

2026 Family Devotions

Hello, Camp Family!

As your camper is getting ready for camp you may be feeling excitement, nerves, or maybe a mix of both. This is a big moment. For some, it feels quiet at home in a new way. For others, it feels like a gift of space. For many, it's a little of everything. However you are feeling, you are not alone in it.



While your camper is at Camp Wapo, Ox Lake or Wilderness Canoe Base, they will step into a rhythm of noticing, wondering, asking questions, building community, and growing in ways that are often hard to see in the moment but meaningful over time.

These daily home devotions are an invitation for you to share in that rhythm. Each day, we will offer a short scripture, a reflection connected to what your camper is exploring at camp, a few questions to consider, a simple practice, a prayer, and a blessing. Use this resource in whatever way fits your life right now. Around the dinner table, before bed, or in a quiet moment to yourself. There is no perfect way to do this.

The theme for this week at camp is **Wonder**. Together, campers are exploring questions like: What do we notice? How can this be? Who am I? Can new life grow here? Who are we together? Where am I called to go?



Wonder invites us to slow down. To pay attention. To be curious about the world, about ourselves, and about God. It reminds us that faith is not just about having answers, but about being open to what we are still discovering. As your camper spends this time surrounded by creation, community, and new experiences, you are invited to step into that same posture of wonder right where you are. We're glad you're here.

Day 1: Wonder of Curiosity

Scripture: Exodus 3:1–12 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *Moses and the Burning Bush*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- What is something new or interesting you noticed today?
- What is something small you usually miss?

If your camper is at Camp Wapo, Ox Lake or Wilderness Canoe Base this week, they are beginning their own week of noticing and wondering too.

Reflection

Moses was not looking for anything extraordinary. He was out in the wilderness, doing something ordinary, when something caught his attention. A bush was on fire, but it was not burning up. He could have kept walking. He could have ignored it. But instead, he stopped. He turned aside. He paid attention. And that moment changed everything.

Curiosity is often quiet like that. It does not always arrive as something big or obvious. Sometimes it is just a small nudge, something that catches your eye, something that makes you pause.

We live in a world that moves quickly. It is easy to rush from one thing to the next without really noticing what is around us. But this story reminds us that something meaningful can happen when we slow down. What if curiosity is not just about asking questions, but about paying attention? What if the moments we almost miss are the ones that matter most? Your camper is beginning a week of noticing. New places. New people. New experiences. You are invited into that same posture this week.

Ask Yourself

- Why do you think Moses stopped instead of ignoring the burning bush?
- What helps you slow down and pay attention?
- Where do you notice wonder in your everyday life?
- What do you think your camper might be noticing today?

Live It

Take one minute together to pause. Look around the room or out a window. Notice: light, movement, something small you have not paid attention to before. What is one thing you noticed that you might have missed?

Pray with Us

God of wonder, you meet us in ordinary places and invite us to notice more. Slow us down. Open our eyes. Help us to see what we might otherwise miss. Be with our camper at Wapo or Ox Lake. Help them to notice, to wonder, and to grow this week. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May your eyes stay open to wonder.

May your heart stay curious.

May you notice the goodness around you.

And may you know that God is with you in it all. Amen.

Day 2: Wonder of Mystery

Scripture: Luke 1:26–38 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *The Angel Visits Mary*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- What is a question that has been on your mind lately?
- When was the last time something did not make sense to you?

Your camper is spending today wondering about big questions too. You might be asking some of the same ones.

Reflection

Mary hears news that does not make sense. An angel tells her she will have a child, and not just any child, but one who will change the world. Her response is simple and honest: “How can this be?” She does not pretend to understand. She does not rush past the question. She stays in it. There is something deeply human about that moment. We all encounter things we do not understand. Moments that feel confusing, unexpected, or even impossible. Often, we are taught to look for quick answers. To solve the problem. To make things make sense as fast as we can. But this story offers a different way.

Mary does not begin with certainty. She begins with a question. And somehow, that question becomes the beginning of something meaningful. What if questions are not something to avoid? What if they are part of how we grow?

Out here, away from the usual routines, your camper is likely asking questions too. About life. About faith. About who they are becoming. You may be holding questions of your own. And maybe that is not something to fix. Maybe it is something to carry.

Ask Yourself

- Why do you think Mary asks, “How can this be?”
- What are some questions you are carrying right now?
- When something does not make sense, what do you usually do?
- What do you think your camper might be wondering about today?

Live It

Take a quiet moment together. Instead of trying to answer anything, simply name a question you have. It could be:

- something about life
- something about faith

- something about the future

After each person shares, simply say: “That’s a real question.” No answers needed.

Pray with Us

God of mystery, you meet us in questions we cannot answer and moments we do not understand. Give us patience when things are unclear. Give us courage to stay open. And remind us that we are not alone in the unknown. Be with our camper at Wapo or Ox Lake. Hold them in their questions and guide them as they grow. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May you have courage to ask real questions.

May you find peace in not knowing everything.

May you stay open to wonder and mystery.

And may you trust that God is with you in it all. Amen.

Day 3: Wonder of Identity

Scripture: Luke 3:21–22 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *Jesus’ Baptism*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- What are three words you would use to describe yourself?
- Where do you think those words come from?

Your camper is spending time today thinking about who they are, too. Not just what they do, but who they are becoming.

Reflection

Jesus is baptized, and something important happens before anything else. Before he teaches. Before he heals. Before he does anything that others might notice. A voice says: “You are my beloved.” Not because of what he has done. Not because of what he will do. Just because of who he is. That is where his identity begins.

We live in a world that is constantly naming us. Student. Athlete. Leader. Quiet. Outgoing. Successful. Not enough. Some of those words feel true. Some do not. Some of them stick with us longer than they should. It can be hard to sort out which voices to trust. This story reminds us that identity is not something we have to earn. It is not something we have to prove. It is something we are given. And it is something we grow into over time.

Your camper is spending this week away from the usual labels and routines. That space can make room for something new to be heard or understood. You might not hear a voice from the sky. But you might begin to notice what is true about who you are.

Ask Yourself

- What words do you usually use to describe yourself?

- Where did those words come from?
- Which ones feel true? Which ones might not tell the whole story?
- What do you think your camper might be discovering about themselves this week?

Live It

Take a quiet moment together. Invite each person to name: one word they hope is true about who they are. It could be: kind, brave, patient, honest. After each person shares, simply say: “That matters.”

Pray with Us

God who knows us, you see us more clearly than we see ourselves. When we forget who we are, remind us that we are loved. When we feel unsure, help us trust that we have value beyond what we do. Be with our camper. Help them to discover who they are and who they are becoming. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May you remember who you are.
 May you see yourself with honesty and care.
 May you trust that you are loved.
 And may you know that God is with you in it all. Amen.

Day 4: Wonder of Possibility

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1–14 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *The Valley of Dry Bones*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- Have you ever thought something was over or finished, but it changed?
- What is something that feels stuck or uncertain right now?

Your camper is spending time today wondering about possibility too. About what can change, grow, or begin again.

Reflection

Ezekiel is brought to a valley full of dry bones. Everything looks lifeless. Still. Quiet. Finished. And then a question is asked: “Can these bones live?” It almost feels like a strange question. The answer seems obvious. No. But the story does not end there.

Slowly, piece by piece, things begin to come together. What was scattered reconnects. What seemed finished is not the end. And then, life. It is a powerful image, but also a familiar one. There are moments in life when something feels stuck. A relationship. A situation. A part of ourselves. Something that feels like it will not change. It is easy to assume that what we see right now is all there is. But this story invites us to imagine something more. Not in a loud or dramatic way, but in a steady, hopeful way. What if things are not as final as they seem? What if change begins quietly, before we can fully see it?

Your camper is spending this week surrounded by a place where life grows in unexpected ways. Trees out of rock. Water shaping land. New growth where it once looked empty. You are part of that same creation. And that means possibility is not finished with you either.

Ask Yourself

- Why do you think the question is asked, “Can these bones live?”
- When have you seen something change that you did not expect?
- What feels stuck right now?
- What do you think your camper is noticing about growth or change this week?

Live It

Take a moment together to name: one small area where you would like to see change or new life. It could be: in yourself, in your family, in your community. After each person shares, respond: “There is still possibility.”

Pray with Us

God of new life, you bring hope into places that feel empty and possibility into moments that feel stuck. Help us trust that change is still possible. Give us patience when we cannot yet see it. And remind us that new life often begins in quiet ways. Be with our camper. Help them to notice growth, change, and possibility all around them. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May you notice signs of new life.

May you hold onto hope when things feel uncertain.

May you trust that change is possible.

And may you know that God is with you in it all. Amen.

Day 5: Wonder of Community

Scripture: Acts 2:42–47 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *The Early Believers*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- When have you felt like you truly belonged somewhere?
- What makes a group feel like a real community?

Your camper has been living in close community all week. Sharing meals, space, time, and experiences with others.

Reflection

After Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, something new begins. People start gathering together. They share meals. They spend time with one another. They make sure no one is left out or in

need. They are not just a group of individuals anymore. They become a community. That might sound simple, but it is not always easy.

Community takes effort. It takes patience. It takes choosing to care about other people, even when it is inconvenient. And yet, when it works, it is powerful. There is something deeply human about wanting to belong. To be known. To be included. And there is something just as important about making space for others to belong too.

Your camper has been practicing this all week without even realizing it fully. Figuring out how to share space. How to include others. How to be part of something bigger than themselves. You are part of that same kind of community at home. The question is not just where we belong, but how we help create belonging for others.

Ask Yourself

- What helps you feel like you belong?
- What makes community hard at times?
- When have you experienced a strong sense of community?
- How might your camper be learning about community this week?

Live It

Take a moment together. Invite each person to name: one thing they can do to help someone else feel included. It could be: inviting someone in, listening more closely, being patient, showing kindness. After each person shares, respond: "That builds community."

Pray with Us

God of community, you created us to live and grow together. Help us care for one another. Help us notice when someone feels left out. Help us build spaces where people belong. Be with our camper at Wapo or Ox Lake. Strengthen the friendships they are forming and the community they are part of. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May you show up for one another.

May you build spaces where people belong.

May you carry kindness into your relationships.

And may you know that God is with you in it all. Amen.

Day 6: Wonder of Calling

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1–8 (NRSVUE)

Spark Story Bible: *Isaiah Hears God's Call*

Check-In

As you gather, take a moment to share:

- What is something meaningful you experienced this week?
- What is something you want to remember or carry forward?

Today or soon, you welcome your camper home. They come back with stories, experiences, and maybe even a few changes you cannot see yet.

Reflection

Isaiah has a powerful experience of God, and in the middle of it, a question is asked: “Who will go?” It is not a complicated question. It does not come with a full plan. Just an invitation. Isaiah responds: “Here I am.” He does not have everything figured out. He does not know exactly what will come next. But he is willing. That is where calling begins.

We often think of calling as something big or dramatic. Something far away or difficult to define. But more often, calling shows up in small, everyday ways. In how we treat people. In the choices we make. In the ways we show up for others. Your camper has spent this week noticing, wondering, discovering, and belonging.

Now they return home. Not as a completely different person, but perhaps with a slightly different perspective. A new awareness. A small shift. The invitation is not to become someone new overnight. The invitation is to carry something forward.

Ask Yourself

- What is something you want to carry with you from this week?
- Where might you be invited to show up in a new or different way?
- What does “Here I am” look like in your everyday life?
- What are you curious to hear from your camper as they return home?

Live It

Take a moment together. Invite each person to name: one small way they want to show up in the coming days. It could be: being more patient, listening more, helping someone, making time for what matters. After each person shares, respond: “That matters.”

Pray with Us

God who calls us, you meet us in ordinary moments and invite us to live with purpose. Help us carry what we have learned. Help us show up with courage and care. And remind us that even small steps matter. Thank you for our camper and their time. As we welcome them home, help us listen, learn, and grow together. Amen.

Receive this Blessing

May you have the courage to show up.

May you carry what you have learned.

May you live with purpose and care.

And may you know that God is with you in it all. Amen.