

# 2026

## DEVOTIONALS

### Preparing for Camp





# DOWN TO EARTH

## MATTHEW 6:9-13

### Introduction

We are so excited for you to begin this journey of preparation for your mission trip with Impact Mission Camps! Thank you for your willingness to respond to God's call of service. We hope that resources such as this devotional guide will be helpful as you prepare for your experience.

Our devotional guide is built around our theme for the year - **Down to Earth**. This year at camp, we will be exploring the **Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)**. As you get ready for mission camp, this devotional will guide you through selected Psalms that echo the heart of the Lord's Prayer, helping you see how Jesus' words shape the way we live, serve, and pray.

Each devotion includes a passage to read, devotional thoughts, and a time of prayer. We pray for God's guidance as you prepare to take on a new challenge as part of God's mission!

# Day One

## *Our Father in Heaven*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 103:8-13

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

### **Reflection**

As we get ready for camp, we may feel unsure about the experience. We may wonder...can I REALLY build a ramp in a week? What happens if I mess up in front of everyone? What if I have trouble finding my place on my crew. Getting nervous is totally normal, especially if this is your first time at Impact. So, as we deal with our nerves, let's think about who we were created to be.

This passage in Psalms talks about God being like a parent who cares for his children. God has compassion and forgives us. Even when we mess up, God loves us. We aren't serving at camp as a way to earn God's love. We don't have to do everything perfectly or know everything. God loves us right now. So, as you pack your bag for camp, remember that you already belong. You are known and loved, and we can't wait to serve with you.

### **PRAYER**

Write out Psalm 103:13 and put it beside your bed. When you see it, pray about the things that you are struggling with this week.

# Day Two

## *Hallowed Be Your Name*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 8:3-4

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

### **Reflection**

As we get ready for a week of mission camp, let's begin by praising the Creator of heaven and earth! In this passage, the psalmist is looking around and realizing just how big God is. Go outside and look at the stars tonight. Our universe is vast, and yet, God knows us and loves us.

We may have times where we feel small in the world. We may wonder if our work on a crew at camp will really make a difference. Rest assured that serving others DOES make a difference. God is at work in our world and pulling us toward something much bigger than we can imagine. God knows us and is inviting us into relationship so that we may share God's love in the world. So, let's get excited for what's to come in our week of camp and beyond!

### **Prayer**

God, I know that you are the Creator of all things. That means that you've created this world and me with purpose. Help me to remember that I am loved and called to serve others. Amen

# Day Three

## *Your Kingdom Come*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 11:7

For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face.

### **Reflection**

As we think about the state of our world, it's obvious that things aren't always as God intended them to be. People are hurting and without hope in our schools and communities. The passage for today helps us to understand more about God. God cares about justice and peace. Things may not be as they should now, but that doesn't mean that God wants to keep the world like this!

As followers of Jesus, we are called to care about the things that God cares about. We are called to love the people whom God loves. How can we promote justice and seek to make things whole again? We can be people who want our communities to flourish. We want to see relationships healed. We want to see people fed, and we are willing to roll up our sleeves and help others. At camp, you'll have the opportunity to join in with a project to help someone else. This is just the beginning of the journey. Get ready!

### **Prayer**

Take a prayer walk in your neighborhood or community. Pray for those who are hurting and in need of healing. Ask God to help you see where you can be a person of peace.

# Day Four

## *Give Us Today Our Daily Bread*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 23:1

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

### **Reflection**

When I get ready for camp, I always struggle with packing too much. How many extra outfits do I need to bring? Should I throw in my headlamp? It feels good to not only be prepared for what I know is coming, but to also prepare for the unknown. Of course, there are some things we can't plan for in life. Sometimes we face unknown territory. Whether you're starting at a new school, facing challenges at home, or going to camp for the first time, it can feel like you're all alone.

In our Scripture passage, the psalmist talks about God being like a shepherd. A shepherd cared for the sheep, keeping them safe and providing for their needs. Sometimes the sheep would face unknown danger, but the shepherd was there for help.

Trusting God in known and unknown situations can be tough. Whether it's needing help through a big project at Impact or asking for guidance with big decisions, remember that God is there and wants what's best for us. We can look to our shepherd for the best path forward.

### **Prayer**

As you pack for camp, ask God to provide peace and guidance during your week at Impact.

# Day Five

## *Lead Us*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 139:1-5

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

### **Reflection**

In this psalm, we see that God knows us. God is aware of our thoughts, schedules, and quirks. The God we serve isn't distant or uncaring. We are fully known and loved. You are being sent into a week of mission with Impact. This may be a new experience or something that you look forward to all year. Instead of thinking of it as just a random week of your life, consider where God might be leading you this week.

As you arrive at camp, be open to God's guidance during this experience. Perhaps it's saying yes to following Jesus. Maybe it's taking a leadership role at the job site. God might be opening your eyes to understanding Scripture in new ways. You may feel led to volunteer to help in worship. You don't know what might happen!

### **Prayer**

Ask a trusted adult or friend to pray for you while you are at camp or choose someone in your youth group to be your prayer partner for the week.