

2026 INTERNATIONAL CAMPOREE



CAMP BIBLE STUDY BOOKLET

KAMP 
LONGVIEW

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KAMP LONGVIEW

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Welcome to Kamp Longview!

We are excited to be here together and with God's help, an incredible week is ahead. You've seen the theme and the theme verse—and a great spiritual adventure is waiting for you. It's normal to feel a little nervous with so many new faces and experiences. Just remember: everyone else feels the same way. Take the first step—introduce yourself, be welcoming, offer a good sleeping spot, offer to go get water. Before long, your cadre will feel like family.

You may worry about skills or certifications, but when you work as a team, you will succeed—and you won't be doing it alone. God is with you. When we look to Him for guidance, He gives us strength and peace, and your time at camp will be amazing.

We'll start each day with devotions and share God's Word throughout the day to help us grow in faith. Many people have worked hard and prayed for you to be here, and God is going to bless you in ways you can't imagine.

Get ready—this is going to be a great week at Kamp Longview!

In Christ,

Chaplain Jim Hoekstra

Corps Chaplain

Have you ever woken up, breathed the mountain air and thought to yourself, “Wow, this is awesome!”? This week, we’re camping together in a beautiful setting, surrounded by tall peaks, feeling cool breezes, hearing crackling fires and seeing starry skies. Our camp theme is *Mountains of Blessing* and God wants us to see how full our lives really are. Psalm 125:2 says, “As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore.” This is our Bible verse for the week. Just like these mountains circle our campsite, God circles you with His love, strength, and protection.



When hikes feel tough, God gives you strength to keep going. When nights feel dark or quiet, God is close and watching over you. This week, look for blessings stacked high like mountain peaks, large and small. Thank God for them, trust Him fully, and walk boldly, knowing you are never alone on this adventure.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ How do the mountains help you understand God's protection? (Psalm 121:1-2)
- ▶ When has God helped you keep going during something difficult?
- ▶ What are some “mountains of blessings” in your life? (James 1:17)
- ▶ How does nature show you God's power and care? (Romans 1:20)
- ▶ How does remembering God's faithfulness help you trust Him? (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Do you ever wonder where you would hide if a storm rolled in fast? Yesterday, we built our own shelters, and it was amazing to see them take shape. Our shelters aren't just piles of sticks, they are now safe places to rest, laugh and feel protected. A good shelter matters. The Bible tells us that God is even better than any shelter we can build. "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1) Just like our shelters stand between us and the wind, God stands between us and fear. He covers us with His care, day and night. This week, whenever you step into your shelter, remember that God is always ready to protect you, guide you, and keep you safe wherever you go.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ What does it mean that God is our shelter, not just a place, but someone we can trust? (Psalm 46:1)
- ▶ How can remembering God as our shelter help us when we feel scared or unsure? (Psalm 61:3)
- ▶ In what ways can communicating with God be better than running and hiding from trouble?
- ▶ How does God protect us even when we can't see danger? (Psalm 91:1)
- ▶ How can trusting God as our shelter help us grow stronger in faith?

Have you ever stood at the foot of a mountain and felt really small? The mountains around us rise huge and unshakable, with rocky sides, deep shadows, and peaks that seem to touch the sky. They don't wobble or weaken, and that strength reminds us of God.

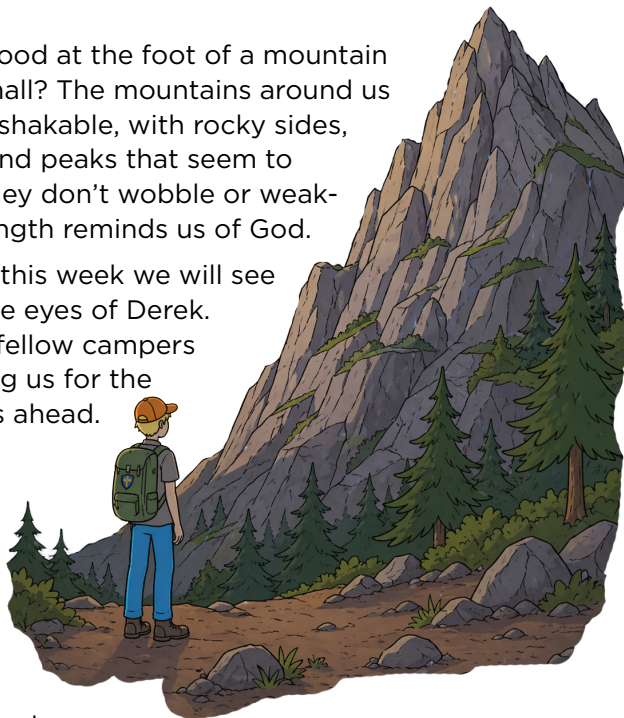
In our devotions this week we will see camp through the eyes of Derek.

He is one of our fellow campers and will be joining us for the many adventures ahead.

Derek says that mountains make great landmarks because they never quit standing, and yet God is even stronger than the mountains. God

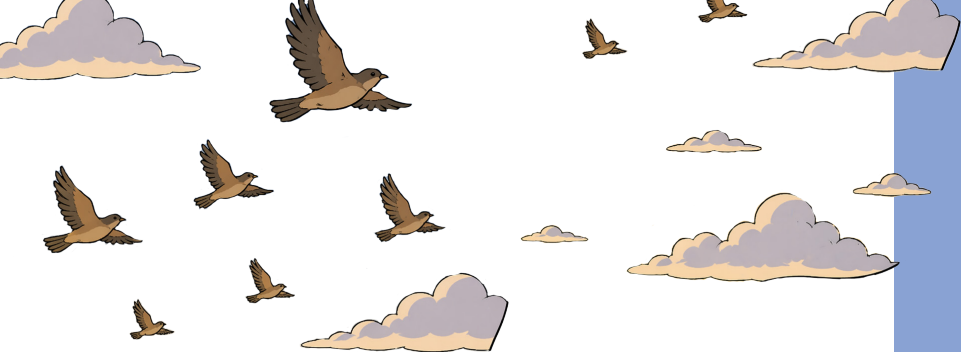
is sturdy, faithful and worthy

of our praise. Past generations have trusted Him through their own fears, joys, battles and hopes. Parents, grandparents and great-grandparents leaned on God when life felt heavy and He never failed them. Their prayers still echo like voices across the mountains. Remember, when we praise Him today, we join a long line of people who trusted His strength and found Him always to be true to His word.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ Why do you think people long ago trusted God even when life was hard? (Psalm 100:5)
- ▶ How does knowing that God never changes, help you trust Him today? (Hebrews 13:8)
- ▶ What are some ways you can praise God for being strong and faithful? (Psalm 150)
- ▶ How can remembering God's past faithfulness help you when you feel unsure?

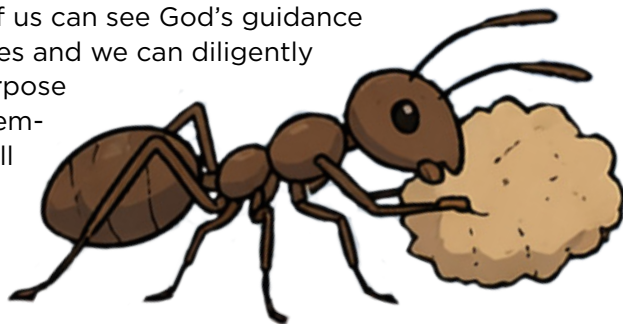


Have you ever paused and really listened to birds singing in the trees? Yesterday, Cadet Derek spotted dozens of birds and each one appeared different. Some were tiny, some bold, some with bright colors, but all were singing their own joyful songs. Watching them fly freely across the sky reminded him of how amazing God's creation is. Birds don't worry about what they will eat or where they will rest, because God takes care of them. Psalm 104:12 says, "The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches." God made each bird carefully, giving them beauty, song and freedom. If God notices and cares for birds, how much more does He care for you? When you hear the birds singing, be reminded that God watches over all His creation, including you. He gives us joy and life in many amazing ways.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ What does watching birds of all sizes and colours teach us about God's creativity and attention to detail? (Luke 12: 6-7)
- ▶ How do birds' joyful songs remind us to praise God in our own lives?
- ▶ What can we learn from watching the birds as they fly about and soar in the skies? (Isaiah 40:31)
- ▶ In what ways can noticing God's care for birds help you see His care in your own life? (1 Peter 5:7)
- ▶ "God's blessings are stacked high like mountain peaks." How did you see God's blessings today?

Have you ever watched an ant carry a crumb way bigger than itself and thought, "Wow, that's some serious, diligent work!" Derek recently noticed ants busily marching along trails, each one with a job and a purpose. They never stop, and they don't ever seem to get lost, because they know exactly what they are meant to do. Watching them reminds us that God gives each of us a purpose, guiding our steps every day. Just like ants, we can do our tasks with focus and care, trusting God to lead us. Proverbs 6:6 says, "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!" Each of us can see God's guidance in our own lives and we can diligently work with purpose for Him. Remember, even small steps matter when we follow Him.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ How does seeing ants following a path, remind us that God gives us direction? (Psalm 32:8)
- ▶ What can we learn from the ants about being persistent and diligent? (Colossians 3:23)
- ▶ How does realizing that God gives us purpose make our everyday activities meaningful? (Ephesians 2:10)
- ▶ Why is remembering that God gives guidance and purpose to our lives such a blessing for us each and every day?

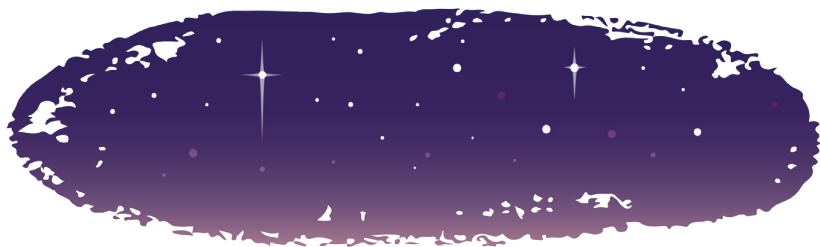
Many people realize that they end up feeling closer to God after He has helped them through their hardest moments in life. Derek thought about that while



hiking beside a rushing stream after a long, tiring day. The water bumped into rocks, splashed and swirled, but it never stopped moving. Later, while canoeing further downstream, the river got rougher and rougher. Derek felt nervous, but his leader reminded him to stay calm and use the paddle he had to steer. This is similar to how God cares for us in times of struggle. When life feels fast and scary, God doesn't leave us, He guides us through it. God supports our hearts when we are worried, sad or unsure. He gives strength when our arms feel weak, and peace when the waters are loud. The Bible says, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you." (Isaiah 43:2-3) God's care never runs dry. Keep trusting Him, He's right there with you.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ When life feels scary or overwhelming, how can we trust that God is close to us? (Isaiah 41:10)
- ▶ How does God care for us when we are weak or tired, like Derek on the river? (Matthew 11:28-30)
- ▶ Why is it important not to face struggles alone, but with others and with God? (Galatians 6:2)
- ▶ How can remembering God's promises help us stay calm in hard times? (Psalm 23:1-4)



Have you ever looked up at the night sky and felt the stars were winking at you? Recently Derek thought that very thing, while lying on his back staring up at thousands of sparkling stars. He imagined each star telling him a story of God's care, creativity, and endless love. The night sky can remind us of God's blessings being even bigger than we can imagine. We can be reminded that God's peace surrounds us like the quiet of the night. Psalm 19:1-2 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the works of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge." Every twinkling light is a sign of God's marvelous handiwork throughout the universe. When we pause to watch the stars, we remember that God's gifts, love and peace are shining down on us, guiding and protecting us every day.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ What do the stars teach us about God's blessings and God's love?
- ▶ How can observing the night sky help us experience God's peace?
- ▶ What does seeing God's order in the universe teach us about His reliability?
- ▶ How can noticing God's gifts in nature encourage us to trust Him more? (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- ▶ "God's blessings are stacked high like mountain peaks." How did you see God's blessings today?

Have you ever watched the sky change colors as the world wakes up? Derek did that this morning. With his eyes fixed on a glowing sunrise and the dark night slowly fading, he saw warm light spilling over the hills like a promise for the day to come. Realizing that God was with him at the moment, he knew that God's help would never disappear into the night. Just like the sun brings strength to the day, God gives us strength, which in turn brings hope. Sunrises can feel like a special mountain of blessing, rising high and steady in the sky. Each morning is proof that God stays close, lifts us up, and blesses us more than we expect. In Numbers 6:24-26 we read, "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." With that blessing you can definitely step into the day with courage.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ How does seeing a sunrise help us remember that God is always with us? (2 Samuel 23:4)
- ▶ In what ways does God's light help guide us? (Psalm 119:105)
- ▶ What does it mean to trust God for the day ahead? (Psalm 28:7)
- ▶ How can starting the day with God change our attitude and choices? (Psalm 5:3)

Have you ever stared at clouds and seen a dragon, a ship, or a giant marshmallow? Derek saw these things while lying



on his back, looking up and laughing as the sky turned into a moving picture book. As the clouds drifted and changed, Derek thought about prayer. Talking to God is kind of like that – open, honest, and full of wonder. God listens when we speak from our hearts, whether our prayers are small, serious, or creative. Our prayers don't have to be perfect; they just need to be real. Prayer helps us connect with God, grow closer to Him, and trust Him more each day. In 1 Thessalonians 5:17, we are told to “Pray continually”. Keep looking up, and keep talking to God.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ As we watch clouds move and change, how does this compare with our prayer life? (Colossians 2:6-7)
- ▶ Why is it important to remember that our prayers don't have to be perfect for God to hear them? (Romans 8:26)
- ▶ How can prayer help us feel closer to God during the day? (Psalm 145:18)
- ▶ How does regularly praying to God help us trust Him in our daily lives? (Philippians 4:6-7)

Would you dare take a step when you can't see the trail? Derek did this when he went on a night hike. He had to trust his leader and his flashlight that only showed a few steps ahead. The forest felt huge and the darkness was everywhere. Derek realized this is how faith works. God doesn't always light up the whole path, but He gives us enough light for the next step. During moments of doubt or fear, the Holy Spirit gives us strong, steady assurance that He is always there, even when darkness rolls in. When the trail feels uncertain and struggles come, God's presence surrounds us and protects us. The Bible says, "The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1) Keep walking. You're never alone.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ What does a night hike teach us about trusting God when we can't see what's ahead? (Psalm 119:105)
- ▶ In what ways does the Holy Spirit protect, guide and strengthen us? (1 Corinthians 2:12-13)
- ▶ How does the Holy Spirit's presence help us stand firm during hard times? (Nahum 1:7)
- ▶ How can remembering God's protection help us choose courage instead of fear? (Isaiah 41:13)
- ▶ "God's blessings are stacked high like mountain peaks." How did you see God's blessings today?

There is a song performed by Mercy Me with the title “I Can Only Imagine”. This song pictures a little bit of what it will be like when we first see God in Heaven. Derek says that whenever he hears the song he pictures himself standing in Heaven, amazed and joyful. Those are good words because Heaven is going to be even more than we can even imagine - so much more and so much better!



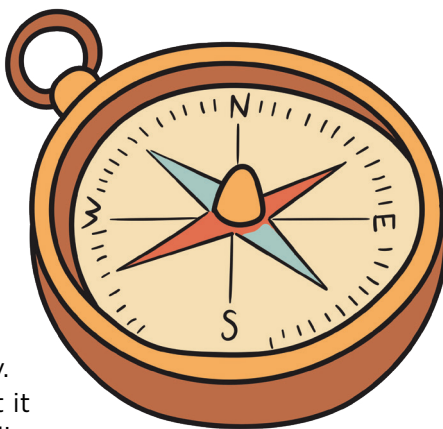
In the book of Revelation John describes Heaven as a place where there will be no more darkness, no pain, and no fear, because God is always with us. John goes on to say that in Heaven God will wipe away every tear, and there will be no more death or sadness. In John 14:1-2, Jesus says, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you I am going to prepare a place for you?” Jesus is preparing a forever home filled with perfect love, joy and peace. We will be with God, worship Him and feel completely safe and happy forever. Heaven is where God’s promises come true and Jesus invites us to be ready to share in the glory!

DISCUSSION

- ▶ When Derek mentions the song “I Can Only Imagine,” what pictures of Heaven come to your mind?
- ▶ Read Revelation 22:1-5. What description stands out the most to you and why?
- ▶ How does knowing that Jesus is preparing a place for us make you feel right now?
- ▶ How does thinking about Heaven help you when life feels hard or confusing?
- ▶ What is one way you can trust Jesus more and live ready to serve Him now and forever?

Have you ever trusted a compass to lead you the right way?

Derek adjusted his backpack and held his compass while hiking through the woods. Tall trees blocked the sky, and the trail twisted, but the compass needle stayed steady. Derek knew he could trust it to guide him in the right direc-



tion. God's guidance is like that compass. When life feels confusing, God never gets mixed up. Philippians 1:6 says, "He who began a good work in you will carry it out to completion until the day of Jesus Christ." God always finishes what He starts. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." God promises that He will complete the work He is doing in your life. Even more than Derek trusts his compass, we can trust God's direction. It is a huge blessing to know God is in control, guiding every step, today and always.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ Why did Derek trust his compass even when the trail twisted and the sky was blocked by trees?
- ▶ How is God's guidance similar to a compass in our lives?
- ▶ What do God's plans for us include, according to Jeremiah 29:11?
- ▶ What are some blessings that come from trusting God to guide your life, even when you don't understand everything?
- ▶ How is it a blessing to know God will always keep His promises and finish the work He started in you?

Picture in your mind, Derek, tightening his life jacket before river rafting. Now picture him riding the river of life as it rushes forward, exciting and loud.



God's Word says,

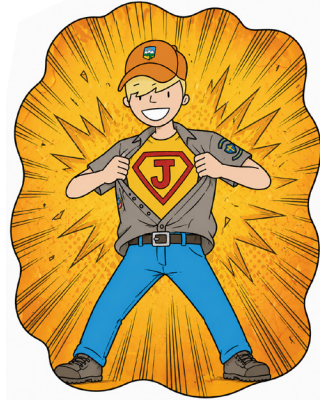
"There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells." (Psalm 46:4) God cares for us as we ride the river of life. From the mountains of God come rivers full of blessings – strength, courage, forgiveness – flowing downhill straight to us. As Derek paddles, the raft moves forward. And even when he can't see around bends and turns he listens and leans in, trusting the voice of God, his guide. Life feels like that. School, friends, choices we need to make, can sometimes splash us and spin us around. But God is there steadying the raft. When the current speeds up, He is near. When the path bends, He knows what is ahead. Trust Him, keep paddling, and let His river carry you forward with joy.

DISCUSSION

- ▶ What does it mean that Derek is "paddling on the river of life"?
- ▶ Why do we need the blessings listed in this devotional, that come from the mountains of God?
- ▶ What types of choices face us as we deal with school and friends?
- ▶ What makes it difficult to trust God when the river of life spins us or when we can't anticipate what is around the next bend?
- ▶ In what ways is God like our river guide? In what ways can we claim the Lord as our guide? (Proverbs 3:5-6)

What if one true story could change how you live every single day?

Derek told his group that he once saw a picture of a bunch of superheroes hanging around with Jesus. In the picture they weren't flying or fighting, rather, they were listening closely as Jesus told the story of how He saved the world. How He brought salvation by dying to cover the sin problems of the world and then rising back to life at His resurrection. By rising again, Jesus showed that spiritual death is now defeated. Derek explained that Jesus brought abundant life, a life filled with hope, courage and purpose. Jesus wants us to live our lives with overflowing love from Him, for Him and into the world. Isaiah 25:9 says, "This is the Lord, we trusted him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation." God's gift of salvation is the ultimate blessing anyone could ever receive. This blessing is greater than any superpower and it is meant to be shared.



DISCUSSION

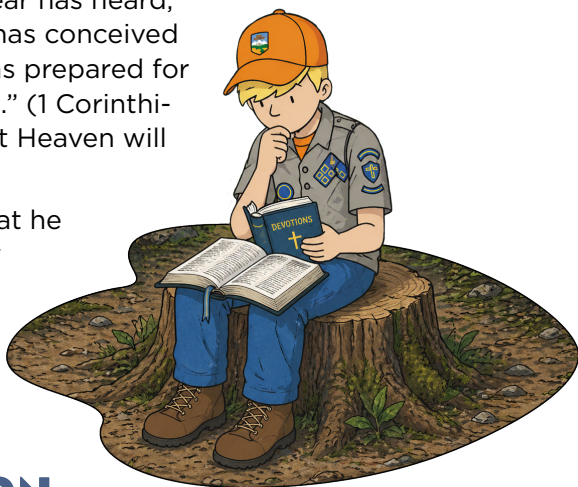
- ▶ How is Jesus' explanation about how He saved the world better than anything any superhero has ever done?
- ▶ How does the fact that Jesus died and rose again, saving us from spiritual death, change our future? What does this mean for us each and every day? (Revelation 21:4)
- ▶ Isaiah 25:9 says we can rejoice in God's salvation. What are some ways we can show joy and gratitude for what Jesus has done?
- ▶ What does it mean to live with "overflowing love" from Jesus, for Jesus, and into the world?
- ▶ "God's blessings are stacked high like mountain peaks." How did you see God's blessings today?

What if a normal day could feel a little like Heaven?

Derek tightened his backpack straps and smiled. He had just finished devotions, and he knew that God was right there with him – listening, caring, ready to walk with him all day. As a Cadet, Derek loved adventure, but his favorite journey was his relationship with God. Talking with God felt real, like hiking beside a trusted friend and guide.

Derek thought, *This awesome closeness must be a tiny taste of Heaven.* Heaven is a place and time where we will be in a perfect, close relationship with God, completely filled with perfect, unconditional love. The Bible says, “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no mind has conceived – the things God has prepared for those who love him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9) That’s what Heaven will be like.

It amazed Derek that he could already know God now, and one day that relationship will be perfected forever!



DISCUSSION

- ▶ How did Derek feel right after he had devotions, and why do you think he felt that way?
- ▶ Why do you think Derek compares his relationship with God to hiking with a trusted friend and guide?
- ▶ Read 1 Corinthians 2:9. How does this verse help us think about what Heaven will be like? (See also: John 14:27 & 1 John 4:16)
- ▶ What does it mean to have a relationship with God now, even before Heaven?
- ▶ How can remembering that God is with you change the way you live your day today?

Having a grateful heart is powerful.

Derek shared how his Cadet leader once challenged him to make a gratitude list. At first, Derek thought it sounded boring, but he tried it anyway. Each night, for a week, he wrote down things he was thankful for. Soon he noticed his attitude changing. In a Christian's life, having an attitude of gratitude each day really matters. When we have gratitude to God for his many, many blessings, we are better able to live a life of gratefulness to others. Each day we can thank God for His Creation, His love, the gift of salvation and the gift of the Holy Spirit, just to name a few. The Bible reminds us, in Psalm 103:2-4, "Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion..." So, let's praise God each and every day, thanking Him for the many Mountains of Blessings He has given us.



DISCUSSION

- ▶ Which blessings from God are easiest for you to be thankful for? Which are harder to notice?
- ▶ How did writing down things he was thankful for change Derek's attitude?
- ▶ How does thanking God for His blessings help us treat other people better?
- ▶ Read Lamentations 3:22-24. What do we learn from this Bible passage?
- ▶ What is one practical way that you can start to have an attitude of gratitude in your everyday life?

Some decisions matter for a day. One matters forever.

Derek told his group the most important decision he ever made wasn't earning a badge or finishing a tough hike. It was choosing to follow his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Derek explained how everyone makes lots of choices every day, but this one choice changes your whole life. Acts 16:31 says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." This verse helped Derek understand how salvation comes through faith in Jesus alone. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Himself made this very clear. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." This means Jesus is the one and only way to salvation.

Each person must make his own decision and personal commitment to follow the Lord. No one can decide for you – not your parents, leaders, or friends. The good news is the Holy Spirit works in our hearts to guide us, help us understand the truth, and encourage us to make that decision.

Your life will never be the same if you decide to walk each day hand in hand with Jesus!

DISCUSSION

- ▶ What are some decisions young men your age make every day, and how is choosing Jesus different from these decisions?
- ▶ Why do you think Derek said following Jesus was the most important decision of his life?
- ▶ What do you think Jesus meant when He said He is "the way, the truth, and the life"?
- ▶ How does the Holy Spirit help guide and encourage people to choose to follow Jesus?
- ▶ Spend a few minutes in silent prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to lead and guide your thoughts about what is really most important in your life right now.
- ▶ Say the Lord's Prayer together to finish your devotional time.

For each of the following Bible verses, have a Cadet read it aloud and then spend a bit of time talking about what the verse means to you, especially in regards to the week you have just spent together.

ROMANS 5:5

PSALM 126:3

ISAIAH 52:7

PSALM 125:2



As you prepare to leave, read Numbers 6:24-26. Consider this blessing as being from God to you, and covering you as you travel.

SAFE TRAVELS TO ALL!

NOTES & FAVORITE VERSES:

NOTES & FAVOURITE VERSES:

