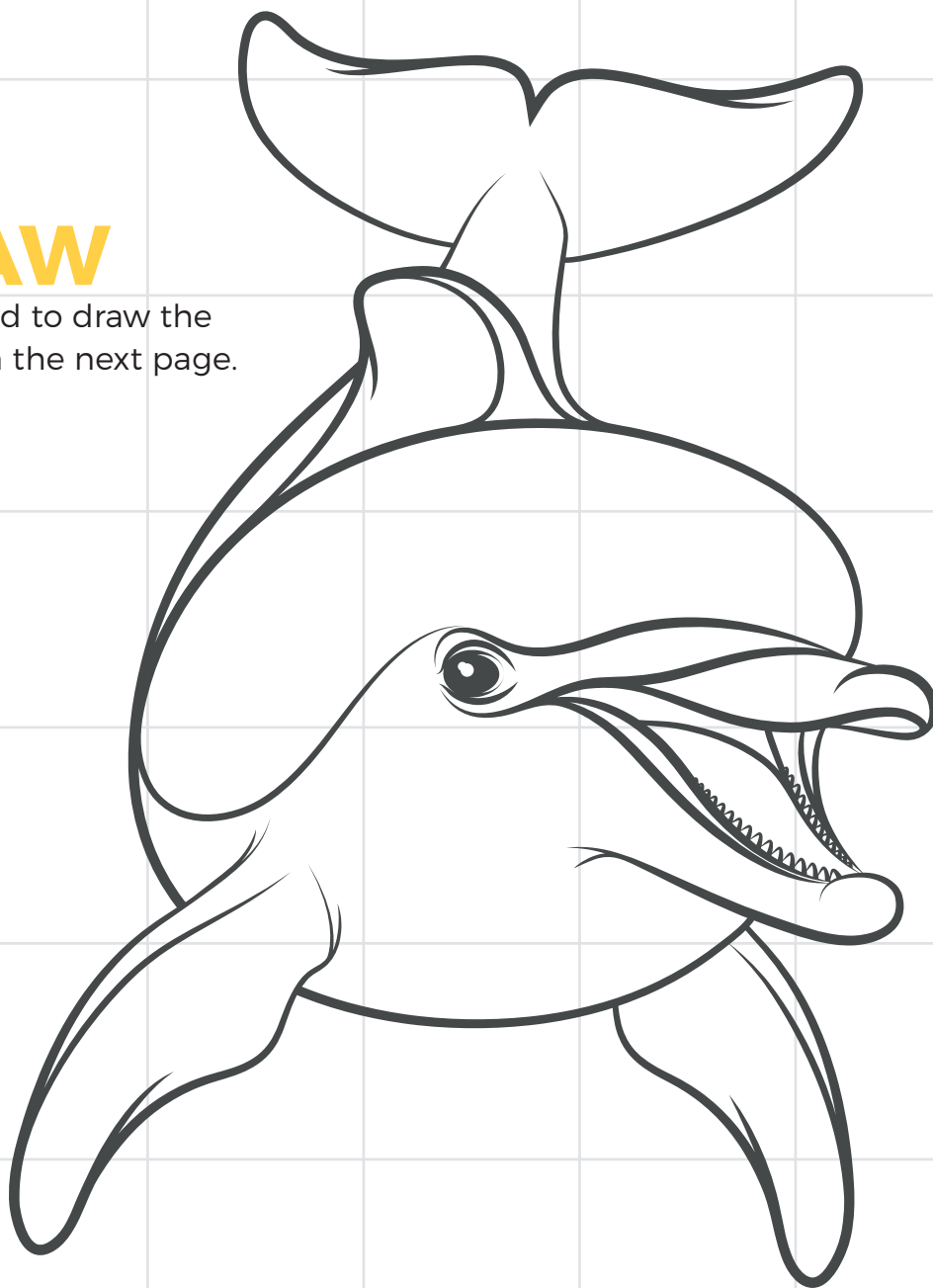
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A	B	C	D	E	F	G
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