



# Welcome Counselors

Thank you for making yourself available this week. As a counselor, you are vital to the effectiveness of this week of camp. God will use you in amazing ways this week to impact the lives of the many kids in your care.

Our theme this summer is **“Medieval Mountain”**. We get to follow the adventure back to the mythical land of Medieval Mountain. A week built around conversations of Kings, Life, Kingdoms, Adventure, and so much more, at the very core of the theme we hope to show how God is the one true King. We get to walk side by side with our campers in discussions and activities built to create conversation and memorable moments. We will be searching through life’s stories, the Bible, all camp games, activities, and plenty more to find out more about God’s Kingdom, and what role we get to play in it.

As in all things we do here at camp we are here to Encounter Jesus, Experience Transformation, and Engage The World.

I am so excited for our theme for the week! Our campers are really beginning to explore their worlds and expand their worldview. God is calling us to step out of the normality of life, and look into all of the many amazing adventures and stories that surround us!



This manual is for counselors and is intended to help you succeed this week. Inside you will find some practical information and helpful suggestions on being a counselor at Medieval Mountain. You will also find some fun and creative ideas on how to share Jesus with your campers. The more interested you are in this week and what happens here, the more they will be encouraged to jump in, learn, and explore their own world for a week away from home.

We are excited to have the opportunity to serve with you this summer. It is a true honor to be invited into your church community and ministry as we partner with you in this camp experience for your campers. God has you here for a reason, so let’s look forward to all that is to come. Get ready to be amazed and engaged by the fun experiences and adventures that God will walk you through during your week at camp!

## “Sporx” and the 2011 Adventure Mountain Staff Family

*“Permit the children to come to me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it at all.” And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands upon them.” **Mark 10:13–16***

# Director / Counselor Meeting Agendas

## SUNDAY

- Welcome to Adventure Mountain
  - > Forest Home, Adventure Mountain is for the Church
  - > Manuals – Counselor Insert
  - > Theme: “**Medieval Mountain**” —Outcomes, New Names (*The Keep*), etc.
  - > Encountering the Imagination
  - > Camp Guidelines:
    - 4 R's (*Rock Throwing, Running, Raiding, Respect*)
    - Absolutely **NO** food or trash in tents at any time (*including counselors!*)
    - Close-toed shoes at all times in camp. Keep campers safe!
    - No access to Main Camp for campers (*counselors have access during free time*)
  - SK8 Park, climbing wall, & other special recreation areas are only open when staffed by Forest Home staff
  - Bathing suit guidelines
    - Night Time Dilemmas: Bathroom runs (*counselors go*), bunk safety, No ghost stories or other scary stories, etc.
    - Wristbands (*keep them on all week*)
      - Camper Discipline
      - Homesickness, Calls Home, and Cell Phones
  - > Special emphasis on encouragement and recognition:
    - Nightly affirmation & Preparing for Affirmation Circles
    - Birthdays and stuff (*Lost teeth...*)
- Camp Medic (*meds, 1st aid, forms, etc.*)
- Lead Program staff introductions (“*Jumbes*”)
- Camp schedule (*changes from last summer*), Banking system (*Sunday Sales*), The Keep, Lake day, Horn
  - > Nightly Conversations: How and why?
  - > The Trail to Knighthood?
  - > Where do I get extra beds, blankets, etc.?
  - > Emergencies: see staff, or call x333
  - > The campers are watching
  - > You're here for a reason
  - > **Prayer**
  - > Lanterns – Dismiss to Nation Meeting



# Director / Counselor Meeting Agendas

**Mark 1:14** – “After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee proclaiming the good news of God. ‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!’”

## MONDAY

- Daily update – Fun stories about the first night?
- “Searching for the King”
- Roundtable / Theme / The Keep
- Missionary Emphasis (*Home of the World Changers*)
- Forms of worship
- Freetime and volunteers: Ask staff
- Monday Night Game
- “Trail to Knighthood” – questions?
- Homesickness Check-up?
- Housekeeping needs (*blankets, etc.*)
- Pre-order stuff in clubhouse for “Apprenticeship” time (*Program Assistants*)
- **Prayer**
- Meds and first aid reminders (*medic*)

**Notes:**



# Director / Counselor Meeting Agendas

## TUESDAY

Notes:

- Counselor Check-up
- Theme discussion
- “The One True King”
- Today’s Roundtable
- The Keep / Deck Connections (*evening program*)
- Homesickness Check-up?
- Housekeeping issues?
- **Prayer**



## WEDNESDAY

Notes:

- Counselor Check-up
- “A New Kingdom”
  - > Roundtable / Theme / The Keep
- Last day of Apprenticeships (*Last Counselor Free Time*)
- Evening All Camp Activity
- Knights’ Trail Reminder (8:45 – Meet time)
- First Aid concerns. . . SHOWERS!
- Tomorrow Break-Out Groups: Explanation
- C.E. Director / Preteen Pastors – Meet Sporn
- **Prayer**

# Director / Counselor Meeting Agendas

## THURSDAY

Notes:

- Stories from Deck Connections
- No "Apprenticeship" Free Time today
- Pack time (4:15)
- Break-Out Groups
- The Gauntlet
- Tonight's Spotlight on Campers
  - >The King's Banquet
- The Keep—Camper Reflection
- Affirmation circle
- Friday Schedule
  - > Medication pick-up
  - > Packing and Friday Clean-up Schedule
  - > Passing out pictures, etc.
  - > Accomo, Trash, Tents, Lanterns
- Housekeeping issues?
- Thank you to all counselors
- Camp Evaluations (*Turn in to Program Assistants*)
- **Prayer**



# Nation Guides / Counselor Meeting Agendas

## **SUNDAY** *(with campers)*

Counselor Intro to the Nation

Names Names Names...

Nation Cheer

To "The Marketplace" when Horn Blows

## **MONDAY**

Get to know you

Guide's Role

Brief Overview of the day's schedule

Lake Day questions? Buddy Sheets?

Meal Responsibilities—etiquette, clean-up

Kickback Konversations, Knightly Conversations Check-up

Questions?

\*\*Devotions / share / prayer\*\*

## **TUESDAY**

General Schedule Overview for the day

Kickback Konversations, Knightly Conversations Check-up

"The Trail of Knighthood"—Check-up and ideas

Personal Goal Check-up

How are campers doing?

Thoughts / prayer for evening program

\*\*Devotions / share / prayer\*\*



# Nation Guides / Counselor Meeting Agendas

## WEDNESDAY

General Schedule Overview for the day

Kickback Konversations, Knightly Conversations Check-up

Personal counselor Check-up

\*\*Devotions / share / prayer\*\*

Thoughts / prayer for evening program

## THURSDAY

Review from past two deck connections

B.O.G.'s

"The Gauntlet"

Friday Morning Clean-up

Luggage Posts

Tips and Advice

Thank you for a great week!

\*\*Prayer for Campers continued growth\*\*

## Notes:



# Emergency Procedures & Health Care

## **Emergency Sirens**

Forest Home's emergency system will clearly alert us if there is a camp-wide emergency. There is a different siren for fire, earthquake, and flood. Following each siren will be a clear, broadcast message describing the emergency. When you hear the siren, stop whatever you are doing with your campers and listen for instructions. We will hear a test siren on Monday around 12:45PM—during lunch. The staff running that meal will let the kids know what it is and what to listen for and what to do in each situation.

## **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY AREAS - IN CASE OF FIRE AND EARTHQUAKE**

Forest Center

Lakeview

Creekside

The Village

**Adventure (Medieval) Mountain**

Bus Parking Lot

Beach area at lake

Playing Field

Trading Post

**Supply Station Lot ("The Marketplace")**

## **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY AREAS - IN CASE OF FLASH FLOOD**

**South Side of Creek**

Other Side of Creek

**Report to Adventure (Medieval) Mountain Dining Canopy**

Report to nearest dining facility

## **LOCATIONS OF RED EMERGENCY PHONES**

**Adventure (Medieval) Mtn.**

Creekside

Forest Center

The Village

Lakeview

**Supply Station (outside, north side of building)**

Mountain View Hall (outside, south side of building)

Hormel Hall (outside, west side of building)

Roundhouse (outside, front of building)

Trading Post (outside, west side of building)

Boat House (outside, east side of building)



# Emergency Procedures & Health Care

## **Missing Camper**

In the case that a camper is missing, immediately report to any Adventure (*Medieval*) Mountain staff (*if no AM staff are in the area, dial 0 [from in-house phone] to notify Roundhouse*). There are specific procedures to be followed. Initially, please keep this information from other campers so as to avoid any tendency to panic them. Stay calm. The following information will be needed by Forest Home Staff: camper's name (nickname, if any), sex, age, height, weight, color of hair, color and type of clothing, natural right or left handed, where last seen (and approximate time), and (if known) any personality traits (i.e. rebellious, history of running away, etc.).

## **Health Care**

*The medic station is normally open all day, every day camp is happening*

*If our medic is not in the station, you can normally contact her through any staff in camp.*

It is your responsibility to see that your campers' health and safety are maintained while at camp. An ill or injured camper should be taken to the camp medic unless any injury to head, neck or back is possible or suspected. If so, do not move the injured camper! Bring the medic to them.

Do not administer any of your medicine (*aspirin, etc.*) or medicine from the First Aid station to your camper. Please bring **ALL** medications to the camp medic.

**Medications distributed:** Morning meds are given immediately before breakfast. Lunchtime meds before lunch. Dinner meds immediately before dinner. Nighttime meds given immediately after evening meetings at "The Keep".



# Knightly Conversations

## **Why do we have Knightly Conversations?**

“Knightly Conversations” are an opportunity for you to gather your campers and wrap-up the day talking through what they have learned. It is also a chance for campers to ask any questions that they may not feel comfortable asking in a larger group. Whether you have an extended discussion or just have a few campers pray, Knightly Convos will achieve its purpose if the campers go to sleep thinking about what they learned that day.

As a counselor, you may choose how you approach this time. If you want a more in-depth conversations geared specifically toward your campers, feel free to write your own questions. The outlines that follow create a simple format so that a tent full of tired campers can wrap up the day thinking through the theme. Be creative, but also be sensitive to the needs of the campers.

**KNIGHTLY CONVOS ARE NOT OPTIONAL!** Please do some form of discussion and prayer each night. This can be a very enriching time for both you and your campers—this program is designed to create connection and growth for your preteen church community. Have a great time talking to your campers each night.

Your campers also have a “Notes” section in their manuals. Encourage them to take notes during the days and write questions or comments down for you to talk about during your Knightly Conversations.

## **Sunday** *(Get them used to the idea of talking before bed)*

What are you most looking forward to this week? *(Lake, Free Time, Games, Skits)*

If you could pick one thing that would make your week fantastic, what would it be?

What is something new you learned today?

What do you think about the theme?

Does anyone have the theme verse memorized?

Talk about taking notes during each day, and bringing those questions and stories to “Knightly Conversations” at night.

**Close Convos with prayer, thanking God for the great things He is going to do during this week of camp.**

**Don't forget your individual camper encouragements at lights out.**

# Knightly Conversations

## **Monday** *(Start to dig in to what they are learning)*

How was your day?

What was your favorite part of the day? *(Lake, Free Time, Roundtables)*

Have the memorized today's theme verse?

What was their first Roundtable like?

Have them tell you the 3 most important parts of what they learned today *(Roundtables, The Keep, Apprenticeships)*

Have them teach you the story they read today. *(re-read the story if you have time)*

**Close Convos with prayer, thanking God for the blessings in our life, and that He values us with His love and provision.**

**Don't forget your individual camper encouragements at lights out.**

## **Tuesday** *(Give them the opportunity to start telling the stories, encourage them to ask questions and dig deeper)*

How was your day?

What is the best thing that happened to you today?

What is today's theme verse?

What do they remember from the talk tonight?

What does it mean that God is King?

Have them recount today's Roundtable story—where is it found?

Ask them about any notes they took today.

Has anyone made any really important choices about life today?

**Close Convos with prayer, thanking God for life and for loving us and calling us to follow Him.**

**Don't forget your individual camper encouragements at lights out.**



# Knightly Conversations

**Wednesday** *(Let them take some ownership over the conversation. What do they want to talk about / question?)*

How was your day? *(Lake, Free Time, Roundtables)*

What is today's theme verse?

What was the story at "The Keep" tonight?

Today they learned about being an active member of The Kingdom. Ask them how they intend to play an active role.

What does it mean to be a part of The Kingdom?

What are some questions that they might have?

What does it mean to follow Jesus? Is that hard, or easy?

How do we follow Jesus once we head back down the mountain?

**Close Convos in prayer, thanking God for His role in our lives,  
and the people He has put in our lives that care about us.**

**Don't forget your individual camper encouragements at lights out.**

**Thursday** *(Make sure they've begun the packing process before everyone falls asleep!)*

How was your day?

What is today's theme verse?

What was the best part of your Apprenticeship this week?

What did you learn in today's Break-Out Group?

What were the three things they learned this week?

How do we take the things we learned this week down the mountain with us?

What is one way they will be different when they get home? *(what action will be different?)*

**Close Convos in prayer, thanking God for new life, friends, and that He loves us and care for us.**

**Don't forget your individual camper encouragements at lights out.**

# Having A Conversation With A Camper About Jesus

1. Each camper needs to know that God loves him / her and wants him / her to begin a journey with Jesus Christ. You can reference **John 3:16–17**, or **1 John 4:7–10**.
2. Each camper also needs to understand that through Jesus, we are forgiven of and freed of sin. Use **Romans 3:23–24, 6:23** and **1 John 1:8–9, 1 John 2:2**.
3. Then each camper needs to understand he / she can live the gift of new life which God has offered through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Use **Acts 16:31** and **1 John 1:9**.
4. Finally, each camper needs to know that God expects to see spiritual growth on his / her journey with Him, that through Jesus we have access to his ever-present Kingdom. Use **Galatians 5:25** and **Philippians 1:21**.

A couple of great things to remember when conversing with your campers: use God's Story to describe God's Story (**Scripture!**), and use your own story—your own journey—with Christ as well.



When having a conversation with a camper about their choice to follow Jesus, it is important to remember it is God's grace and presence in our lives that lead us to that decision. Many times we have the mindset that it is our job to "win" others for Christ, where we should view it as our job to love our campers, help them ask important questions, help them search for the answers, and to talk with them through those questions. I believe in doing so, campers will come to a greater understanding of who God is, how much He loves them, the relationship He wants to have with them, and who He wants them to be.

Some great news is that in many ways that we do not even know, God will use our time, energy, actions, and words to help a camper come to know Him.

But in the end it is Jesus Himself, through the work of the Holy Spirit, who leads a camper to make that choice. We are just here to help and join the journey!

# Discipline

## **How can I discipline youngsters effectively?**

Never forget that the purpose of discipline is to correct behavior. This process happens over the short and long term. Your fifth and sixth graders are “kids,” so we shouldn’t expect them to act like adults! They are at camp, and they are probably a bit energetic, so keep that in mind. At the same time it is right to expect them to conduct themselves responsibly and with appropriate behavior. There are boundaries that should not be crossed.

## **Some helpful hints for counselors in disciplining:**

Use the four part approach to a discipline problem:

1. Make a general statement to the campers of what you want them TO DO.
2. Be reasonable in your demands and make sure all the campers hear you.  
If some disobey, repeat your original statement using the names of the offenders.
3. Speak to the “ring leader” . . . use the “touch method” by holding the arm or shoulder of the offender as you speak to him/her.
4. If these steps fail, try the ultimate approach at camp – TIME OUTS.



*Sporx, the Program Assistants, and your Nation Guide are here to help you, so you are never alone. Please let us help you in loving your campers, even in the discipline process.*

## **May I exert physical punishment? NO!**

No spanking, hitting, or physical discipline of any kind is permitted. If you have a camper you can’t handle and you feel you need to resort to physical punishment, consult your Nation Guide for aid in handling the situation. Physical punishment includes spanking, slapping, or even asking campers to hold large rocks for certain periods of time, and making them do push-ups, sit-ups, or related punishments. These types of things do not work and are not permitted—in fact, they are grounds for terminating your counseling responsibilities. Counselors are not permitted to levy fines against a camper, such as having a him / her pay a dime or quarter to the counselor each time he / she disobeys. Food (*i.e. meals, desserts*) are not to be withheld as forms of discipline—that is not discipline, it is child abuse. Please mind the line in this area of your responsibilities! If a camper is abused in ANY way during this week of camp, Forest Home is to report such abuse. We want our campers to leave 100% built up, so any punishment that would deter this is inappropriate for this place. Thank you for your attention in this area.

# Our Goals and Outcomes

## **WHAT WE SEEK TO ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER THIS WEEK:**

- Individuals make decisions to follow Christ.
- Individuals become more committed to the local Church.
- Church leaders feel supported (*partnered with*) and cared for.
- Church groups and individuals are inspired to continue and / or begin the work of putting their faith into action in their community.
- Campers will experience a heightened connection to their leaders and peers within their church group.
- Campers have an expanded view of the family of God.
- Campers takes a step toward beginning to see themselves as young adults.
- Campers demonstrate comfort with making personal decisions.
- Campers show ability to engage Scripture, decision-making, and question formation.
- Campers want to read the Bible on their own.

# Spare Parchment For Notes

