

2025 Family Devotional

Hello, Camp Family!

This week, your camper is stepping into the rhythm of camp life and our summer theme: **Breathe** - an invitation to slow down, notice God's presence, and take in the peace and hope the Holy Spirit brings. While they spend the week surrounded by pine trees, lake breezes, and new friends, we hope you'll join us in this journey from home.



Camp is a sacred space where young people are invited to be their full, authentic selves. Through worship, play, conversation, and quiet moments in nature, campers grow in faith, confidence, and self-understanding. They practice leadership, build friendships, and experience what it means to live in an **intentional community** - where they are supported, challenged, and reminded that they are loved just as they are.

These short daily devotions mirror the themes your camper is exploring throughout the week. They offer a simple way to stay connected to your child's experience while making space for your own moments of reflection. We encourage you to read the scripture, let the words settle, and see what stands out. What word or phrase catches your heart? What emotions, questions, or memories does the passage stir? Sit with it. Wonder a bit. Let the Spirit speak.



Use the provided questions as prompts and close your time with the prayer included - or one of your own. We hope this devotional time brings you peace, clarity, or simply a moment to breathe.

And as your camper journeys through their week, please keep them (and our summer staff) in your prayers. Pray for courage, connection, laughter, learning, and an overflowing sense of God's love.

Thanks for walking this journey with us. **Together, we breathe in God's love, and exhale grace, joy, and belonging.**

Sunday: Breathe

John 14:25-27

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate,^[a] the Holy Spirit, whom the Creator will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Romans 15:13

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reflect: Today at camp, your child is learning that true peace comes from God's Spirit. Even when life is busy or noisy, God's peace is bigger. We can breathe deeply and trust God is near.

Family Discussion Questions:

- Where do you feel most peaceful?
- What does God's peace feel like?
- How can we help each other breathe deeply and trust God this week?

Prayer:

Jesus, breathe Your peace into our hearts and homes today. Help us slow down, trust You, and remember You are always with us. Amen.

Monday: Breathe Even When We Doubt

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Creator has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue^[b] to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,^[c] the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reflection:

Today, campers learned that even when we have questions or doubts, Jesus meets us with kindness and love. Doubting doesn’t scare God — our Creator welcomes our honest hearts.

Family Discussion Questions:

- When have you had a question about God or faith?
- How do you think Jesus feels when we bring Him our doubts?
- How can we be gentle with each other’s questions?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for loving us when we are sure and when we are unsure. Help us breathe out our doubts and breathe in Your love. Amen.

Tuesday: Breathe Even When the World Feel Chaotic

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow^[a] out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
 the calf and the lion will feed^[b] together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain,
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.

John 14:25-27

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Wednesday: Breathe in Love

Matthew 22:34–46

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah?^[a] Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit^[b] calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet” ’?

⁴⁵ “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reflection:

Today, campers are exploring the heart of everything Jesus taught: love God, and love others. Love isn’t just a feeling — it’s a way we breathe life into the world.

Family Discussion Questions:

- What are ways we can show love to God?
- What are ways we can show love to others today?
- Why do you think love matters so much to Jesus?

Prayer:

Jesus, fill our hearts with Your love. Help us breathe it in and share it freely with everyone we meet. Amen.

Thursday: Breathe in Welcome

John 4:4-42

⁴ But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)^[a] ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir,^[b] you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty

again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you^[e] say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”²² You^[l] worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.”²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he,^[i] the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,^[i] can he?”³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.”³⁶ The reaper is already receiving^[k] wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.”³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.”⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.”⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Reflection:

Campers are learning how Jesus welcomed the Samaritan woman — someone others ignored. God calls us to welcome people with open arms, just like God welcomes us.

Family Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever felt really welcomed somewhere? What made it special?
- How can we make others feel welcome in our home, school, or church?
- Why is welcome a part of God's love?

Prayer:

God of welcome, open our eyes to see who needs kindness today. Help us breathe in Your love and breathe out welcome to everyone we meet. Amen.

Friday: Breathe As You Go**Matthew 28:16-20**

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of God and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Reflection:

Today is about sending — campers are learning that they don't just stay in the peaceful camp bubble. God sends all of us out into the world to share God's love and peace wherever we go.

Family Discussion Questions:

- Where are places we can share God's love this week?
- What gifts has God given each of us to use for others?
- How can we remember God goes with us?

Prayer:

Lord, as we go into the world, breathe Your Spirit into us. Help us shine Your love and know that we never go alone. Amen.

Even though we are apart this week, we are breathing together in God's Spirit! We're praying for your family to experience God's peace and joy along the way.

Closing Prayer: God of new beginnings,

Thank You for the week we have walked — in prayer, in hope, in trust. Thank You for all You have done in our campers' hearts while they were away and, in our homes, while we waited in hope.

As we welcome our campers home, fill our house with celebration, laughter, and stories of Your faithfulness. Help us listen well, love deeply, and honor the ways You have been at work. Teach us to live as a family who breathes in Your Spirit and breathes out Your love. Give us courage to carry the lessons of camp into our daily lives — to love You more, to love others more, and to keep growing together in faith. In every breath, in every step, in every day ahead — You are with us. We are Yours. Amen.

Blessing: "As you breathe, may you remember God's Spirit fills you. As you go, may you carry God's love into every place you live, work, and play. You are God's, always. Breathe deeply. Live boldly. Love well."