

OHIO VALLEY CHRISTIAN CAMP

Summer Camp Curricula Guide [3½ week plan]

First adopted February 1987, latest update April 2005

The following information gives a suggested curriculum for Camp Deans to follow for Summer Camp. This outline attempts to provide a broad Christian education and to avoid duplication from year to year. This is not a mandatory curriculum; Deans may depart from it if they feel it is necessary because of their camp emphasis or if necessary teaching resources are not available. The Board should be notified of any such changes in order to revise the program if necessary and to avoid future duplications.

The following class titles are for descriptive purposes, in an attempt to concisely describe the content desired. Further details are also given in some cases. Deans are free to rename a class as they choose.

It is suggested that camp weeks should have a Theme; this would guide the Vespers speaker and class teachers to best orient the material towards a goal. Ideally, the Board will adopt a general Theme for the Summer, which can be used by all weeks.

In general, it is expected that the Intermediate through Senior High weeks would have 3 class periods (of 30 to 55 minutes each), a Missionary or other special period, and Vespers (evening service). Generous amounts of recreation and group activity time should also be provided, to keep camp fun as well as educational. Large camps should teach each class two times in rotation, to keep class size reasonable. First Chance camp would probably replace the Missionary period with additional recreation, and one class period with a Crafts time. The middle-school weeks in particular, and others to some extent, should plan in advance to include skit material or role-plays to reinforce the class concepts; this age level responds much better to participatory learning.

FIRST CHANCE CAMP (Entering Grades 2-3)

1. **Topical Study** (trusting, kindness, honesty, respect, helpfulness, etc.)
2. **Crafts Time**
3. **Bible Stories or Characters** (O.T. in odd years, N.T. in even years)

INTERMEDIATE CAMP (Entering Grades 4-5-6)

2005, etc.

1. **Old Testament Bible Heroes**
2. **Christian Worship** (Note 1)
3. **Miracles of Jesus**

2006, etc.

1. **Christian Attitudes** (Note 2)
2. **Basic Doctrines**
3. **Jesus of Nazareth, a real Person** (Note 3)

2007, etc.

1. **New Testament Bible Heroes**
2. **How to Become a Christian**
3. **Parables of Jesus**

JUNIOR HIGH CAMP (Entering Grades 7-8-9)

2005, etc.

1. **Facing Life** (Note 4)
2. **The Sermon on the Mount** (Jesus' teaching; Note 5)

3. **Old Testament Historical Survey** (Note 6)

2006, etc.

1. **Facing Life** (Note 4)
2. **The Book of Philippians** (The Joy of being a Christian; Note 5)
3. **The Bible: Inspiration, Reliability, How We Got It, Translations**

2007, etc.

1. **Facing Life** (Note 4)
2. **The Book of James** (Practical Biblical guidance in speech, conduct, and relationships; Note 5)
3. **The Life of Christ** (His life history, relationships, etc.)

SENIOR HIGH CAMP (Entering Grades 10-11-12)

2005, etc.

1. **Relationships** (parents, siblings, employers/teachers, friends; Note 4)
2. **The Book of Ephesians** (unity in Christ, relationships in Christ; Note 5)
3. **Church History** (N.T. church/Acts; the church men divided; Restoration)

2006, etc.

1. **Priorities** (developing values: In the World but Not Of the World; Relationships more important than possessions; serving God rather than Mammon, etc; Note 4)
2. **The Book of Colossians** (Christ the Head; Christian living; Note 5)
3. **Your Role in the Church** (church officers, Body life, the Body needs all its members, etc.)

2007, etc.

1. **Dating and Marriage** (including Biblical view of divorce; Note 4)
2. **The Book of 2nd Timothy** (faithfulness, goals, commitment; Note 5)
3. **Christian Growth & Outreach** (prayer, devotions/Bible reading, witnessing & evangelism, etc.)

NOTES:

1. Christian worship--a discussion of corporate worship activities, with emphasis more on what they are and mean rather than how they are done. Singing, prayer, giving, teaching/preaching, communion, testimony, etc. Emphasize how this age group can participate--and how they can encourage others in worship by their attendance and attention.
2. Christian attitudes--show how being a Christian should change a person's life. Suggestions: the "fruits of the Spirit", Gal. 5:22-23, can be studied then all kinds of "fruity" fun and crafts could follow; or, the Beatitudes, Mt. 5:3-12 (as Bee-attitudes?) could be similarly adapted.
3. Jesus of Nazareth--a study to show that Jesus was a real person, not a fairy tale. Emphasize the Jesus of history through His movements and actions as recorded in the Gospels. Bring in some outside historical confirmations or illustrations, or use dramatizations & skits.
4. Facing Life (Jr. High), and similar Sr. High topics--special resource material (such as Dobson or other films, special speakers, etc.) is suggested to help campers deal with practical-living issues. Such subjects as self-esteem, peer pressure, temptations to drugs, sex, stealing, cheating, lying, envy, etc. should be addressed in a manner that would reach the campers.
5. Bible studies--verse-by-verse studies of Books of the Bible or portions. Besides drawing out the lessons in the Books, the aim of these studies is to introduce campers to the methods and value of reading and studying the Bible on their own. For the younger groups, the use of an easy paraphrase version is suggested.
6. O.T. Historical Survey--Creation, early history, and the working of God through nations and history to accomplish His purpose of bringing Christ into the world. Emphasis on Genesis 1-9. Show the campers that evolution has weaknesses, and that modern science can "prove" neither Creation nor Evolution--that both are theories or "faiths". Show how Man, in Sin, is lost.