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Summer 2021

Dear _____

We are so glad that you will be ministering with us at Hope's Haven this summer! We have you scheduled to join us at the camps checked below:

CAMP 1 - Grade 4-8 camp is June 9-12 (Staff arrives June 8 at 5 pm) _____

CAMP 2 - Grade 8-12 camp is June 16-19 (Staff arrives June 15 at 5 pm) _____

TRAINING

Camp Staff training is provided in 3 parts:

- **Online Training:** This training goes over the 'big picture' of camp to help you prepare. There is an explanation of all the different roles at camp, as well as different camper behaviors you may encounter. This training takes approximately 2 hours. There is a Power point with corresponding audio, as well as a few questions to help expand on the training subject. The link for this training is www.hopeshavencamp.org/training. If you are asked for a password, it is 'training'. Please completed this training by May 14th.
- **Equipping Session:** This session is in-person at Grace Community Church, Herndon (beside the Line Mountain High School.) The date is **Saturday, May 15 from 9-11:30 am**. Anyone still requiring an interview or who needs to complete their online training can do it right after the Equipping Session. The Equipping Session will review the latest Covid-19 Guidelines for our camp and you will receive your Staff Handbook, which we are asking you to review prior to camp. Mentors and Guides will receive the Camper Handbook and Bible Study guides as well. There will also be a time of worship and prayer.
- **Orientation:** We will have Orientation when you arrive at camp the evening before camp begins. You will be reminded about Covid-19 Guidelines, be given your camper and cabin assignments, go over the schedule, and assign parts for skits. We will also have dinner and a prayer time to help us prepare for camp.

Each of these three parts is very important in preparing for camp and making this a memorable experience for both you and the campers. If you are unable to attend the Equipping Session or Orientation, please let us know as soon as possible via email or phone call.

We all know that there is a spiritual battle going on for these children's lives. That battle can take many forms as you prepare for and come to camp. Don't let the enemy have his way. Stand firm as Paul tells us in Ephesians 6. Try to come to camp rested and spiritually ready, having gone through the training resources.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES

Please arrive **no later than 5 pm** on the days listed above. If you are unable to arrive at that time, please let us know as soon as possible.

Camp will end at 2:00 pm for the campers. Staff is asked to stay and complete a Staff Evaluation before leaving. You will also be given an opportunity to complete your Staff Evaluation online. This is a good way for us to gauge how effective camp is and consider any suggestions or ideas you have. We will also need to pack everything up after Camp 2. We would appreciate help with this as well.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

You may have an opportunity while you are at camp to share your testimony on how you came to know Christ. It is a good idea, whether you have ever shared your testimony in front of a group or not, to prepare ahead of time. We strongly suggest that you write out your testimony. This will help you to focus on the important facts and eliminate the unnecessary. If you write it so that it takes about three minutes to read then, when you actually give it at camp, it will usually **take about 3 to 5 minutes**, which is what we ask Mentors to limit themselves to. Please, be conscientious about the time so that the campfire won't go too long. You won't read it in front of the campers, but you will be able to give it comfortably following the outline of what you wrote.

Here is a suggested outline that works great for most people.

- a. What was your life like before you accepted Christ? Give some examples.
- b. How did you come to accept Christ as Lord and Savior? Explain the circumstances, people, and place, even what you prayed if you remember. This can help campers know what to do.
- c. How has your life changed since you accepted Jesus? Give some examples, especially how the things you shared in point a. have changed.

DRESS CODE

Since acceptable clothing styles in society have gone beyond decency and we expect campers to comply with a certain level of modesty in dress, we are asking our staff to rise to a higher level in their dress than the campers. Please note and observe the Dress Code that we will be enforcing. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this. Hope's Haven is a place where we strive for everyone to be safe from assault, even the assault of the eyes from indecent dress. Please, no bare midriffs, short-shorts, or plunging necklines. We ask that sleeveless shirts be modest, not form fitting, and have wide straps at the shoulders.

PRAYER

If you haven't already, we suggest that you ask your friends, church, Sunday School class, etc to pray for you while you are at camp. We truly are not fighting against flesh and blood, but against the powers of this dark world that would hold a child in the bondage of abuse. Come prepared with your spiritual armor in place and your sword of God's word, ready in hand. But, you also need the power of prayer from others to stand firm and not to lose ground to the enemy.

In Christ,



Justus F. "Jesse" Bard III
Executive Director, Hope's Haven

Attached: What to bring to camp

"Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me." Psalm 27:10