

# Video – Week 3- Transcript



Hi there. Welcome to video number 3. In the last video we talked about how to be yourself and ensure you are putting Godly leadership first during camp.

This week we are looking at a collection of some very practical things about Looking After Campers.

Firstly, some basic procedural things.

Did you know that Campialba has a noise curfew. For the sake of our neighbours and any tired campers and leaders, we ask that noise be kept to a minimum before 7 in the morning and after 9 o'clock at night. This means not playing noise games at 6 a.m. near the neighbours' back windows. It also means not having any amplified sound early or late in the day. This is just out of respect.

Did you know we ask every leader and every camper to bring a **fitted sheet** for their bed? You don't want to be sleeping on somebody else's dead skins cells and they probably don't want to sleep on yours. For this reason, you need to bring a fitted sheet. As a leader, you also need to ensure that your cabin group makes their bed by firstly putting on a bottom or fitted sheet. This is about basic hygiene.

Did you know we also have a **laundry** which leaders are free to use. If you have a cabin of younger kids particularly, and one of them has a toileting accident in the night. Don't despair. Just see the camp staff and we will help solve the issue.

At camp, we don't allow campers to have **mobile phones or Internet-enabled devices**. If they have phones, they could contact anybody in the world outside of camp. They could also download and share any amount of material from the internet with other campers. Campialba has undertaken to care for kids responsibly during camp and we can only do that if we know that people aren't funnelling in anything they wish from outside. All parents of campers have been asked to sign off on this as part of registration. They also know there is a protocol to follow if they wish to call camp, so that incoming calls to campers aren't disrupting the program.

It's not uncommon at camp that a camper will want to sit down and **pour out their heart** to you about something. It could be about something they are worried about outside of camp. It could just be their concern with another camper. Please remember that whilst they are on camp, we need to assist them wherever possible, but we aren't to overstep the authority their parents have in their lives. So if a child asks how to deal with a camper who has upset them, you could help them out with some good advice. But if a young camper asks you "where do babies come from", then you can be almost sure their parents weren't expecting them to find the answer of this out during camp. Simply tell them they should ask their parents one day about that. If you are in doubt about a situation or question at camp, just postpone the conversation and seek the advice of your camp leaders or the camp staff.

It's also not uncommon at camp to have some little issues along the way with a camper who doesn't want to do the right thing. On that topic let's summarise a few things. We want our relationships with campers to take place in an atmosphere of love, peace, respect and discipline. If you need to respond to any behaviour from a camper, you need to respond to

- Excellent behaviour with praise.
- Ignorance with teaching

- Apathy with encouragement
- Broken relationships with reconciliation
- Misbehaviour with appropriate chastening.
- Repentance with forgiveness.

Remember at all times, certainty is better than severity when dealing with behaviour issues. Simple but certain and natural consequences are always better than disproportionate and unreasonable responses. Again, in relation to all these things, you work as part of a team. If an issue needs a consequence, check in with your camp coordinators or another leader first. This gives you thinking time, and perspective.

Another key aspect of camp is finding out about the Good news of Jesus Christ. The Bible asks us to sew the seed in people's lives. This means, sharing the truth of God with them. The Bible never asks us to coerce people into the Kingdom of God. So when a child is away from home, feeling vulnerable and tired, we should never exploit this situation to get them to make some kind of misunderstood confession of sins or commitment. The Bible asks us to worship in Spirit and in Truth. In 1 Corinthians the Apostle Paul records that he planted the seed, Apollos watered it but it is God who gives the increase. This means that alter calls or any other kind of social pressure on kids to make a decision for God is not something we do at Campialba. We stay firmly with the God-given roll of sewing the seed and watering it with prayer. In other words, our role is to share the truth and to pray. God's job through the Holy Spirit is to help that seed germinate in a person's life.

Let's make that our prayer point this week. Let's start ploughing the ground in readiness for the seed to be planted by asking God to soften the hearts and minds of those who will come to camp.