

ESSENTIAL PROGRAMMING

WHAT IS YOUR STRATEGY FOR CHANGING LIVES?
ONE VOICE 2014

INTRODUCTION (10:00AM – 10:05AM)

My name is Brent Colby,

I am the CM Director in the Northwest

My wife is an amazing woman, mother and NICU nurse

I am honored to lead this discussion today

OVERVIEW

Here is how this is going to go for the next 50 minutes

I want to describe the process our team went through

To determine what was essential for our camps

Our conclusions may or may not be relevant for you

But our process of asking the right type of questions is

We will begin by discussing our topic

I have five questions for the group

Then I want to share the process our team went through

And show you our conclusions

Then I want us to talk about it

To ask each other questions

And share about what has been most important to us

QUESTIONS (10:05AM – 10:25AM)

“ESSENTIAL PROGRAMMING: WHAT IS YOUR STRATEGY FOR CHANGING LIVES?”

Do we believe that God changes lives at camp?

Why?

Should this be our goal?

What do we mean by “life change?”

Is there a better word or phrase?

What assumptions do we make about “life change” at camp?

How does God change the life of a child?

When and where does this take place?

What evidence is there of this happening?

Can we create these environments for life change?

How?

DISCOVERING OUR MODEL (10:25AM – 10:35AM)

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

We processed a lot of these questions with our camp team

There was a season where camp enrollment was down

And VBS registration was through the roof

It was our church culture's response to economic challenges

It was far cheaper to send kids to VBS than camp

We had to ask ourselves if we were OK with this

And we were not

Kid's Camp is a unique experience for the spiritual life of a child

It is the most noticeable place where God changes lives

VBS is a great place for us to go wide

But camp is the best place for us to go deep

We created a simple vision statement for kids camp:

“Kids experience God in a life changing way.”

Our team agreed that this would be our goal.

Now we had to ask how

How do kids experience God in a life changing way?

And what does that look like?

OUR MODEL

How do kids experience God in a life changing way?

This morning we already spoke to the power of God

And His desire to change our lives

So what does the experience look like?

We came up with three significant types of Jesus encounters

Large Group

Small Group

Individual

What about these three experiences were unique?

How does God use us to communicate in these settings?

Large Group – Discover

Small Group – Activate

Individual – Respond



The discovery process includes:

- The Big Idea
- Bible Story
- Illustrated Message
- Memory Verse

The activate process includes:

- Cabin Activity
- Group Discussion
- Considered Application

The respond process includes:

- Personal Response
 - Between God and Kids
- Respond in Kind
- Prayer

And so we determined to build camp around these three things

GROUP DISCUSSION (10:35AM – 10:50AM)

What is the purpose of your camp?

Can you share it in one sentence?

How does this purpose drive what you do?

What is essential to your camp experience?