

Video – Week 2- Transcript



Hi and welcome back to our little video series to help you prepare for your role as a Cabin leader at Campialba. This is the second video in the series.

So this week we are looking at some practical things related to the role of Cabin Leader. We will look at **WHAT** you need to do and **HOW** you need to do it.

So WHAT do cabin leaders do?

You will be allocated to a small group of campers – probably about 6. This is your cabin group. You will share a cabin with them during your stay. You will also do camp activities with your group.

When campers are arriving, you will be at the cabin ready to welcome them. You will be able to encourage them to settle in. Sometimes mums and dads want to fill you in on things that are important to them during this time.

Once registration is done, there will normally be some get-to-know-you ice-breaker style activities to help you and the cabin group to find out more about each other.

Depending on the plans of the Camp Coordinators, you will often sit with your cabin group at meal times.

At night you will likely share a cabin with the campers. There are some specific procedures related to this which we will cover in a later video on safety.

Throughout the day, you will be the adult friend of the campers, helping them to stay on time with the program, settling any issues between them, listening to them tell you about their lives and sharing stories of your own life with them.

Most importantly, you will be present. This means if you are dependent on checking your social media feed every couple of minutes, you'll have to put that compulsion aside for the duration of camp and be present in body, mind and spirit with the campers.

In terms of tasks, there are some other tasks that happen every day. These include ensuring your campers have been through the showers, helping them keep their cabin tidy, spending time with them reflecting on the studies for that day, etc. All of these things will have a scheduled spot in the camp program. The camp coordinators will go through these with you.

Ok, HOW is all this done?

Firstly, you really just need to be yourself during camp. If you are normally an active person, then invest your energy into helping the campers have fun. If you are good at one-on-one conversation, use that talent and chat with the campers. If you enjoy playing games, play games when time permits.

Sometimes leaders make the mistake of believing the best kind of leader is loud, funny, even crazy. Sometimes new leaders make the mistake of seeking approval and affirmation from campers, rather than providing calm leadership and influence. If loud and funny isn't normally your personality, don't pretend. Relax and be yourself. The campers can find friendship with other campers. What

they need most from adults is stability and maturity. Some campers may never have seen Godly adult leadership in their own home. Who knows! You can help campers enjoy their childhood, but you don't need to *become* a child to achieve that. You can help them have fun, but you don't have to *be* a comedian. You can help them enjoy sport even if you aren't a sporty person. Your role is to promote an environment at camp where the campers can have fun and are safe; an environment which is friendly and fair, and an environment which has clear and fair but firm boundaries.

What campers need most from you as a leader is leadership.

What they need most from a Christian is Christlikeness.

If you prioritise these two things above anything else, you will be well over half way towards having a very successful week.

This week, keep praying for the campers and leaders. In addition to that, pray

1. That you will have the strength and wisdom to connect well with the campers in your cabin.
2. That God will continue to bring in the registrations from campers who need to be at camp.

See you in our next video when we discuss, some very practical things about **Looking After Campers**.