

Ideas for Parents

Preparing your child for camp,
what to do while they are there, and
welcoming them home



**“The camping experience is the single best life-building,
life-changing experience a child could have outside their home.”**

- Chuck Swindoll

We know that preparing for camp can be an experience in and of itself. In order to help you prepare your child and yourself for a week of camp, we have put together some **suggestions** that have been profitable for many through the years.

Preparing your child for camp:

- ⇒ pack together and let your child help decide what to take
- ⇒ label as many things with your child's name as possible; it is very easy for things to get misplaced at camp!
- ⇒ talk with your child about what they expect from the camp experience
- ⇒ have practice time away from home, especially if your loved one has never spent time away from home before
- ⇒ make sure your child knows when they will be going to camp well in advance, so they can mentally prepare
- ⇒ pray together about their fears and that they will have a great time

While they are at camp:

- ⇒ write and send a letter of encouragement with minimal home updates (to help prevent missing home)
- ⇒ pray for your child's safety, their goals, friends, and the staff
- ⇒ enjoy yourself!

Welcoming your child home:

- ⇒ put a “Welcome Home!” sign on the door
- ⇒ remember that they may not be as excited to see you as you might hope – they are still wrapped up in camp!
- ⇒ make sure your child gets lots of rest after a jam-packed week at camp
- ⇒ talk to them about their camp experience and how it has impacted their life
- ⇒ if for some reason there are concerns, contact the camp as soon as possible