



# CAMP TALK

Published by The National Association of Christian Camps among churches of Christ in the U.S. and Canada



## 2001 National Christian Camping Workshop

West of  
Heaven  
Christian  
Youth Camp

Stillwater,  
Oklahoma

March  
6 — 9

Theme:  
"Reaching the Next  
Generation"

Details on  
Page 5

## Michigan Workshop A Hit!

The 2000 National Christian Camping Workshop in April at Michigan Christian Youth Camp saw seventy-two Christian Camping enthusiasts in attendance, representing twenty-two camps. Two camps were from Canada and truly brought an international flavor to the gathering. The theme focused on Maximizing Camp Potential. Speakers encouraged and enlightened attendees in realizing the impact of Christian Camping on young lives. Topics covered a variety of methods and resources that enable camp workers to maximize this impact. All returned to their home camps better equipped and motivated in their ministry to today's youth. *(Tapes are available upon request)*

Thanks to Jerry and Rita Brackney, Don and Lois Wright for hosting and organizing an outstanding workshop!

One of the traditions of the workshop is a silent auction. Attendees bring items of all kinds to donate. Proceeds go to the NACC. This past year, MCYC donated an electric generator. One of our Canadian camps, Strawberry Point, is located on an island and has no electric-

ity. Realizing their need (and desire), a collection was taken up and the generator was given to them. It was a very heartwarming and special moment. Helping others is such great joy!

We hope you are planning to attend this year's workshop at West of Heaven in Oklahoma. Details on page 5. See you there!!!

### F. Y. I.

The annual  
National Christian  
Camping Workshop  
is open to all members  
of churches of Christ



Visit the NACC  
Web Site at:  
[www.naccamps.org](http://www.naccamps.org)

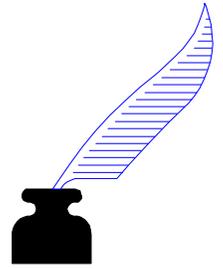
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# Featured Guest Editorial...

## *I Believe In Christian Camps*

by Howard W. Norton, Editor, Arkansas Christian Herald



**F**or a person who never visited a Christian camp until after he was grown and married, I am a true believer in the power of spiritual camping to revolutionize young lives.

We know, of course, that God – not camp – is the real change agent that transforms youth into men and women of God. Most of us would agree, though, that we can either facilitate or hinder God’s power to change lives by the way we go about our part of the life-change task.

Creating a good atmosphere for spiritual growth is one way to facilitate God’s work within people. For this reason, we opt for a quiet worship setting rather than one that is noisy and confusing. We prefer heated and air-conditioned places of worship to those that are steaming hot or icy cold. We prefer comfortable pews to those that hurt our backs.

After many years of attempting to create a conducive climate for developing young people spiritually, church leaders have found that we can hardly improve on a camp setting for teaching God’s word and impacting the hearts and minds of boys and girls. To the credit of church leaders all over the United States and in numerous foreign countries, Christian camping has become an important tool for touching the lives of young people.

I have been able to observe this phenomenon for a long time, and I am convinced that a Christian camp is one of the most important weapons in our arsenal for fighting Satan and turning young people’s hearts to God.

I believe in Christian camping because it provides intensive, daily Bible study for campers. Educators know that long intervals between lessons slow the educational process in any subject. No wonder our children know so little about the Bible since Sunday School is their main way of learning, and there is an entire week between lessons. In camp, good solid Bible study on a daily basis, with just a few hours separating the sessions, enriches the learning experience.

I believe in Christian camping because it enlarges a young person’s circle of friends. We adults can remember how important it was to us as youngsters to have friends our own age. Even when boys and girls come from congregations with very few young folks, the Christian camp experience gives them the opportunity to create a network of Christian friends that will last for a lifetime.

I believe in Christian camping because this experience gives children and young people a chance to be away from their parents for a brief time and still enjoy a spiritually safe environment. Children need the feeling of self-confidence and independence that comes when they learn to survive for a few days without the constant presence of Mother and Dad.

I believe in Christian camping because the experience confirms the values that young people have been taught already in their homes. A good camp is like an extension of a good home. The difference is that the campers are learning lessons about God, Christ, salvation, morality, honesty, accountability, unselfishness, service, and forgiveness from people other than their own parents.

It is not that camp teachers are better instructors than parents. They may not be as good. It is that they are different. New people tell the story of Jesus. Other parents are teachers. Older young people serve as counselors. College students preach sermons, lead singing, play sports, and urge the younger crew to surrender to Jesus. These new voices pack a wallop in the lives of youth in the process of making faith decisions.

I believe in Christian camps. Back in my door-to-door, Bible selling days, we arrived in the Midwest in June. Cornfields were green with small plants that had just pushed through the soil. By September, cornstalks were so tall we couldn’t reach their tops on tiptoe. Some said the corn grew at such a speed that, if people listened at night, they could hear it grow. Young people grow like that while at Christian camps.

## Camp Program Resources

### Gymnastics to the Glory of God



Ben Zickefoose's popular program of Bible lessons illustrated with gymnastics has toured the world since 1976. Ben, a native of Wichita, KS., is an associate professor of exercise science and health at Abilene Christian University. Zickefoose has a bachelor's degree in Bible and master's degree in Bible and

physical education. He served seven years as a chair of the health and physical education department at Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, TN., before joining the ACU family in 1963. He also served 13 years as a youth minister for the University church of Christ in Abilene. He and his wife, Nancy have three children: Debi, Trey, and Tonja; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. From an almost accidental beginning in May of 1976, "Gymnastics to the Glory of God" has grown tremendously in scope and popularity, with Zickefoose traveling thousands of miles each year.

#### Arranging for Ben to come to your camp....

Responsibilities of host group:

Help with travel expenses;

Provide an honorarium, if possible

Ideally, the program should be performed in a room with comfortable seating and a 15 to 20-foot ceiling. However, programs can be adapted to almost any situation.

For more information or to make program reservations contact Ben at 825 Canyon Court, Abilene, TX 79601, or call 915/673-4933. Email: zickefooseb@acu.edu



### FOCUS

#### Rochester Christian College ~ MI

Rochester College has a Christian singing/drama group called FOCUS that travels every summer throughout the Northeastern and Midwestern United States and Southern Ontario Canada from the second week of June until the last week of July.

There are typically 6-8 people in the group and normally contains both male and female students.

Rochester College also hires 5-10 students to act as counselors or other staff members at Christian camps from June 1 to the second week in August.

#### For booking contact:

Melanie Nelson at 800-521-6010 ext. 2

Email : mnelson@rc.edu

www.rc.edu

#### Share the info...

If you know of groups or individuals that will travel to camps during the summer, please send us the contact information. **THANKS!**

## CAMP Profile



Nestled in the foothills of the Oregon Coast range, Camp Yamhill provides church, business, and family groups every facility necessary to enjoy a retreat from life's hectic pace. Whether your agenda includes group meetings, recreational activities, times for quiet reflection, or campfire fun, Camp Yamhill will meet your needs and expectations.

Our updated facilities can accommodate up to 250 people. Larger groups can be housed by special arrangement. Camp Yamhill has two main lodges. The larger is the dining hall where our excellent staff provides food services. The small lodge provides a general meeting area. Each of our modern and comfortable cabins contain two sleeping areas connected by a common meeting room. Complete rest-room and shower facilities are available in each of the two cabin areas. We also have a staff cabin available which has two complete bathrooms and sleeps up to 24 people in six rooms. This unit is perfect for smaller groups.

With the picturesque Yamhill River winding through our 210 acres of forested beauty, recreational opportunities abound: Hiking and exploring. Fishing for trout, bass, and blue gill. Boating and canoeing on our mill pond. Swimming at designated spots in the river and mill pond. Water hikes in the river. Playing fields for soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, etc.

Excellent facilities, beautiful setting, wonderful meals, and reasonable prices all contribute to successful retreats at Camp Yamhill.

## CAMP YAMHILL

On the Web @ [www.campyamhill.org](http://www.campyamhill.org)



## Alternative Daily Camp Schedule

Keeping a camp program running “on schedule” is a challenge every camp director faces. Some directors feel pressured to keep a tight schedule and get a little uneasy when activities run longer than planned. Getting “off schedule” becomes a crisis. While younger campers need a good bit of structure in their daily routine, teenagers, on the other hand, can function very well within a more relaxed schedule.

Several years ago Midwest Bible Camp began a Young Adult Camp program for post-high school campers. Most of the campers were college students and accustomed to staying up late at night. So the directors came up with the following schedule and the campers and staff loved it. (Even the cooks liked it!!) It worked so well that the Senior Week directors decided to try it with smashing success! So, Teen Camp directors... you may want to consider this kind of schedule for your camp. Tweak it to your situation and have fun with it!

9:00 am	Wake Up
9:30 am	KP
9:45 am	Brunch
10:30 am	Clean Up
11:00 am	Bible Class #1
11:45 am	Look Up (Personal devo time)
12:00 am	Free Time
12:15 am	Bible Class # 2
1:00 pm	Substantial Schnack (Lunch)
1:45 pm	OYF (Off yo feet)
2:30 pm	Camp-wide Activity
3:30 pm	Committees (activity planning groups)
4:30 pm	Canteen
5:45 pm	Reflections (led by camp director)
6:00 pm	KP
6:15 pm	Supper
7:45 pm	Chapel
8:00 pm	Evening Activity
9:30 pm	One-On-One (Getting to know others)
10:00 pm	Campfire
11:30 pm	Late night snack
12:00 pm	Cabin Devo
1:00 am	Lights out

## Camp Bible Class Outline



Many camps choose to write their own Bible class material. Here is an outline that can be adapted and added to for camp use.

### THEME: **“It’s All Who You Know”** *“I want to know Christ...” (Phil. 3:10—NIV)*

#### Day 1: Introduction ~

Concept: We have nothing to boast about:  
Philippians 3:1-11; Ephesians 2:1-10

#### Day 2: Motivations For Knowing Christ

1. What Christ has done for us/Gratitude:  
Romans 3:21-26, 5:6-11; 1 Peter 2:21-25
2. Christ is our only way to God:  
John 14:5-14; 1 John 5:1-12
3. Christ’s life is God’s model for our lives:  
1 John 2:1-6; Philippians 2:5

#### Day 3: A Man Of Faith/Jesus Trusted In God

1. Temptation of Jesus: Matthew 4:1-11
2. Healing of boy with demon: Matthew 17:14-23
3. Gethsemane: Mark 14:32-42

#### Day 4: A man of Truth/Jesus Put God First

1. Jesus’ Teachings: Matthew 6 & 7
2. Jesus’ Example: Mark 1:35-37, 6:45-46

#### Day 5: A man of Hope/Jesus Shared God

1. Nicodemus: John 3:1-21
2. Woman at the well: John 4:1-26
3. Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1-10

#### Day 6: A Man of Love/Jesus Loved Everyone

1. Teachings: Matthew 5:38-48
2. Adulterous woman: John 8:1-11
3. Washing disciple’s feet: John 13:1-17

*By Jason Hawkins ~ Midwest Bible Camp*

*Send us outlines of material you have written for your  
camp Bible classes so others can benefit.*

# 2001 Workshop Set For Oklahoma



West of Heaven Christian Youth Camp, near Stillwater, Oklahoma, will be the host camp for the 2001 National Christian Camping Workshop.

This central location in the U.S. will provide an excellent opportunity for many camp workers to attend. We hope to see you there!!

WHEN: March 6 ~ 9

THEME: *REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION*

## SCHEDULE

Workshop Songleader: Tim Hall

### Tuesday, March 6

Arrive, Set-up & Free Time 3:00-6:00  
 Dinner 6:00-7:00  
 Singing 7:00-7:30  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 7:30-8:30  
 Break 8:30-9:00  
 Evening Entertainment 9:00-10:00  
 Closing Devotional 10:00-

### Wednesday, March 7

Breakfast 8:00-8:45  
 Singing 8:45-9:00  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 9:00-10:00  
 Break 10:00-10:30  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 10:30-11:30  
 Lunch 12:00-1:30  
 Class: Teaching the Next Generation 1:30-2:30  
 Break 2:30-3:00  
 Class: Counseling the Next Generation 3:00-4:00  
 Free Time 4:00-6:00  
 Dinner 6:00-7:00  
 Singing 7:00-7:30  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 7:30-8:30  
 Break 8:30-9:00  
 Evening Entertainment 9:00-10:00  
 Devotional 10:00-

### Thursday, March 8

Breakfast 8:00-8:45  
 Singing 8:45-9:00  
 Annual Meeting of the National Association of Christian Camps 9:00-10:00

Break 10:00-10:30  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 10:30-11:30  
 Lunch 12:00-1:30  
 Class: Teaching the Next Generation 1:30-2:30  
 Break 2:30-3:00  
 Class: Counseling the Next Generation 3:00-4:00  
 Free Time 4:00-6:00  
 Dinner 6:00-7:00  
 Singing 7:00-7:30  
 Class: Reaching the Next Generation 7:30-8:30  
 Break 8:30-9:00  
 Evening Entertainment 9:00-10:00  
 Devotional 10:00-

### Friday, March 9

Breakfast 8:00-9:00  
 Closing Program 9:00-10:00  
 Clean-up Camp 10:00-11:00  
 Depart for Home 11:00

*(Speakers for specific sessions TBA)*

## Directions

West of Heaven Christian Youth Camp is located east of Stillwater, Oklahoma. Go 12 miles east on Hwy 51. Look for a regular city street sign on the north side of the highway that says "Saints Grove Camp." Approaching from the west, turn left. Approaching from the east, turn right. Go 1/2 mile north. Their rented facility is called SAINTS GROVE CAMP. Look for the signs.



See Registration Form at bottom of Page 8 →

# *Lesson Outline for Chapel or Campfire Talks*

## FOUR THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR LIFE by Vance Crowe, Camp Blue Haven

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Read text - John 6:1-14
- B. The only miracle of Jesus that is recorded by all four of the gospel writers.
- C. It was just a lads lunch
- D. Consider four things the lad could have done with it and the results that would follow:
  - 1. Thrown it away - benefited no one
  - 2. Eaten it himself - benefited only self
  - 3. Shared with friends - benefited a few
  - 4. Gave to Jesus - benefited all
- E. This suggests 4 things we can do with our lives

### I. THROW AWAY

- A. Examples
  - 1. Judas -Mt. 27:5
  - 2. Prodigal - Lk. 15: 13-16
- B. Us
  - 1. Youth tempted with alcohol, drugs, tobacco, lust, fornication, etc.
  - 2. Older tempted with unfaithfulness, lukewarmness, indifference, worldliness, etc.
- C. A life THROWN AWAY on such benefits no one
  - 1. Not self
  - 2. Not friends
  - 3. Not family

### II. LIVE FOR SELF

- A. A degree of self-love is good
  - 1. Take care of our physical body
  - 2. Love self enough to save self
  - 3. "Love thy neighbor as thyself" Lk. 10:27
- B. Examples
  - 1. Demetrius - Ac. 19:23-27
  - 2. Rich fool — Lk. 12: 13—21
  - 3. Rich young ruler - Mk. 10:17-22 Went away sorrowful
- C. Benefits self alone; at least to the extent of immediate pleasures

### III. SHARE WITH FRIENDS

- A. Perhaps the boy would have shared the lunch with his friends
  - 1. Prov. 11:26
  - 2. Rom. 15:1
  - 3. 1 Cor. 13:5 love...seeketh not her own...
- B. Selective sharing will benefit a few but only a few

### IV. GIVE LIFE TO CHRIST

- A. In keeping with the spirit of the first and great commandment of the law
  - 1. Mt. 22:37
  - 2. Mt. 7:12
- B. Examples
  - 1. Paul Ac. 22:10 "What shall I do Lord?"
  - 2. Peter - once followed afar off but repented Lk. 22:54,62
- C. Benefits all
  - 1. Phil. 4:13
  - 2. Like a little boy's lunch Christ can take us and do wondrous works if we give our life to him

### CONCLUSION:

- A. Giant oaks from little acorns grow
- B. Oceans are made of little drops of water
- C. Only one life
  - It will soon be past
  - Only what's done for Christ
  - Will last

### SUGGESTION FOR PRESENTATION:

Read the text then ask the listeners to suggest things that the boy could have done with his lunch. As they come up with suggestions ask, Who would have benefited? Then ask, but what did he do with his lunch? And what was the result? Then present the lesson on what we can do with our lives.

**Share your lesson outlines.  
Others will greatly benefit!**



## Become a Member Camp

### National Association of Christian Camps

Camp Name \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



**Association Membership for Camps:** The annual fee is \$25.00 per year plus 10¢ for each paid youth camper. Example: If your camp had a total of 500 campers this past summer your fee would be \$50.00 plus the \$25.00 base fee - Total \$75.00. Checks should be made out to NACC and mailed to:

National Association of Christian Camps  
1101 East Taylor  
Washington IA 52353

Each Member Camp will receive a handsome Charter Member Certificate and active workers in each camp will be placed on the CAMPTALK mailing list. Send your list as soon as possible. This list should include your Board Members, Trustees, Managers, Caretakers, and key staff workers.

**Association membership for individuals:** An Associate Membership is \$25 per year. This category is for those whose home camp is not a member of the association. You will receive CAMPTALK and other Association benefits as they become available.

**CAMPTALK** will be one of the primary benefits of belonging to the association. Through this newsletter, information will be shared on the many facets of Christian Camping. CAMPTALK will be **your** newsletter. With reader contributed articles, CAMPTALK will be a resource for information and ideas that you can use in your home camp. Articles may be submitted in any form, paper or electronic to:

Editor ~ CAMPTALK  
1101 East Taylor  
Washington IA 52353  
319/653-4164  
camptalk@se-iowa.net

Here is a short list of some of the subjects that are planned for CAMPTALK:

- Bible Class themes
- Craft projects
- Fund-raisers
- Camp Profiles
- New songs
- Food service
- Camp safety
- Camp games
- First Aid
- Board of Directors
- Camp Directors
- Renting vs owning
- Liability issues
- Specialty camps
- Budgets
- Insurance

# CAMPTALK

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Washington IA 52353

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*Address Correction Requested*

A special **THANKS** to all the camps and individuals who have voluntarily invested time, energy, and funds in the start-up efforts to get the NACC underway. This is a huge undertaking and without your help and encouragement it would not have happened!

*Hal James, CAMPTALK Editor*



Visit the NACC Web Site at:  
[www.naccamps.org](http://www.naccamps.org)

*For additional workshop information contact:*

Kent Houck  
1-800-543-8588  
kbh@provalue.net  
FAX: 405/377-7907

**Workshop Registration ~ 2001 National Christian Camping Workshop at West of Heaven Christian Youth Camp**

Mail to: West of Heaven  
P.O. Box 2168  
Stillwater, OK 74076  
Or Fax to: 405/377-7907

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FEBRUARY 28, 2001**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, and Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Camp \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose check to West of Heaven for \_\_\_\_ \$60 per person or \_\_\_\_ \$100 per couple {Fee increase due to rented facilities}

You will love our facilities, as you will truly enjoy the dorm rooms, mess hall and wonderful chapel area. Those of you who like to fish, bring your poles. All rooms are in suites that sleep 4 with a private bath and are located in the main building with chapel and mess hall. There are plenty of R.V. hookups for those with motor homes.