

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8





creating a world where kids are captivated by life, not screens



PARENTS & CAREGIVERS,

Join us back at camp before pickup for a special presentation from our friends at Screen Sanity designed to **tackle some of your toughest questions about kids and screens.** You'll leave with valuable tools to assess your family's digital health and gain confidence to guide your kids in the safe use of screens, smartphones and social media. You'll also have a chance to meet and hear from our Camp Director and the Storyteller for your camper's session.

This 45-minute event is **free** for parents and caregivers with your camper's registration. *Please note, the content of this presentation is designed for adults as it touches on mental health and suicide. Please keep this in mind when considering bringing kids along.*



An RSVP is requested so we can have enough printed materials.



We hope this guide serves as a tool for deeper connection with your kids!

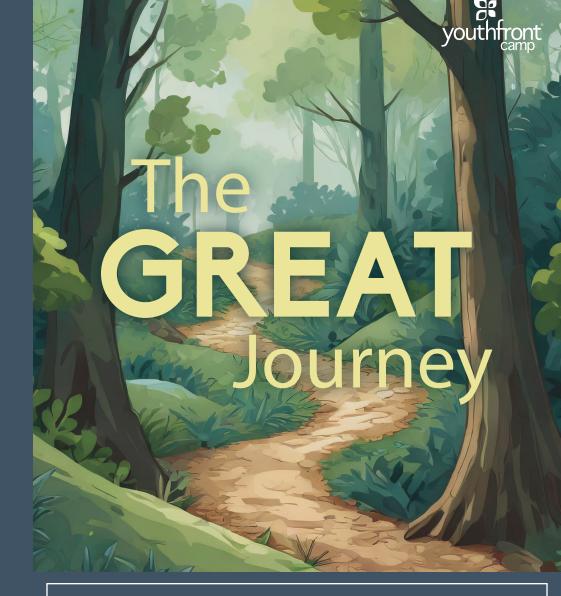
For more parenting resources from Youthfront, visit: youthfront.com/parenting



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A Parent & Caregiver Guide



Hey, Parents & Caregivers!

This family resource is **designed to provide a** connection to your camper by engaging in the same scriptures and content your camper is experiencing at camp.

While your camper is away, we invite you to read scripture and reflect on what you read using the questions provided. We also encourage you to pray for your camper.

Before pickup from camp, there is a perforated page for you to write a note to encourage your camper and to share something that you learned or noticed as you read the scriptures. You can place the note on your camper's bed or in another location where he/she will find it easily upon returning home from camp.

The Main Idea

The theme for Kids Camp is "The Great Journey." As campers hear stories from the beginning of Acts, they will learn about a movement of God's love growing and inviting them to be a part of God's family (the early church). Campers will learn that we belong to God and to each other and that we have been given an invitation to share this good news with others.

Begin your journey on Camp Day 1 (the day you drop your camper off)

Camp Day 1

THE PROMISE AND GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read: Acts 1:1-11, Acts 2

At Camp: Today and tomorrow morning, campers will learn that they are invited to join a journey that began thousands of years ago, looking to Jesus to be their guide. They will see that through the gift of the Holy Spirit God is forming a beautiful community starting with the early church and growing until Jesus returns in new creation.

Reflection: Today, your child is learning all about Jesus' life, and how, after he was raised from the dead, he left his disciples with a promise that the Holy Spirit would soon be with them. The disciples likely felt confused and lost when their leader who they had been following for the last 3 years ascended to heaven. What would they do next? Where do they go from here? And who is this "Holy Spirit" Jesus was talking about?

Take a moment to reflect on a time in your life where you felt lost or weren't sure what to do next. What did you need? Who helped you? Your child will likely experience these kinds of moments at several points in their childhood - whether it's decisions about friendships, activities, or even their beliefs. Think about how you can be the best support you can be for your child when they are at a crossroads.

Part of that may look like learning to trust in things they cannot yet see, just as the disciples had to trust that the Holy Spirit would come after Jesus. This idea of the Holy Spirit, God with us today in a form we cannot see or touch, is often difficult to understand. Be prepared to talk with your child about this when they get home, and ask if they want to share what they learned about the Holy Spirit, or if they have questions they want to ask.

Prayer: "Jesus, I lift up (child's name) to you today. I pray that you would open their eyes to how deeply loved they are. Thank you for creating them so special and unique, and for the gift of their presence in our family. As they begin this camp experience, I ask you to show them more of who you are and the plans you have for them. Thank you for your love. Amen."

Camp Day 2

THE MOVEMENT AND GROWTH OF GOD'S FAMILY

Read: Acts 2:41-47 (expansion of early church); Acts 16:11-15 (Lydia)

At Camp: Campers will see that the story of Jesus is so compelling that it can change lives; they will meet Lydia, Priscilla and Aquila, and Tabitha as they come to know Jesus and share it with others. Campers will be encouraged to invite others on the journey as well, growing God's family.

Reflection: Today, your child is learning about heroes of the early church, how they included all and helped share the good news of Jesus with the world. The message to campers is all about their belonging in a community of believers that began long ago.

Take a moment to reread Acts 2:44-47. While this kind of community sounds ideal, it's not a reality for most people living in our modern, individualistic society. Imagine what it might feel like to live in a community where everyone looks out for each other, and the goal is to share God's goodness with all. Sounds pretty nice, right?

How might your family become more like the early church in Acts? Perhaps planning some tech-free time in the evenings to feel more connected? Or seeking opportunities to help people in your community or schools?

This focus on belonging is one that resonates greatly with elementary kids. 3rd-5th grade is a time of changes in friendships as children develop their own interests and identities, and yet the greatest desire of most of their hearts is to be included. Take a moment to brainstorm how you can help your child remember that they belong, no matter what, in your family and in the kingdom of God. What might they need to hear more often to believe this?

Using the next panel, we encourage you to write a note to your child and leave it on their pillow for when they arrive home from camp tomorrow. Consider answering these prompts in your letter: Here's what I love about you. Here's how I see God working in your life. Here's what I missed about you when you were away.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, I know that you are present with (child's name) while they're at camp. I ask that you would give them a little tug on their heart right now and remind them how much I love them. I pray that they would find more places of belonging this school year, whether at school, in activities, at church, or even here at home. May they always know they belong in the Kingdom of God, and that you love them so deeply. Amen.

Letter to Camper