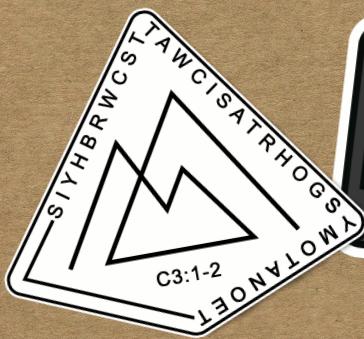
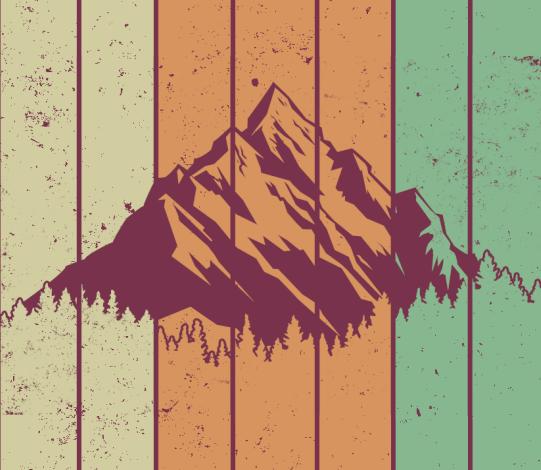


# PURPOSE WEEK 2025



This book belongs to



So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.

Colossians 3:1-2

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# East Texas Baptist

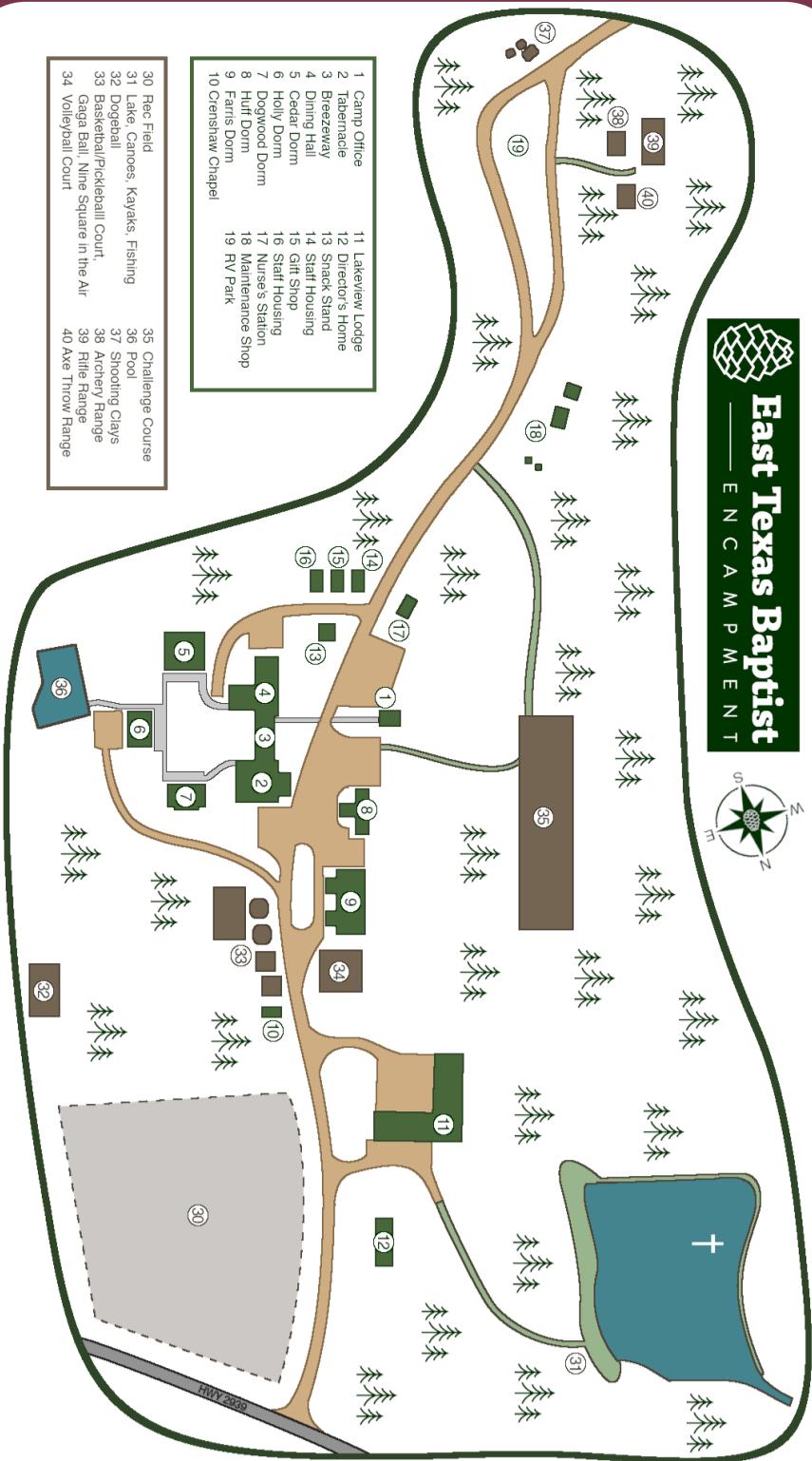
— E N C A M P M E N T —



|                    |                     |
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| 1 Camp Office      | 11 Lakeview Lodge   |
| 2 Tabernacle       | 12 Directors Home   |
| 3 Breezeway        | 13 Snack Stand      |
| 4 Dining Hall      | 14 Staff Housing    |
| 5 Cedar Dorm       | 15 Gift Shop        |
| 6 Holly Dorm       | 16 Staff Housing    |
| 7 Dogwood Dorm     | 17 Nurses Station   |
| 8 Huff Dorm        | 18 Maintenance Shop |
| 9 Farris Dorm      | 19 RV Park          |
| 10 Crenshaw Chapel |                     |

30 Rec Field  
31 Lake, Canoes, Kayaks, Fishing  
32 Dodgeball  
33 Basketball/Pickleball Court  
Gaga Ball Nine Square in the Air  
34 Volleyball Court

35 Challenge Course  
36 Pool  
37 Shooting Clays  
38 Archery Range  
39 Rifle Range  
40 Axe Throw Range



# CAMP INFO

## HOURS/SCHEDULES

### ETBE OFFICE

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30  
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00

Office Phone Number  
(409) 379-2737

### NURSE'S STATION

Emergency Number  
(409) 276-8477

### GIFT SHOP

Monday  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
  
Tuesday - Thursday  
2:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
  
Friday  
8:30 am - 10:00 am

### SNACK SHACK

Monday  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
  
Tuesday - Thursday  
7:30 am - 8:30 am  
2:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
  
Friday  
7:30 am - 8:30 am

## CAMP ACTIVITIES

### CHALLENGE COURSE

Tuesday - Thursday  
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
Thursday  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm

### ARCHERY, AXE THROW, RIFLE, AND SKEET

Tuesday - Thursday  
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### LAKESIDE (Kayaks & Canoes)

Tuesday - Thursday  
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### POOL

Monday  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Tuesday - Thursday  
2:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm

\*All camp activities are subject to closure due to unsuitable weather conditions or staffing concerns.

# CAMP RULES

For the safety and well-being of all campers and staff these rules will be enforced. Christian conduct is expected at all times. Sponsors are responsible for the dress, location, and conduct of their group at all times.

## **Dress Code**

- Clothes are to be reflective of a modest Christian lifestyle.
- Wear modest clothing; NO sleeveless clothing, revealing necklines, sheer clothing, bare midriff, super tight clothing, or shorts or skirts shorter than fingertip length while standing. These rules apply to both boys and girls.
- Wear appropriate clothing, NO inappropriate slogans, advertisements, or crude artwork.
- Modest clothing must be worn in public spaces at all times; this includes public areas of the dorms.
- Girls swimsuits must be a modest one piece or a two piece with a cover or a dark colored t-shirt. Boys swimsuits must be modest trunks with a cover or dark colored t-shirt. Coverings are to be worn at all times.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.

## **Cell Phone Policy**

- Campers are not allowed to possess cell phones at camp. “Possess” means carry on their person, keep in their luggage, or otherwise have access to without the supervision of a sponsor. If a camper is found in possession of a cell phone without their sponsors supervision it will be confiscated.
- Sponsors must not allow cell phones to distract others or themselves from the camp program. Phone usage must be limited to only absolutely necessary calls, messages, appropriate photo taking, or internet activity at camp.

**Public Displays of Affection** will not be tolerated regardless of gender. Those found in violation of this rule may be sent home early.

# CAMP RULES

- All medication, prescription or over the counter, must be given to the nurse upon check-in. Any medication found in possession of a camper or sponsor will be confiscated.
- The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco products, or drugs will not be tolerated.
- The following is NOT permitted on the ETBE campus: personal firearms, fireworks, pets, silly string, water balloons, or other inappropriate items. This list is not comprehensive and may be amended at any time at the discretion of the camp director.
- Swimming and/or waterfront activities are not allowed at any time without an ETBE lifeguard on duty.
- Pick up after yourself and others. There are trashcans provided throughout the camp; it is your job to keep the camp free of litter so everyone can enjoy the beauty of God's creation.
- All personal vehicles must be parked upon arrival. Any use of vehicles, golf carts, and/or atvs during the camp session must be authorized by our camp director.
- No equipment, beds, or other furniture may be moved without permission from the ETBE office. Everything must be replaced back to its original place before leaving.
- Campers may not enter the dorm or motel room of another camper.
- All food items must be kept in sealed containers or bags to avoid pest issues in the dorms. Food and drink other than water is not allowed in the tabernacle.
- All campers, sponsors, and group leaders are expected to attend all worship services, group times, breakouts, and observe rest periods.

# BREAKOUTS

## Base Camp - Spiritual Disciplines

Holly Conference | Jack Newton

Base Camp is where you prepare for the climb with the right gear for the job. Just like a mountain expedition there are certain tools, or disciplines, we can use in our everyday life to obey and follow Jesus. In this breakout we will be learning about different spiritual disciplines and how to practice them.

## Who Are You?

Huff Conference | Cody Dowden

You may know who your friends think you are, who your teachers think you are, and even who your parents think you are, but do you know who God says you are? In this breakout we will learn what God says about who you are and where your identity lies.

## Hot Topics

Dogwood Conference | Jon Brinlee

You know all those topics you usually aren't supposed to bring up in church? In this breakout we are going to hash them out and see what the Bible really has to say about hot topics in todays culture.

# BREAKOUTS

## **Reading the Bible for All It's Worth**

Lodge Conference | Dr. Jim Turnbo

Reading our Bibles can sometimes feel like an empty chore that we just don't understand. It can be frustrating to feel like we don't know what we are doing. In this breakout we are going to learn ways to understand what we are reading and really get everything out of our time in scripture.

## **Life on Mission**

Cedar Conference | Nick Peveto

In 2013 Nick Peveto and his family packed up their life in the USA and followed God 8,000 miles across the world to Zambia, Africa where they still live and serve today. They have two children, thousands of unofficial frequent flyer miles, and a unique perspective on life and ministry that makes for some interesting stories to tell.

## **Ask Us Anything Q & A - Thursday Only**

Tabernacle | GTBN Panel Guests

This is your chance to ask our panel of Godly men and women anything. There is a box for anonymous questions in the Foyer of the Tabernacle for you to submit any question to. Nothing is off the table so make sure to get your questions in by Wednesday evening!

# START HERE

Welcome to Purpose Week 2025! We are excited to share this week with you. Through this book you will find a step by step guide through your week with each day beginning with a devotional and with ample note space for all the day's activities. As you learn or discover new things about yourself and your walk with God make a point to write them down. As a journal of your time at camp, this book can be a useful resource even after the week is over.

# MONDAY



# TUESDAY

## DEVOTIONAL

**Welcome to your first devotional time of Purpose Week.**

Many of you may be familiar with the concept of a devotional time, but some may not. So, let's take this time this week to either introduce or refresh the basics. Even if you have a consistent record of keeping a devotional time, you may find this refresh useful.

### **First, what is a devotional time?**

This is just a fancy word for a specific time you set aside to intentionally focus on God and His word. It does not have to be at an exact time of day or even the same time every day, however most people find it helpful to plan for specific times to help them remember to take time away from their days to focus on God.

This time can look different for different people at different times. This week, we are going to look at three different tools (or spiritual disciplines) we can use during this time to help us focus on God. These three tools are Bible Reading and Study, Scripture Meditation and Memorization, and Prayer.

### **So why do we do this?**

Let's look at a couple passages from scripture for the answer while we learn about Bible Reading and Study.

“<sup>1</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

Colossians 3:1-2

This should look familiar as it is our camp verse this week, but what exactly does it mean? It is always important when studying scripture to look at the context of the whole passage rather than just a couple verses pulled out.

I encourage you to take the time to read the short book of Colossians (it is only 4 chapters) when you can, but for today here is a quick look at the context of Colossians.

Colossians is a letter written by Paul to the Christians in Colossae (ancient city near the modern-day city of Honaz, Turkey today). Paul did not start this church, nor had he met them in person before, however his friend Epaphras had shared with him of the church's love for Christ, its growth, and its struggles. Paul wrote this letter, most likely while imprisoned in Rome, to both encourage and correct the Colossian church.

You see, there were some who insisted the Christians in Colossae had to follow certain rules and do certain things in order to be saved. They argued human tradition and following their practices and works were necessary to be a follower of Christ. This is what Paul wrote them to correct.

### **Read Colossians 2:8-23**

Paul is explaining here how Christ has fulfilled every obligation and requirement for our salvation through his death and resurrection; thus, there are no obligations or requirements left for us as followers of Christ to fulfil. Does that mean we should just live how we want to live, thinking nothing we do matters? Of course not. That is where our camp verse comes in.

## **Read Colossians 3:1-14**

As followers of Christ, we are called to seek the things above. One of the most important ways we seek the things above is by reading and studying God's word. How can we know what things are above and what are earthly things if we do not read His word?

## **Read Colossians 3:16**

If we are to let the word of the Lord dwell richly among us, we must know it. And to know it, we must read it. Do not fall victim to only listening to people's interpretations of scripture or knowing only what you have soaked up from others. The best way to know God's word is to read it for yourself.

Do not let yourself fall prey to the teachings of this world and human traditions as the Colossians did. When you regularly read and know the word of God you are able to test the things said by others to find the truth.

## **Read Romans 12:2**

This verse from another of Paul's letters sums up what we have read through today quite nicely. God uses the reading and study of His word to renew our minds. When we are in the word regularly, we learn to discern the things above from the earthly things; or to discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

Take a moment to reflect on the scripture you have read today. Write down any questions you may have about what you have read.

Did you read anything that surprised you or that you just didn't know before? If so, write that down here.

Take a moment to pray to God about what you read this morning.









# WEDNESDAY

During our devotional time today, we are going to learn about and try Scripture Meditation and Memorization. Before we dive into giving it a try, let's take a quick look at what it means to meditate on scripture.

We have all heard the word meditation associated with a bunch of different ideas and media, but what is it really. According to the Oxford dictionary:

## **med·i·tate**

verb

1. to think deeply or focus one's mind for a period of time

Many false religions, even those pretending to be Christian, say that meditation is a practice of emptying the mind. Do not be fooled; this is not what biblical meditation is, rather Christians are to meditate on scripture to dwell on God's word and teachings, being filled with His word as opposed to being emptied.

**Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

Moses is delivering this command from God to the people of Israel following their exodus from Egypt. Even from the very beginning, God has called His people to meditate on His word. Just as we read yesterday, we are called to fill our mind, body, and soul with his Word daily.

### **Read Mark 12:28-31**

This passage should sound familiar. In fact, if you are reading in a Bible with reference marks, there should be a reference in this passage back to the scripture Jesus is quoting in Deuteronomy 6.

For context, Jesus is being questioned by some religious leaders who are asking what they think are trick questions to try and catch him saying something they can get him in trouble for. Unfortunately for them, Jesus knows just what to say. He repeats this command, reiterating the importance of keeping God's word central in our lives.

Now that we have a base for why we should meditate on scripture, let's try it. There is no right or wrong way (besides just not trying) to meditate on scripture, but here is one way you can do it. (Starting on the next page)

Take a deep breath to help you focus, putting away all other distractions.

Open your Bible to Colossians 3:1-2 and copy it here:

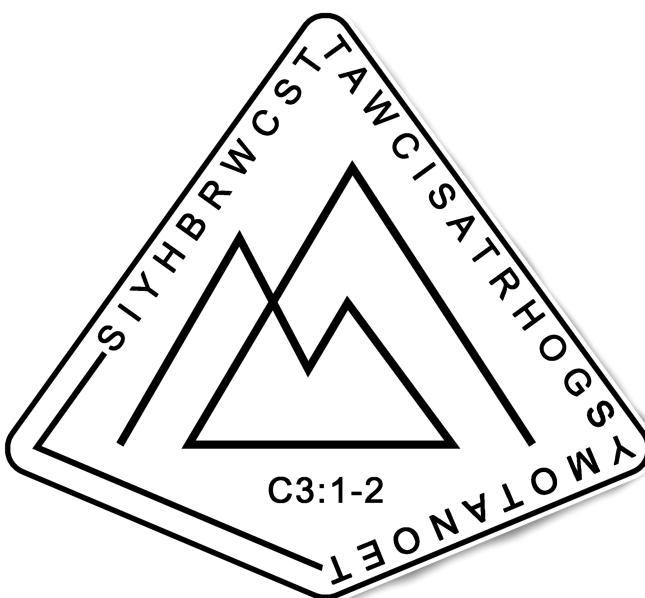
Read the verse you copied again. Do you have any questions about this verse? If so, write them below.

Does this verse bring any other scripture to mind? If so, write that below.

**Take a moment to pray to God about this verse and how he can use it in your life.**

Another way we can meditate on scripture is by memorizing it. There are many different tools people use to memorize scripture and if you know of one that works well for you, please use it. However, if you don't know where to start or haven't had luck with traditional methods before, I have included my favorite way to try to memorize scripture below for you to try.

Each letter represents the first letter of a word in the verse. Every time you see this picture throughout the day, try to recite the verse using the letters.



If you would like to try this method, you can visit Mrs. Lizz at the Purpose Week shop (in the Foyer of the Tabernacle) for a free sticker of this picture to place somewhere you will see it through the day. Bonus points if you try to recite the verse for her.









# THURSDAY

Just as it is important for followers of Jesus to read God's word to know his voice, it is also important for us to talk to God. For some, prayer comes naturally, but others may find prayer a more difficult concept to understand or practice. So today, let's take a look at what prayer is, why we pray, and how we should pray.

## **What is prayer?**

Prayer is simply us talking to God. Any time you are directing communication towards God you are praying.

## **Why do we pray?**

Think of someone you are very close to, a close friend, a teacher, even a parent or sibling. Imagine what your relationship would be like if you never spoke to them. Not only do we speak to God because we are told to do so many times in scripture, (for examples see 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Colossians 4:2, Ephesians 6:18, and Matthew 6:5-14) but we communicate with God to have a personal relationship with Him.

But wait, you may be thinking, if God already sees and knows everything then why do I need to talk to him? Because he wants you to. Because the God of the universe, creator of everything, who knows the very number of hairs on your head and the every moment of your life cares for you, loves you, and wants to hear from you. You are wanted. What you have to say matters.

The fact that God already sees and knows everything about you should give you the freedom to come to him honestly. There is nothing you can hide from God, so why try?

## Read Genesis 3:8-13

For context this is the moment directly following the temptation and fall in the Garden of Eden. God knew exactly where Adam and Eve were and He knew exactly what had happened, so why did he ask these questions? God was inviting Adam and Eve to come to him honestly, and they chose to keep up their lie until their sin was called out directly to them.

In a similar way God is inviting you to commune with Him honestly. He wants to hear from you with an open and honest heart because he loves you.

Now we know the what and the why, but what about the how? Luckily, Jesus himself gave us clear direction in how to pray.

## Read Matthew 6:5-13

There are two different kinds of prayer, individual prayer and communal or group prayer. Jesus starts by talking about individual prayer, that it is to be done privately, intimately, and not for the world to see. When you pray to God you don't need to use fancy terminology or "Sunday School" phrases. You can talk to him like you would a friend when you are alone together. He also gives us a template for prayer, but notice he says you should pray *like* this, not that you must pray this exact way.

He begins with addressing God and uplifting His name and asking for His will to be done and He asks for what is needed; sustenance, forgiveness, and deliverance for not only himself but others.

If you are finding yourself not knowing where to start with prayer you can use this as a starting point. Another way to frame this is by answering the following questions for your prayer:

- What is something I can tell God about himself?
- What is something I can thank God for?
- What is a need I can ask God for in my life and the lives of others?
- What do I need to surrender to God in my life?

But hold on, you might be saying, I have been praying a different way my whole life, does that mean I have been praying wrong? *Please* hear me when I say ABSOLUTELY NOT! This is by no means a mandatory template for prayer. There is no wrong way to pray. Any time you come to God to talk to him is praying correctly.

### **Read Romans 8:26-27**

If you are indwelt with the Holy Spirit (that means you are a follower of Jesus) then the Spirit himself takes our prayers and makes them perfect to God.

But sometimes you can still feel a bit stuck in your prayer life, feeling like you say the same old things over and over. For those who have dealt with or may deal with that struggle in the future here is another tool for you to use for prayer.

Pray the Bible. It is that simple. When you feel stuck or in a rut in your prayer life try praying passages of the scripture back to God. There is an entire book of the Bible of prayers put together for you in Psalms, not to mention the many other prayers documented throughout scripture. You can even take a verse you are studying or memorizing and pray it.

To try this, read a line from the scripture, then repeat it back as a prayer. For example, let's look at a way you could pray Colossians 3:1-2.

Dear God, thank you for raising me with Christ.

Please set my mind on the things above where your son is seated at your right hand.

Set my mind on Godly things and keep my mind clear of earthly things.

Amen.

If you aren't wanting to do a particular verse and are unsure where in scripture to start, I would recommend the Psalms.

Today is June the 19<sup>th</sup>, so turn to Psalm 19 and read it through. If that Psalm isn't fitting what you need to pray today try moving 30 more Psalms in to 49 or beyond until you find it. I promise there is a Psalm to fit what you need.

So now that we have the what, the why, and the how, let's put it to practice. Choose a technique from above, or just pray the way you prefer already, and spend the next few moments in prayer.

I challenge you to try and spend at least five minutes praying.

You don't have to speak the whole time, you don't even have to speak out loud but sit quietly talking with God for a full five minutes.

If you would like a guide for this time you can find the questions mentioned earlier on the next page.

If you would like to, answer the following questions to help solidify what you read today:

What is something you can tell God about himself that you read about today?

What is something you can thank God for today?

What is a need you can pray to fulfill in your life and the lives of others today?

What do you need to surrender or confess in your life to God?











# FRIDAY

Through our devotional times this week we have learned about and practiced some different techniques or disciplines we can use to spend time daily with God.

It is my prayer for you that you have grown closer to God this week and grown an appetite to set aside time to spend regularly with God and His word. But as we look forward to being home and getting back to our regular lives, we must acknowledge that setting aside a devotional time will not be as easy as it is when we are at camp.

Camp makes it easy to get away and find the time to be in God's word. We are surrounded by it, reminded of it constantly. But that isn't usually the case when we go home. Even the most devout Christians I know have struggled with finding time regularly to spend with God. If anyone ever tells you they have never struggled with keeping a daily devotional, they are lying, and you can tell them I said so.

What can we do, knowing there will be struggle and temptation to just not add one more thing to our to do list? The first thing we can do is to acknowledge our weakness and give it to God. Share with Him your desire to remain in His word and your concerns for doing so in the future. Ask Him for the strength to resist temptation and the forgiveness for when you fail (because we all do).

Praise God that He is faithful to forgive us when we do fail. Remember, there is nothing about devotional time that saves you. There is no work you can do that will earn your salvation. Salvation comes through Jesus Christ, not by any work we could ever do.

## Read Ephesians 2:4-9

Let this be your reminder to not make devotional time a mandatory practice that you tear yourself down for forgetting or missing. But also let it be an encouragement that even when we fail, we can come to God openly and honestly and He will always be there ready for spending that time with you.

So now that we have tackled that elephant in the room, let's talk about the more practical parts of keeping a daily devotional time. There are an unlimited number of resources available for you, but I do have a few specific recommendations.

### **First, you should always start with scripture.**

Read the Bible. As we have discussed, the word of God is the best way we can spend time with God. Sometimes it can help to have a game plan for how you plan to read the word though, so here are some suggestions.

A free resource we have made available to help you with this is the Encounter book series. These books guide you through a book of the Bible, having you read one chapter a day, and guiding you to

reflect on God's word. These are available for free online at [purposeweek.com/studentresources](http://purposeweek.com/studentresources) (link in the QR code here) or you can email [office@gtbn.us](mailto:office@gtbn.us) to request a printed copy. These are a great resource for either individual study or as a group where you can meet regularly to discuss scripture together.

When you get home you can scan this QR code to see all the Encounter books currently available.



Another suggestion is to find someone or a small group you can meet with regularly and read scripture together. It doesn't have to be formal but having others who can hold you accountable to be in the word regularly is a gift from God. You can pick a book of the Bible to read together and spend the week practicing the disciplines we have discussed for the scriptures your group has read that week.

If you are still not sure, talk with your youth leader or pastor from your church about resources they have or can suggest. There is nothing wrong with just reading the Bible alone but sometimes having access to someone that can help us understand things can be helpful.

Something to keep in mind; not everything that calls itself Christian is of God. Be weary of resources outside of scripture especially if what they say is contrary to scripture and never hesitate to ask someone you trust when you question something.

### **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22**

Test all things. Hold on to what is good. This should sound a bit familiar at this point, and it brings us back to the verse we have been talking about all week.

**“So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.”**

**Colossians 3:1-2**

My prayer for you as we leave camp and go back to our normal lives is that you remember this verse and what it means and allow it to guide how you plan and spend your time moving forward.

**Spend a few minutes reading Colossians 3:1-2 and thinking about what it means to you.**

Write below what this verse says about you and what it means for how your life should look different after you leave here.

Spend a few moments in prayer, reflecting on Colossians 3:1-2 and asking God to make this verse a reality in your life every day.









# SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 22 & 23, 2025



JANUARY 26, 2026



# RESOURCES

## STUDENT RESOURCES

For direct links to student resources mentioned or available through our partners scan the QR code to the right or visit [purposeweek.com](http://purposeweek.com) and click on Student Resources at the top of the site. There you can view resource lists from the different elective classes, devotional guides, next step information, and more.



## THE PEVETO FAMILY IN ZAMBIA, AFRICA

For more information on The Peveto family's ministry and how you can be a part of their work in Zambia, Africa visit [pevetofamily.com](http://pevetofamily.com) or scan the QR code to the right.



## GOLDEN TRIANGLE BAPTIST NETWORK

For more information on the Golden Triangle Baptist Network (GTBN) and what they do scan the QR code to the right or visit [gtbn.us](http://gtbn.us).



# SCHEDULE

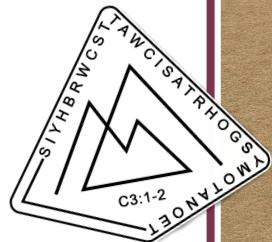
## MONDAY

1:00 pm Check-In  
3:00 pm REC/Sponsor Meeting  
5:00 pm Student Orientation  
6:00 pm Dinner  
7:15 pm Church Group Time @ Assigned Location  
7:30 pm Worship  
9:00 pm Church Group Time @ Assigned Location  
10:00 pm Late Night  
11:00 pm Cabin Time  
11:30 pm Lights Out



## TUESDAY - THURSDAY

7:45 am Sponsor Meeting  
8:00 am Breakfast  
8:45 am Devotional Time  
9:00 am Morning Worship (Come ready for REC)  
10:00 am REC  
11:30 am Clean Up  
12:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 pm Breakout Classes (See Breakout Page)  
2:30 pm Free Time  
5:30 pm Clean up for Dinner  
6:00 pm Dinner  
7:15 pm Church Group Time @ Assigned Location  
7:30 pm Worship  
9:00 pm Church Group Time @ Assigned Location  
10:00 pm Late Night  
11:00 pm Cabin Time  
11:30 pm Lights Out



## FRIDAY

8:00 am Breakfast  
8:45 am Devotional Time  
9:00 am Morning Worship  
10:00 am Color Team Clean Up  
10:30 am Final Farewell/Awards  
11:00 am Load Up and Leave

