

It's



Time!

To grasp, live and share the Gospel of Jesus.

2013 GenMin Camp Chapel Curriculum

Presented November 2012

Written by: Jeff Broadnax

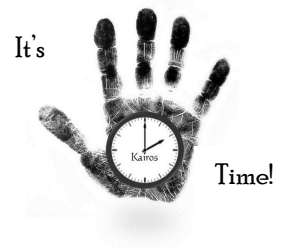
Member, GenMin National Advisory Team

Eastern Regional Coach



A MINISTRY OF GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Kairos



The Exclamation Point!

The Gospel leaves no doubt regarding our salvation, our hope, our mission, our method, our history or our destiny in the Father, through the Son by the Spirit. We do not need to be tentative in our understanding or our living out this Good News. God, in Jesus Christ emphatically exclaims His love for and the reconciliation of all things in heaven, on earth and under the earth. He then sends us His children to proclaim emphatically this transformational truth through our lives, our words and our actions through the power of His Spirit who lives within us.

It's Time to live in the assurance that we belong to Him. We believe that there is nothing in heaven or earth that can separate us from His love. Courageously, we become followers who walk worthy of the calling to make Him manifest. Doing so transforms how we behave, leaving the sweet fragrance of new life; allowing us simultaneously to begin lighting our world like a candle in the darkness.

Each aspect of this journey - *belonging, believing, becoming, behaving and beginning* - is like an exclamation point at the end of a sentence! This journey boldly declares that fear, shame and doubt have been stripped of their power (1John 4:18). In Jesus, we are free to proclaim that "the *time* of the Lord's favor" is upon us (Isa 61:1-2; Luke 4:16-20).

It's time to be free, live freely and proclaim freedom to all held captive. It's Time! It's *God's Special Time!*

Mark 1:14-15 (NCV, NLT)

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, preaching the Good News from God. 15 He said, "The right time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Change your hearts and lives and believe the Good News!" Let me elaborate: God loves you unconditionally! And that means no matter what!

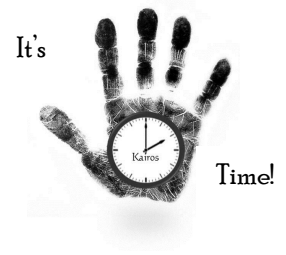
~ *New Century Version*

14 Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News.[a] 15 "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

~ *The New Living Translation*

It doesn't get much clearer than that. Jesus' first public message to the people of earth remains his message to the people of the earth and it is time for us to grasp it, embrace it and share it.

Where We've Been ...



INTENTIONAL OVERLAP

Since 2009, GenMin has sought to teach and model the Trinitarian life of the Father, Son and Spirit at our camps. Each successive year has grounded and equipped our staff and campers even deeper in the relational love and life of God. Each year teachings have centered on Jesus and His mission to reveal the truth about our relationship in the Father, Son and Spirit. We wanted to be certain about what that relationship is and is not. For example...

In 2009, our theme was **UNREALITY**. We used C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* to capture their imagination and understanding of their spiritual citizenship and true reality (2 Corinthians 4:18) taking our minds off of the unreality that seeks to control our thinking and seems so real here on earth.

In 2010, we once again knocked down the barriers of performance religion and focused on illuminating what life would be like living in the outflow of relationship as a **Chosen-Healed-Included-Linked-Disciple (C.H.I.L.D.)** of God. We were **ELATED** with our fresh perspective (Romans 5:11).

2011 challenged us to **LIVE LOVED**. Having been set free from condemnation in Christ, we could enjoy being Abba's children. As people of promise, we could live victorious in Christ knowing we are embraced in Him (Romans 8).

Last year, in 2012, we were planted in the soil of that new reality. We learned about the process of growth and how we, God's dearly loved C.H.I.L.D., are planted, **ROOTED** and established in the Love of God through Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:14-19).

In 2013, It's Time!

It's now time to ask God the Holy Spirit to lead us into truth with such clarity that we can **BEHOLD** it so clearly that we are able to grasp it with our hands.

It's time to thank God the Father for loving us, before we even knew Him, with a love that sends a never ending message to our hearts that we **BELONG** to Him and there is nothing anyone can ever say or do to change that fact.

It's time to **BELIEVE** that God the Son, Jesus Christ, sent by the Father, came willingly to us, for us and will always be with us. He came not just to show us that He loves us but to empower us with the knowledge that we were purposely and perfectly designed by HIM and He has invited us to live and share the love and life of God.

It's time to walk worthy of that relationship and invitation. We must **BECOME** the eyes, ears, mouth, feet and hands of the One who knits us together in His Body. We must reach out with his heart to the helpless, harassed,

broken-hearted, blind, enslaved—or simply stated, the LOST. We must make His love, His redemption, His healing, His inclusion clearly *manifest*. We must be the Church or Body of Jesus Christ in the world.

It's time to follow Him and BEHAVE as mature Children of our Heavenly Father. Our actions must be rooted and established in His love for us—expressing our gratitude for His grace. Our thoughts, our actions, our habits and all that shape them must be “the real thing” (Christ's “thing”). This does not mean perfectionism, but a sharing in the perfect work of Jesus Christ.

It's then time to stop merely talking about it. It's time to BEGIN lighting our world with the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. It's time to allow the smell of death to be overcome by Christ's own fragrance of life, carried about by his faithful followers. This beginning will not come in our own might, strength or power but will result from yielding our hearts, minds and will to Him, asking Jesus to help us join Him as He lights the darkness.

Are You Ready?

As we step into these chapel messages, let's commit ourselves to “Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we could ever ask or imagine” and seek His understanding of this passage from Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus.

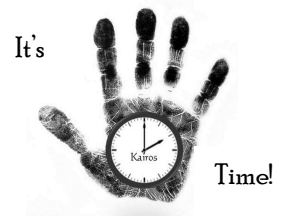
Ephesians 3:10-4:1 (NCV)

10 His purpose was that through the church all the rulers and powers in the heavenly world will now know God's wisdom, which has so many forms.11 This agrees with the purpose God had since the beginning of time, and he carried out his plan through Christ Jesus our Lord.12 In Christ we can come before God with freedom and without fear. We can do this through faith in Christ.13 So I ask you not to become discouraged because of the sufferings I am having for you. My sufferings are for your glory.

14 So I bow in prayer before the Father15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth gets its true name.16 I ask the Father in his great glory to give you the power to be strong inwardly through his Spirit.17 I pray that Christ will live in your hearts by faith and that your life will be strong in love and be built on love.18 And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love—how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is.19 Christ's love is greater than anyone can ever know, but I pray that you will be able to know that love. Then you can be filled with the fullness of God.

20 With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine.21 To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever. Amen. 4:1 I am in prison because I belong to the Lord. Therefore I urge you who have been chosen by God to live up to the life to which God called you.

Here we Go!



Opening Message

Our means of expressing it may change from year to year, but our primary message remains the same. We want you to leave camp certain that **God loves you!** You can be certain by studying the life of Jesus, who wants you to be certain.

Let's look at one of Jesus' first recorded messages and see what we mean.

We'll read Mark 1:14-15 in four different Bible Translations and you tell me what Jesus was trying to say.

First the **New International Version (NIV)**

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Next, the **New Living Translation (NLT)**

¹⁴ Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. ¹⁵ "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

Next, the **Message paraphrase (MSG)**

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message."

And finally **New Century Version (NCV)**

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, preaching the Good News from God. ¹⁵ He said, "The right time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Change your hearts and lives and believe the Good News!" Let me elaborate: God loves you unconditionally! And that means no matter what!

The New Century translation is quite vivid here—makes you feel that you can hold it in your hands! That's our intention for you this week. We have asked God to help us make this time at camp, His time at camp to speak personally to you and your circumstance in ways that you will know comes from Him.

We want to give you a way to make Ephesians 3:17-18 clear in your own world. Paul says in those verses:

¹⁷ I pray that Christ will live in your hearts by faith and that your life will be strong in love and be built on love. ¹⁸ And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love—how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is.

We've been praying that for you for months now.

We have also been asking God to give us not just clear ways but tangible ways (physical ones) to help you understand His Love for you. We will use six "BE" words over the course of the week to help you see that it is time to BE in Him.

Those words are:

Behold

Belong

Believe

Become

Behave

Begin

If you were to say to yourself, "It's time to _____," those six words will express another aspect of the relationship God desires to have with you!

Let's start with the first word. It is time to Behold!

I'd like everyone to stand up and grab the hands of the person next to you. I realize this may be uncomfortable for some but it will only be for a brief moment to make our point.

Now please hold your hands up. What do you notice? (most fingers will not be interlocked)

Now please do me the favor of interlocking your fingers for just one moment. Do you notice the difference? It is that kind of difference that we would like to behold when it comes to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and God's unconditional love for you.

I'd like to teach you the American Sign Language for BEHOLD:



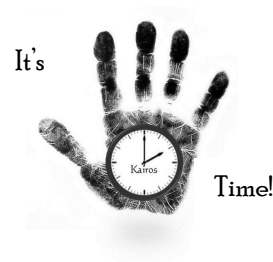
It's Time to Behold just how loved you are!

Final Action:

As you leave tonight, your counselors will hand you a blank 3x5 card and a pencil/pen. What we'd like you to do is write down a few words but no more than two sentences that describe how you are honestly feeling right now, as camp begins.

CHAPEL 1 – BELONG

“It’s Time 2 Belong”



Activity 1: Bring 3x5 card, Place in envelope, Put in Shoe Box, Decorate with Hand/Fingerprint

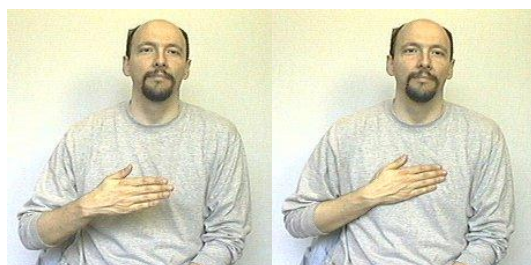
Activity 2: Learn the sign language for “belong”

Text(s): Ephesians 1:1-8; Ephesians 2:1-6

Key Worship Song: Who am I? Casting Crowns <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrxFV7Y0rAY>

Suggested activity 1: Have each camper bring their 3x5 card from last night/yesterday and have them add any fresh words, sentences or thoughts. If nothing to add have them turn the card over and finish this sentence: "I know God loves me but I sometimes I..."

Suggested activity 2: Teach the young people the ASL for “Belong”



<http://lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-layout/possession.htm>

Chapel teaching text:

[Repeat the ASL for “Belong”]. Today’s theme Scripture is Ephesians 1:1-10. As I read it aloud, I want to ask you to pick out the key phrases and the keys ideas.

Ephesians 1:1-10

This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus.

I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus, ^[a] who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus.

² May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ^[b] ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.

What did you find important and let's talk about why?

Now help me formulate an unofficial "GenMin" translation of Ephesians 1:1-10. So let's get together in dorms and re-write that section of Scripture as if God himself were talking to you. I would like you to put the words in the first person and make it as personal a statement as you can. Then we will come back together in about ten minutes and read them aloud.

Did you notice that God said,

He WANTS you!

He's ADOPTED you! (he has included you)

He PREDETERMINED His plan for you, in Christ, and that plan has little to do with a destination and everything to do with your DESTINY!

He's GUARANTEED that nothing will thwart his purpose and will for you as his dearly loved and wanted child.

Did you notice that God is saying in multiple ways that YOU BELONG TO HIM because He CHOOSES you?

Did any of these phrases grab you? Which ones?

God wants you to know beyond any doubt that you aren't an afterthought. He wants you to know that you belong to Him not in the sense of a slave or a piece of property but as a cherished, adopted son or daughter. God has adopted all of us!

Say with me, "I have been adopted, and I am God's cherished child."

In our culture, the word adoption too often has a ring of second-class, leftover, abandoned and needing rescue. However, to God, the word adoption is quite different and there is a special reason why. You were specifically created to be a member of His family (we will talk more about that tomorrow). He has always wanted you as his son or daughter and to prove it, he offered a price that no one could ever outbid – before you were even born.

Would it surprise you if I told you that your parents have only been given you to be stewards for God? You are God's child even though you were born to your parents. Well, it's true and it's time to learn the full truth about your Heavenly Father.

Have you ever noticed that the Bible never speaks of God having grandchildren but that we humans have grands, great-grands and multiple generations? That's because there comes a time in every human parent's life when they must yield their child back to their Heavenly Father. You then become your parents' brother or sister in Christ. Sure, you still must honor them as your human parents, but your identity lies not in your lineage or last name but in your inclusion in the life of the Father, Son and Spirit through Jesus. You belong to Him, you always have and you always will.

Paul continues sharing his heart by saying

¹¹In him we were also chosen, ^[e] having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹²in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Now that is Good News for the soul!

Say with me one more time, "I have been adopted, and I am God's cherished child."

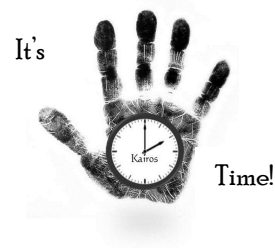
Stand up and sign with me this truth, that WE BELONG TO HIM!

As we close this chapel, let's sing a beautiful song by Casting Crowns titled Who Am I. At some point during the song, please take the opportunity to sign back to God your acknowledgement that You Belong to Him!

It's Time!

Let's join hands and pray.

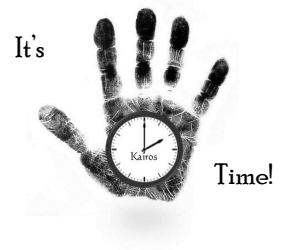
Debrief Questions – Chapel 1



IT'S TIME 2 **BELONG**

1. Is there any place or person in your life who really makes you feel like you belong with them? Who are they or what is it?
2. How can you help others feel like they belong here at camp?

CHAPEL 2 – IT'S TIME 2 BELIEVE



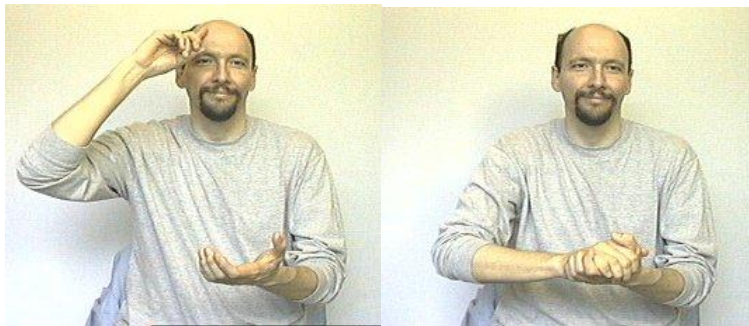
Text(s): Ephesians 2:8–12

Visual: Aladdin “Do You Trust Me” and Whole New World

Suggested activity 1: Why don't we take a few minutes and ACT UP in the worship service. Today we will take a few minutes to play human Pictionary. We will give you a word and you will receive points if you can effectively convey the concept and have one of your fellow campers guess it. The words to choose from are: Adopted, Predestined, Guaranteed, Redemption, Chosen, Freedom, Alive, Forgiveness, Forgiven, Rooted, Prisoner, and Masterpiece.

The goal is to challenge them to spend energy taking Spiritual concepts and finding ways to translate them to their peers and make them accessible.

Suggested activity 2: Teach the young people the ASL for “Believe”



<http://lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/b/believe.htm>

Chapel teaching text:

Yesterday we were able to see the word adoption through fresh eyes. We were able to grasp that we belong to God; we always have and always will. Today's chapel will challenge us to BELIEVE it. To enhance our belief please open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-12 (MSG):

⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

¹¹ Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts.¹² In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the

people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope.

Did you hear that? You are God's Masterpiece! You are saved by grace. You are created for relationship with God and He has set up good works for you to do within relationship. He intends these things for you. He created you in Jesus, set a glorious destiny before you and invites you to join Him in fulfilling it.

Your destiny is life altering, not just for you but for all He brings into your life. Oh, there is so much more in this section for those who belong to God. Will you believe it?

Let's unpack these powerful words spoken by Paul. He said that you were saved by His grace--but what were you saved from?

How many of you remember Disney's Aladdin? What was Aladdin's biggest problem? He was in love with a princess and wanted to become part of the royal family but he believed he was a "street rat" and therefore he lived like a street rat. Even though the genie was able to grant him three wishes, those wishes couldn't change who he really was inside, who he was made to be. He could pretend to be prince Ali-Ababwa but he would always be simply Aladdin dressed in princely clothes. It wouldn't be the outer clothing that would make the man. Instead, as we will see, it would be a different type of clothing that would transform his understanding of who he was.

I am sure we all remember the moment Aladdin took Jasmine on the magic carpet ride and showed her the world. Before Jasmine stepped on the carpet, Aladdin put out his hand and asked her _____? (Do you trust me?)

At that moment, you saw Jasmine's eyes light up because she recognized the truth behind the fancy clothes. This boy from the marketplace used his gifts to help her navigate the dangers of the streets. She saw the true Aladdin even as he tried to hide in plain sight.

What would your life feel like if you no longer had to hide who you were? What if you never again had to try to be something you were not? What if you could just be who you were made to be and live free and with purpose, which neither Aladdin nor Jasmine could? Interestingly, she wanted what he had and he wanted what she had but in reality, they both wanted something neither of them could yet see.

I'm here to tell you that Jesus is reaching his pierced hands out to you and asking you to trust Him as He shows you a world you have never dreamed of. He wants to give you a fantastic, new worldview that lasts forever. He wants to give you the clothing of a true child of the king—the clothing of His Love!

Would you trust Him! He's asking you directly today. "Do you Believe Me?" He's not asking if you Believe IN Him; He's asking if you actively Believe Him.

Here's something neat about the word Believe. It comes from the root word that literally that creates a picture of holding dear or being loved. So when I ask you if you believe Jesus, I am asking you if you know you are held dear and loved by Jesus. Chew on that for a minute and try to hold it in your heart.

As we close today and before we join hands and pray, I would like to share something with you.

In 1859, a Frenchman, Charles Blondin, walked across Niagara Falls on a tightrope. He actually did this several times and in many different ways, once pushing a wheelbarrow!

Jeff Zhorne used this example in an article he wrote to explain the difference between human faith and godly trust. He wrote, "What is the difference between faith and trust? Think of a rope strung tightly over Niagara Falls. Near the edge is an aerialist with a wheelbarrow. He says to you, "I am going to push this wheelbarrow across Niagara Falls while walking on that tightrope. Do you think I can do it?" "Yes, I think you can," you reply. "I've seen you do it before, so I believe you can do it." You have confidence that the acrobat can do what he says he can do. That's faith. Trust, however, is something else. Trust is getting in the wheelbarrow!

Believing that you are God's masterpiece, saved by grace, created in Christ and created to do good works prepared in advance for you means accepting his inviting hand and getting in the wheelbarrow.

It's time to Believe!

When you do, you will experience a whole new world and have a completely new worldview!

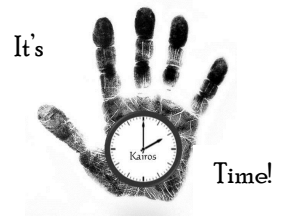
Debrief Questions – Chapel 2

It's Time 2 Believe



1. What is the difference between believing IN Jesus and actually believing Jesus?
2. What kind of things keep you or those you know from getting in the wheelbarrow of relationship with Jesus?

CHAPEL 3 – It's Time 2 **BECOME**



Text(s): Ephesians 3: – 4:1-2

Visual:

Suggested activity 1: Step Up To The Line. This activity consists of having a line on the floor that splits the room in two. On one side of the line is the word “Yes” and the other side the word “No”. The campers will then be asked questions and if they have experienced it or they personally know someone who has, they are to step over the line. You could also have one end of the line say strongly agree and the other strongly disagree. The goal of this activity is to help the campers safely express their challenges in their walk with Christ but at the same time allow them to speak up for and empathize with those they know who experience life difficulties. (the questions would depend on the group and camp)

Suggested activity 2: Teach the young people the ASL for “Become”



<http://lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/b/become.htm>

Please open your Bibles to Ephesians chapter 4:1-3 (NIV)

¹ As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life **worthy of the calling** you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

I would like to read the same section of Scripture in another translation. Here's Ephesians 4:1-3 (NCV)

¹ I am in prison because I belong to the Lord. Therefore I **urge you** who have been chosen by God to live up to the life to which God called you. ² Always be humble, gentle, and patient, accepting each other in love. ³ You are joined together with peace through the Spirit, so make every effort to continue together in this way.

I found two words that leapt off the page in verse one, seeming to, as they say, “get in my grill.” Did the word “urge” and “worthy” kinda make you stop and say “Whoa”? They did for me because these are loaded words.

When you hear them, what image comes to your mind?

If someone is urging you to do something, what are you experiencing? Likewise, when someone challenges you to be “worthy” of something, how does that make you feel?

Based on what we have covered so far this week, what do you think is behind this urging to be worthy? Be sure to challenge yourself to look at it from God’s perspective, not our limited human point of view.

Now let me add one more translation to the mix and see if it sheds any freshness to your understanding. In the Message, it states it this way:

¹⁻³ In light of all this, here’s what I want you to do. While I’m locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don’t want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don’t want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences.

It sounds like Paul is challenging the folks in Ephesus to become something. Live like they ARE something and walk with a confidence that they HAVE something. Do you get this view?

I think we can clearly understand the urging part of the message. There’s only one thing that can mean, but what about this “being worthy”? To most of us, it immediately conjures up the idea of having to “measure up” to something.

It’s almost as if Paul is saying, “You had better live up to all the requirements of the calling of Jesus or you are in big trouble, Mister.” Is that how you hear it when he talks about walking worthy?

Think back a minute to our step up to the line activity. If we have to live up to a perfect standard it seems like we and all our friends are doomed, doesn’t it?

Well, a really important distinction has to be made in what walking “worthy” means here. The word translated “worthy” in Ephesians 4 is the word AXEEOCE (Axios/Axioma) which seems better translated as “with authority.”

Wait a minute, that’s a far cry from how we hear it in English, huh?

Is Paul telling you to walk like you believe that you belong to God? Is he challenging you to become a person who KNOWS that they have been created specifically by God and personally invited to join Him in doing great stuff in the lives of others? Is he urging you to BECOME the child of God that he has made you to be—one who He has uniquely gifted with ways to make Him accessible (manifest) to others? Is he pressing you to see through His eyes what Jesus is doing in the lives of people who live on both sides of the line?

The answer is YES!

When you read the Gospels, you will find Jesus surrounded by the helpless, the harassed, the broken and those who don't feel they measure up. But when you hear Jesus speak to them and say things like, "daughter, [a term of belonging] go in peace, your trust in me has made you whole," you get the clear sense that Jesus is on a mission to restore people with the truth of who they already are, versus to condemn them for how they have not measured up.

In fact, in one day a cheating financial manager who had robbed people of bundles of money (think Bernie Madoff) wanted to see Jesus and climbed a tree to do so. Amazingly, Jesus not only acknowledged him but he went to his house (and this guy was a known crook!). Well, after spending time with Zach (his real name was Zacchaeus) Jesus broke down his barriers, forgave his sins, and helped him become a man who could live worthy of his invitation to follow him from that day forward. Before he left though, Jesus said something powerful. He said, reading in Luke 19...

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.

¹⁰ For the **Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.**"

So help me understand, is Jesus saying that lost people and people who need to be saved don't have to measure up first before they can follow him? Yes! That is exactly what he is saying. In fact, it clearly says, HE CAME TO LOOK FOR AND SAVE THEM.

He wants to show them that despite their issues, they belong to Him and He wants them to become an active part of His Body or as we know it, the Church. His invitation to become part of His body is with a very specific purpose. Paul wrote about that purpose earlier in the same letter to the Ephesians.

In Ephesians 3:10-12 (NLT) we read...

¹⁰ God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² Because of Christ and our faith in him, [d] we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.

He wants the Church to be a tangible display of His love, His forgiveness, His wisdom, His purpose and His desire to include human beings in the eternal relationship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He wants the Church to share the Good News with everyone it comes in contact with—telling them that we belong to Him and always have!

God is spreading the word THROUGH THE CHURCH (HIS BODY) and He so wants you to have a part in that—to live in the authority and power of His love for all mankind. You don't ever have to shrink back or fear that you won't measure up to being effective in the church. Because in Christ, you ARE a part of his body, the Church.

As you meet people and join them on their part of the line, God wants to use YOU to bring healing, encouragement and comfort. He allows YOU to use your story as a bridge to the one who transformed your life and gave you a new point of view. You don't have to work it up, do all the right things or never make a mistake. You just have to follow where Jesus leads—allowing the Holy Spirit to help you grow in becoming an authoritative presentation of His Love.

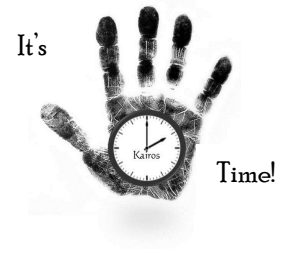
Let's join hands and pray.

Debrief Questions – Chapel 3

It's Time to Become



1. Is there anyone you know who doesn't feel like they belong to anyone or who would benefit from knowing that God WANTS them? Do you feel worthy to tell them what you are learning?
2. In this chapel, we talked about how God wants to use the Church to make this message clear to people—and he wants you to have a part in that. How does this idea affect your understanding of what the Church is?



CHAPEL 4 – BEHAVE

Text(s): Ephesians 4:17-21; 11-15

Visual: possibly the Values.com commercial – “I touched the ball coach”

<http://www.values.com/inspirational-stories-tv-spots/106-Basketball>

Suggested activity 1: Guess That Smell. Each dorm sends two representatives for a series of five candles with the goal of identifying the smell correctly. They start by saying “That smells Great” or “That Stinks!” Then they each will be asked to identify the smell. **ALTERNATIVE:** Set up cups of Dr. Pepper, Mr. Pibb, Dr. Thunder and see if representatives from each dorm can correctly identify the Dr. Pepper (the first soft drink in America). The goal is to show the power of positive and negative fragrances and the connection to the gospel AND the power of distinguishing between the original and the counterfeit.

Suggested activity 2: Teach the young people the ASL for “Behave”



<http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/b/behave.htm>

Ephesians 4:17-21

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

Ephesians 4:11-15

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the

faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

If you had to make the connection, what would being able to determine the smell of candles or finding the Dr. Pepper have to do with being “tossed about like infants and blown around by every type of teaching”?

Note a similar theme in Paul’s letter to the church in Corinth:

2 Corinthians 2:14-16

¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s victory parade. God uses us to spread his knowledge everywhere like a sweet-smelling perfume. ¹⁵ Our offering to God is this: We are the sweet smell of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are being lost. ¹⁶ To those who are lost, we are the smell of death that brings death, but to those who are being saved, we are the smell of life that brings life. So who is able to do this work?

Does that help at all?

In today’s chapel, we bring things a little closer to home. I hope you will notice that we didn’t START the chapels with the discussion of behavior. We put it in its proper context. The importance of our behavior is only discovered when we look at it THROUGH God’s eyes regarding who we are in Him.

It doesn’t mean behavior is not important. It just means we start with the reality that we belong to God and that he loves us with an unconditional love and has invited us to become part of His body in the world by believing in that love. It is in this context that our behavior finds true and lasting meaning.

Our behavior doesn’t add to or take away from God’s love for us, His acceptance of us or His inclusion of us in what He is doing. However, it does have an impact on other human beings and how effective we are at showing others what He is like. As we just read, when we connect our lives and our stories to God it leaves a beautiful fragrance behind that others notice.

However, some people leave the fragrance of death behind. Such people live like God doesn’t exist or doesn’t care. Let’s note what Paul says about them. Turn to the book of Ephesians, let’s read beginning in chapter **4:17**. **There** we read,

¹⁷ In the Lord’s name, I tell you this. Do not continue living like those who do not believe. Their thoughts are worth nothing. ¹⁸ They do not understand, and they know nothing, because they refuse to listen. So they cannot have the life that God gives. ¹⁹ They have lost all feeling of shame, and they use their lives for doing evil. They continually want to do all kinds of evil. ²⁰ But what you learned in Christ was not like

this. ²¹ I know that you heard about him, and you are in him, so you were taught the truth that is in Jesus.

He mentions behaviors that flow from unbelieving minds: lying, anger, giving the devil an opening in your life, and stealing. He talks about destructive words, bitterness, anger and lack of forgiveness. He then exhorts us:

²⁵ So you must stop telling lies. Tell each other the truth, because we all belong to each other in the same body. ^[a]

²⁶ When you are angry, do not sin, and be sure to stop being angry before the end of the day. ²⁷ Do not give the devil a way to defeat you. ²⁸ Those who are stealing must stop stealing and start working. They should earn an honest living for themselves. Then they will have something to share with those who are poor.

³⁰ And do not make the Holy Spirit sad. The Spirit is God's proof that you belong to him. God gave you the Spirit to show that God will make you free when the final day comes... ³² Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.

He continues in **chapter 5** by saying,

¹ Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. ² Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us ^[a] and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

³ Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people.

⁴ Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. ⁵ You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.

⁶ Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him.

Paul pronounces that it saddens and even angers God to see His children embrace the opposite of what His heart is for them. As we saw earlier, our sins do not separate us from God and his love for us (Rom 8:31-39), however, he wants the best for us and certain behaviors hurt his children, and that angers God who is a caring, loving Father. His anger is aimed at the impact of sin in our lives—at what sin does to distort the truth of who we are as God's children. He also knows that some sinful behaviors make it hard for others to hear and believe the good news about who they are as God's children.

If you ever wonder if God still loves and wants you after you have sinned—that is after you have left the smell of death in your wake, remember this TRUTH...

Romans 5:6-10

⁶ When we were unable to help ourselves, at the right time, Christ died for us, although we were living against God. ⁷ Very few people will die to save the life of someone else. Although perhaps for a good person someone might possibly die. ⁸ But God shows his great love for us in this way: Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

⁹ So through Christ we will surely be saved from God's anger, because we have been made right with God by the blood of Christ's death. ¹⁰ While we were God's enemies, he made us his friends through the death of his Son. Surely, now that we are his friends, he will save us through his Son's life.

As I said earlier, there is a reason that this message comes after the chapels that describe who we are in Christ and how much He loves us. I am sure this will spark discussion—there are things here we need to wrestle with.

So as we leave and continue our discussions, please be sure to make the starting point Gods' Love and not our behavior.

Our behavior flows from our belonging. We seek to obey God because we know he loves us, and because we want others to know of that love.

Let's pray.



Debrief Questions – Chapel 4

BEHAVE

1. What makes it hard in your life to be the real thing when it comes to how we live away from camp, church or Christian friends?
2. Is there anything you still wrestle with when it comes to God's anger about sin and the truth that He loves us?

CHAPEL 5 – BEGIN



It's Time to Begin~ It's Kairos Time

Visual: Liberty Mutual Commercial – “Half Acre” <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMwoexR1evo>

Musical Selection: “Go Light Your World” <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4VzflZQi3A>

Text(s): Ephesians 5:15–20

Suggested activity 1: Mission Possible~Pass it on: Each camper will receive 5 multi-colored clothes pins and will have two minutes to clip as many people as possible without them knowing. If they see you, then you must choose someone else. The colored pins represent diversity of giftings, experiences and relationships. Each person should have at least one RED pin. This pin represents the gospel and can only be pinned on someone who does NOT already have a RED pin attached to them.

Suggested activity 2: Teach the young people the ASL for “Begin”



<http://lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/b/begin.htm>

Ephesians 5:15-20 (NLT)

¹⁵ So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶ Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷ Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. ¹⁸ Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, ¹⁹ singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. ²⁰ And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The phrase “every opportunity” here is from the Greek word *kairos*. Consider the following:

Kairos (καιρός) doesn't just mean "opportunity"; it means the right or opportune moment (the supreme moment). The ancient Greeks had two words for time, chronos and kairos. While the former refers to chronological or sequential time, the latter signifies an indeterminate time in which something special happens. What the special something is depends on who is using the word. While chronos is quantitative, kairos has a qualitative nature.

In rhetoric kairos is "a passing instant when an opening appears, which must be driven through with force if success is to be achieved."

By now, it is clear that God wants to use you, your story and your gifting to bless the lives of others. What is vital is coming to grips with this reality.

Like that exercise we did earlier, people who meet you need to find clipped to their lives something special—that something special is the "fragrance of Christ"—the Gospel.

Jesus is saying through Paul that we must make the most of every opportunity--looking for opportunities to reflect what we have come to behold, believe and become regarding His will for our lives. God's perfect will is that we take His light into our dark world.

As we learned yesterday, He doesn't want us to be like the world. Instead, He wants us to operate within the world (John 17). I would like to challenge you right now to take a minute and ask God specifically to make you clear about the opportunities that He is setting in your path. Ask Him to bring people and circumstances to your attention and then ask Him to help you understand what He wants you to do in those circumstances.

Do you remember the 3x5 card you filled out at the beginning of the week? It described how you were feeling when you arrived (pull out the boxes for their dorms). We want to give that card back to you and ask you to write down a few words or sentences that best describe how you feel about yourself and about God right now.

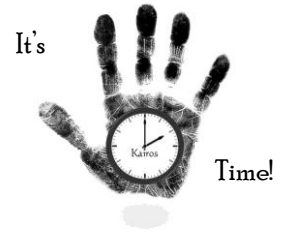
We will come back together in about 5 minutes and then if anyone - wants to share, we will do so.

(When they come back together, ask them to stand and say, WHEN I ARRIVED AT CAMP I FELT... RIGHT NOW, I FEEL...)

In the time we have left, we will sit in dorms, maybe join hands and just take a minute to thank God for the changes He has brought about and ask Him to give us ways to go home and begin living like we believe we belong to Him.

Debrief Questions – Chapel 5

It's Time to **Begin!**



1. What did God show you about how He sees you this week that you can share with someone else when you get home?
2. What did God show you about other people that you can share with someone else when you get home?
3. Tell us the names of three people back home you will tell about what you have experienced and learned here.

EXTRAS: Quotes / Sources / Scriptures / Diagrams / Etc.

