

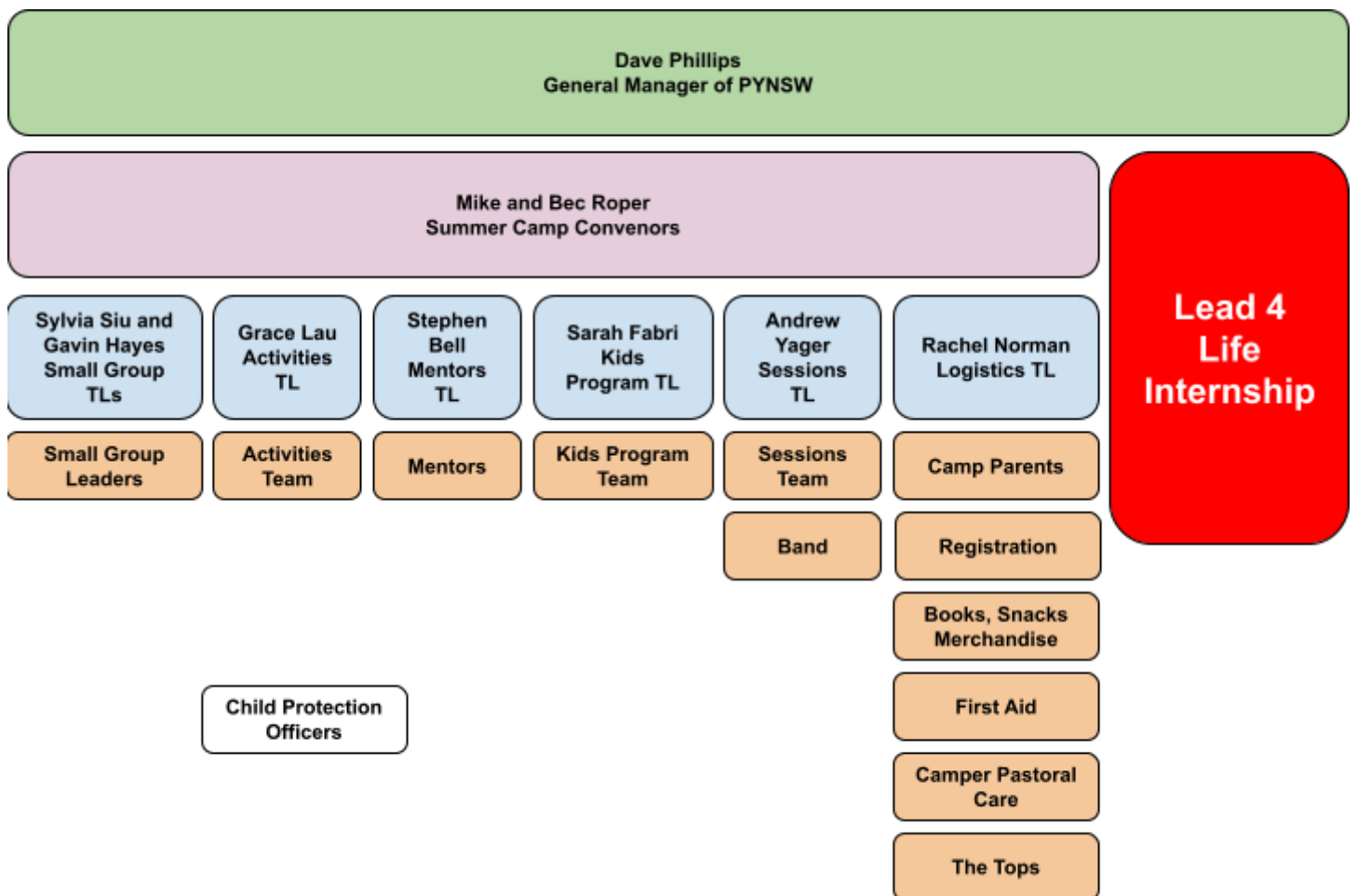


PYNSW
SUMMER CAMP 24
Distance Pack

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Camp Structure



Please continue inviting Year 6 to Year 12 to camp.

SC24 Training Day Schedule

11:00am	Rego / Food Leaders arrive & Register. Snacks to be provided.	
11:15am	Welcome Welcome, worship & explain the day. - Vision - Team Leaders - Camp Program	Mike & Bec Roper
12:00pm	Child Protection Covering some of the basic principles	Mike Roper
12:30pm	Lunch	
1:30pm	Speaker Time Speaker to go through Talks with Leaders, covering big ideas of each talk and go over big ideas in the studies.	Russ Smidt
2:00pm	Team Time Leaders break up into their Camp Teams, run by the Team Leaders. The use of this time is completely up to the discretion of the Team Leaders. Speaker to visit each Team, ensuring we're all travelling in the same direction.	Team Leaders
4:00pm	Afternoon Tea	
4:30pm	Q & A and Prayer Has anything come up during the day that isn't clear? Ask it here! A time to pray together for the camp	Mike Roper
4:55pm	Close	Mike Roper

SC24 Program

Saturday 28/12/24 Day 0	
3:00pm	Registration opens
6:00pm	Dinner
7:00pm	Activity - AA
8:00pm	Evening Session
9:15pm	Supper
10:00pm	Bedtime
10:45pm	Lights Out

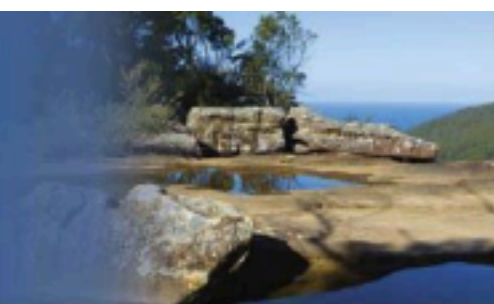
Saturday 28/12/24 Day 1	
7:30am	Prayer Meeting
8:00am	SGLs Meeting
8:30am	Breakfast
9:15am	Brush Teeth
9:30am	Activity - BB
11:00am	Morning Tea
11:30am	Morning Session
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	Small Groups
3:30pm	Activity - CC (incl Afternoon Tea)
5:00pm	Free Time
6:00pm	Dinner
6:45pm	Read Think Act
7:15pm	Activity - DD
8:30pm	Evening Session
9:15pm	Supper
10:00pm	Bedtime
10:45pm	Lights Out

Sunday 29/12/24 Day 2	
7:30am	Prayer Meeting
8:00am	SGLs Meeting
8:30am	Breakfast
9:15am	Morning Games
9:30am	Brush Teeth
9:45am	Morning Session
11:00am	Morning Tea
11:30am	Small Groups
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	Free Time
2:30pm	Activity - EE (incl Afternoon Tea)
5:00pm	Free time
6:00pm	Dinner
6:45pm	Read Think Act
7:15pm	Activity - FF
8:30pm	Evening Session (incl. Evangelistic Talk)
9:15pm	Supper
10:00pm	Bedtime
10:45pm	Lights Out

Monday 30/12/24 Day 3	
7:30am	Prayer Meeting
8:00am	SGLs Meeting
8:30am	Breakfast
9:15am	Morning Games
9:30am	Brush Teeth
9:45am	Morning Session
11:00am	Morning Tea
11:30am	Small Groups
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	Free Time
2:30pm	Activity - GG (incl. Afternoon Tea)
3:30pm	Unstructured Free Time / Festival Time
6:00pm	Dinner
6:45pm	Read Think Act
7:15pm	Seminars
8:30pm	Evening Session
9:15pm	Supper
10:00pm	Bedtime
10:45pm	Lights Out

Tuesday 31/12/24 Day 4	
7:30am	Prayer Meeting
8:00am	SGLs Meeting
8:30am	Breakfast
9:15am	Morning Games
9:30am	Brush Teeth
9:45am	Morning Session
11:00am	Morning Tea
11:30am	Small Groups
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	Free Time
2:30pm	Frisbee Comp (incl. Afternoon Tea)
4:00pm	Free Time
5:30pm	Outdoor Dinner
6:30pm	Read Think Act
7:00pm	Intern Activity
8:15pm	Supper A
8:45pm	Evening Session
9:30pm	Supper B
10:15pm	NYE Party - theme TBC (incl. Chill Out Zone)
12:30am	Bedtime
1:00am	Lights Out

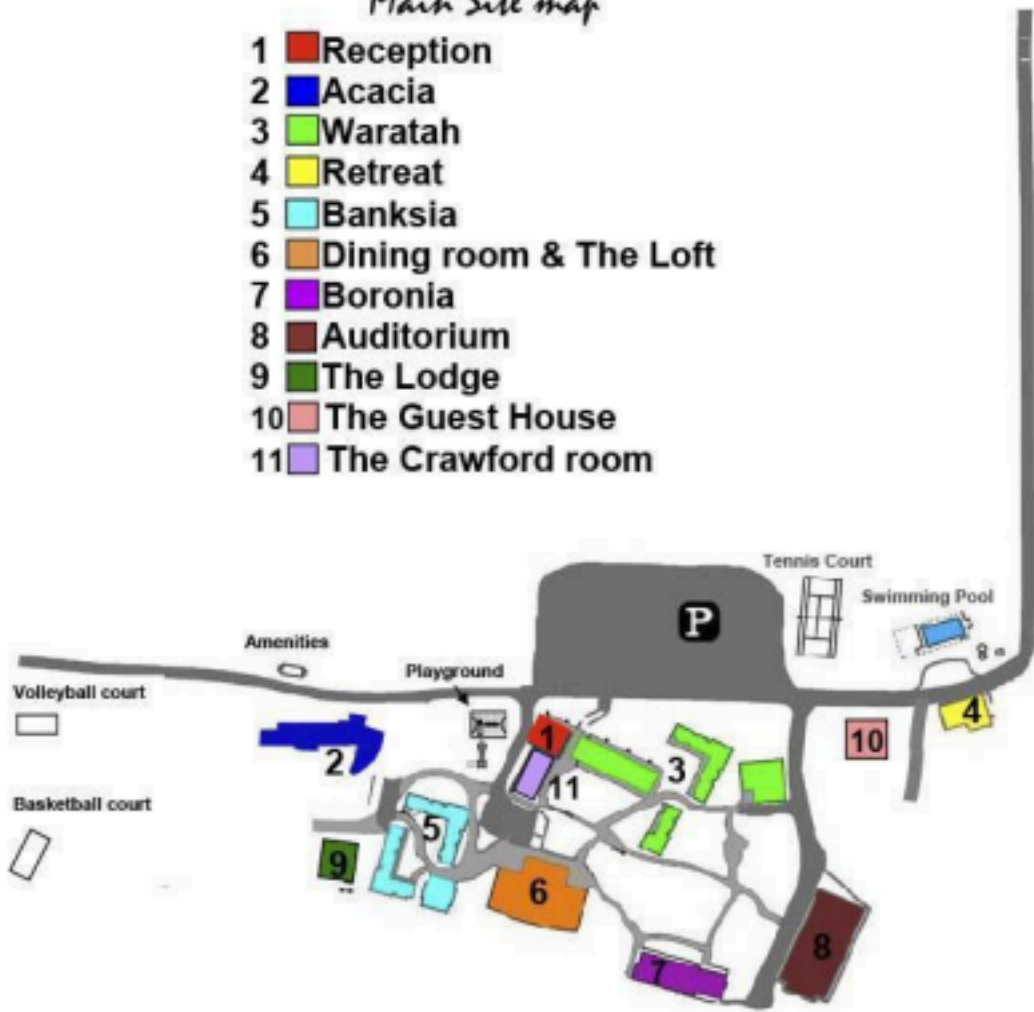
Wednesday 1/1/25 Day 5	
7:30am	Prayer Meeting
8:00am	SGLs Meeting
8:30am	Breakfast
9:15am	Morning Session
10:30am	Morning Tea
11:00am	Small Groups
12:00pm	Read Think Act
12:30pm	Lunch & Clean Site
2:15pm	Final Session
3:00pm	Camp Ends



Main site map

Main Site map

- 1 Reception
- 2 Acacia
- 3 Waratah
- 4 Retreat
- 5 Banksia
- 6 Dining room & The Loft
- 7 Boronia
- 8 Auditorium
- 9 The Lodge
- 10 The Guest House
- 11 The Crawford room



thetops.com.au

Camp is at The Tops - 51 Bendena Garden, Stanwell Tops NSW 2508



Talks:

Fearless

Russ Smidt

Introduction

but the people who know their God will firmly resist [the kingdom of this world].
Daniel 11:32

There are many books, commentaries, study guides and sermon series on the Book of Daniel. The titles give us a collective summary of what the Book of Daniel is about: Which one most grabs your attention and interest?

- Faith Under Pressure
- Seeing Things God's Way
- See Him Coming
- Staying Strong In A Hostile World
- Courageous Living In Turbulent Times
- Lives Of Integrity
- Fearless

To capture the main theme of the Book of Daniel in today's language: **Fearless**. What does fearless mean?

**“Cause I don't know how it gets better than this
You take my hand and drag me head first
Fearless
And I don't know why
But with you I'd dance in a storm
In my best dress
Fearless”**

**“Courage is not the absence of fear,
but rather the judgement that something is more important than fear.”**

Daniel's experiences provide hope, assurance and courage for the day that God will confront evil and deliver his people. This timeless book holds relevance for every generation, imparting a message of hope that serves as a catalyst for unwavering faithfulness... and true fear-less-ness.

In spite of present appearances... God is in control

What implications does this have for us (and younger people) living away from our eternal 'home'?

The Book of Daniel is in two parts

- Ch 1-6 narrative history of God's people in Babylon
- Ch 7-12 apocalyptic eternal history (including the future) for God's people

A chapter by chapter summary

Ch 1: The resolve to fear God's kingdom more than any other

Ch 2: God's kingdom will humble all other kingdoms - do not fear

Ch 3: God's deliverance of his faithful (truly fearless) ones

Ch 4: Nebuchadnezzar - Humble yourself before God. Fear God, not man

Ch 5: Belshazzar - Humble yourself before God. Fear God, not man

Ch 6: God's deliverance of his faithful (truly fearless) one

Ch 7: This dream helps God's people to be patient and fearless in waiting for God's deliverance

Ch 8: God will destroy the kingdom opposed to him - do not fear

Ch 9: Daniel's prayerful dependence on God... but the posture of fearless patience will need to continue (maybe for 490 years!)

Ch 10-12: There is FEARLESS HOPE for every generation to come because God's kingdom IS COMING

The Book of Daniel at PYSC

#1	Night Session	Daniel 1		
#2	Morning Session	Daniel 2-4		
			Small Group	Daniel 1-4
#3	Morning Session	Daniel 5-6		
			Small Group	Daniel 5-6
#4	Morning Session	Daniel 7-8		
			Small Group	Daniel 7-8
#5	Morning Session	Daniel 9		
			Small Group	Daniel 9
#6	Morning Session	Daniel 10-12		
			Small Group	Daniel 10-12

Neither the talks nor the studies will try to cover every verse of every chapter. **It will be important that you are familiar with the whole book and the context of every chapter/verse. Avoid reading long sections of the Bible in Small Group time.**

Preparation

Here are some activities that will help you prepare for leading:

1. Listen to and read Daniel several times
 - a. Read one chapter every day from now til camp and you will get through Daniel 3 times
 - b. Listen to Daniel for 15 minutes per weekday from now til camp and you will get through Daniel 5 times
2. Study *BibleProject | Guide To The Book Of Daniel*
3. Read *Fearless | Standing Firm When The Going Gets Tough* by Jonty Allcock
4. Look up all the occurrences of these words in the Bible: What do you notice about them?
 - a. Fear
 - b. Afraid
 - c. Courage & Courageous

Talks and Studies

Intro Talk	How can I stand firm if I'm afraid?	Daniel 1
27 Dec	Night Session	Bible reading
Key verse	But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. (Dan 1:8)	Daniel 1:1-21
Main Idea	Daniel 1 inspires us to fearlessly stand firm with God even when we can't make sense of everything that is going on because we belong to God	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am afraid 2. The fear of Babylon 3. The fear of God 4. My fearless resolve 	

Talk 1	How can I stand firm if Christianity looks so weak?	Daniel 2-4
28 Dec	Morning Session	Bible reading
Key verse	The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of people. (Dan 4:17)	Daniel 3:1-18 Daniel 3:19-30
Main Idea	Daniel 2-4 strengthens us to fearlessly stand firm with God even when other powers seem overbearing because we know God has control over everything	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am the greatest 2. The fear of Babylon 3. The fear of God 4. My fearless strength 	

Small Group 1

1. What is something you have heard or read in Daniel so far that is standing out to you?
2. What questions do you have today?
3. What is one silly fear and one serious fear you have (that you are comfortable sharing with the group)?
4. Skim read ALL of Daniel 1-4 and notice each time it mentions Lord/God doing something (e.g. 1:2; 1:9, 1:17; 2:27-28; 2:44-47...keep going in Ch3 & 4). What does God do? Pairs or triplets could be assigned to each chapter.
5. Choose one of the people who interests you in Daniel 1-4. Because you know what God is doing, what advice (encouragement or rebuke) would you offer them?
6. Why do God's people in Babylon (Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego) make the decisions they do that put them in danger?
7. What 'resolves' have come to your mind that you have made (or need to make) as you stand firm with God?
8. Do you have specific strategies and habits (E.g. prayer, Bible reading, journaling, friend connections, distractions) that help you stay focused on God when you feel afraid and isolated?

Talk 2	How can I stand firm if I am so weak?	Daniel 5-6
29 Dec	Morning Session	Bible reading
Key verse	I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. (Dan 6:26)	Daniel 5:1-12 Daniel 5:13-31
Main Idea	Daniel 5-6 steadies us to fearlessly stand firm with God even when we accept just how weak we are in faith and godliness because we accept that God is our great rescuer	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am a sinner 2. The fear of Babylon 3. The fear of God 4. My fearless salvation 	

Small Group 2

1. What is something you have heard or read in Daniel so far that is standing out to you?
2. What questions do you have today?
3. What is one silly weakness and one serious weakness you have (that you are comfortable sharing with the group)?
4. Skim read ALL of Daniel 5-6 and turn it into a comic strip (butcher's paper; concrete chalk). Divide scenes up among group members. Each scene should have one key theme/moment.
5. Choose one of the people who interests you in Daniel 5-6. Because you know what God is doing, what advice (encouragement or rebuke) would you offer them?
6. Read Daniel 6:10-15. How do these verses contrast the courage of Daniel and the weakness/fear of the king?
7. What does Daniel's rescue reveal about God (6:20-22, 26-27) and about Daniel (6:22-23)?
8. What similarities do you see between Daniel and Jesus? (see 1 Peter 2:21-23)
9. Which of these images could help you stand firm with God in faith and godliness? Why?
 - a. Mirror
 - b. Magnifying glass
 - c. Microscope

Talk 3	How can I stand firm if I am confused?	Daniel 7-8
30 Dec	Morning Session	Bible reading
Key verse	He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Dan 7:14)	Daniel 7:1-14 Daniel 7:15-28
Main Idea	Daniel 7-8 sustains us to fearlessly stand firm with God even when we cannot see the present and the future with clarity because we understand that God's perspective and promise is the basis of our hope	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am so confused 2. The fear of Babylon 3. The fear of God 4. My fearless hope 	

Small Group 3

1. What is something you have heard or read in Daniel so far that is standing out to you?
2. What questions do you have today?
3. What is one silly confusion and one serious confusion you have or have had about God (that you are comfortable sharing with the group)?
4. Read Daniel 7:2-14 and 'outrageously' cartoon these three scenes (divide group in three and take one scene each - the more outrageous your drawing the better):
 - a. v2-8
 - b. v9-12
 - c. v13-14
5. What do the four beasts represent?

A common explanation is that the four beasts represent the Babylonian, Persian, Greek and Roman Empires (which included a standout persecutor of God's people: Antiochus Epiphanes). We should note that the chapter does NOT explicitly say who is represented... because the focus of the chapter is not on the beasts (or identifying the beasts) but on the 'one like a son of man'.
6. What happens after the rise of the fourth beast (v9-10)? What does he do (v11-12)? How is he described (v13-14)?
7. Who does the 'one like a son of man' represent (v18, 26-27; see what Jesus says in Mark 14:60-62)?
8. What does Daniel's vision tell us about the majesty and importance of Jesus?
9. Every worldly power (the 'beasts') looked extremely strange, confusing and threatening for Daniel - and they still do to us today. How should the Book of Daniel affect how we respond to world events, oppressive regimes and ungodly demands today?

Talk 4	How can I stand firm if I don't know what to pray?	Daniel 9
31 Dec	Morning Session	Bible reading
Key verse	I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed: "Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments. (Dan 9:4)	Daniel 9:1-19
Main Idea	Daniel 9 invites us to fearlessly stand firm with God in prayerful dependence on God because he is great and we are not	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I don't know what to P.R.A.Y. 2. P - plans and promises 3. R - reality 4. A - all on God 5. Y - yours is the kingdom, power and glory 6. My fearless prayer 	

Small Group 4

1. What is something you have heard or read in Daniel so far that is standing out to you?
2. What questions do you have today?
3. What is one silly reason and one serious reason that stops you from praying (that you are comfortable sharing with the group)?
4. Write this phrase from The Lord's Prayer on butchers paper. Brainstorm on the paper how this phrase (not as a magic formula, but truths behind it) make all prayer possible, sensible and necessary:

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN
5. Plans & Promises: What do we know about the plans and promises of God in the Bible?
6. Reality: What realities (external and internal) do we find ourselves in that we can entrust to God in prayer?
7. All on God: How does prayer help us rest ALL on God? This does not mean we have nothing to DO. What do we sometimes try to DO instead of resting all on God?
8. Yours is...: Do we ever pray for our own kingdom and glory? What does this sound like (it can be very subtle)? How can we keep our prayers oriented to God's kingdom and glory?
9. What is one thing you want to take away today to grow your prayerful dependence on God?

Talk 5	How can I stand firm if I'm getting tired?	Daniel 10-12
1 Jan	Morning Session	Bible reading
Key verse	Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. (Dan 10:12)	Daniel 11:36-45 Daniel 12:1-13
Main Idea	Daniel 10-12 energises us to fearlessly stand firm with God in eager expectation of the eternal rest God is bringing to our reality	
Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am so tired... let me R.E.S.T. 2. R - real 3. E - everlasting 4. S - soon 5. T - tireless 6. My fearless rest 	

Small Group 5

1. What is something you have heard or read in Daniel so far that is standing out to you?
2. What questions do you have today?
3. What is one silly thing and one serious thing you have said, thought or done because you are tired (that you are comfortable sharing with the group)?
4. When do you find it hard to remain convinced that God is in control and working out his good purposes?
5. What are we repeatedly told through this final vision (Dan 11:27, 29, 35)? How is this a comfort to God's people?
6. We cannot be certain when in history the vision of Daniel 12 refers to. But what is going to happen to God's people (12:2-3)?
7. What have you learned this week that has stood out to you or changed your view about something?
8. How has this week helped you in the resolve you made on the first night to stand firm with God? What other resolves (resolutions) do you want to take into the new year?
9. Take home exercise: Having read and studied the Book of Daniel this week, imagine you are an old believer like Daniel (~80 years old). What would you write down about your life to encourage and challenge others to stand firm with God (write down things that are true already in your short life AND write down what you want to be true in your future)



Policies

Leaders

Section

NEED HELP?

This section is from the Campers Booklet so that you, as a Leader, know what will be in their book and what procedures they have been directed to follow.

The best thing about PY Camp is that we create a short-term community while we are together. It's like a family - we all have a part to play, and we all look out for each other and try to keep each other as safe and as happy as possible. Unfortunately, it doesn't always work out that way. You might be injured or upset but there are always people you can talk to.

If you need help with anything, the single most important thing to do is to **TELL SOMEONE**, and the best person to tell is your Small Group Leader. They are there to help you and listen to you while you are at Camp.

If you can't find your Small Group Leader, or you don't feel comfortable talking to them, you should talk to a Camp Parent.

If you feel sick or are bitten by anything, you should speak to your Small Group Leader or a Camp Parent. They can assess you and might offer basic treatment, such as providing a bandaid, and if they think it's necessary they will call the First Aid person for you.

If you are being bullied or unfairly treated, or you don't feel safe for any reason, speak to your Small Group Leader or a Camp Parent. Even if what is happening is seen as fun by other Campers, Presbyterian Youth will not tolerate these behaviours. You need to talk to your Small Group Leader or a Camp Parent immediately. If the person you speak with tells you "Just don't let it bother you" or "Ignore them and they'll stop", tell a Camp Parent or another Leader. You do not have to deal with bullying or other problems by yourself.

If you see someone else being bullied, sidelined, victimised or unfairly treated, or you don't think they are safe for any reason don't just watch or walk away. Don't join in. Go talk to your Small Group Leader or a Camp Parent immediately. Telling on a bully is not 'dobbing'. Bullies rely on people not telling. If you know that someone is being picked on or hurt, you have a responsibility to tell someone because you are part of the PY family. Please don't be afraid of repercussions, rather, think of the person you are helping.

If you experience unwanted attention by another Camper or Leader hassling you in any way, talk to your Small Group Leader or a Camp Parent about it.

If you accidentally set off a fire alarm, you won't be in trouble. For good reasons, fire alarms in rooms are sensitive and the sooner the alarm is investigated the better for everyone. Tell a Camp Parent immediately so they can get it switched off.

If you break something, don't panic. Accidents happen and the site management can make repairs quickly if they know something needs to be fixed. Just let a Camp Parent know and they will follow it up with the site management.

If you hear a fire alarm, especially at night, move immediately to the assembly areas outside

your building. Leave your belongings behind and, if you are the last one out, close the door.

Camp rules are here to keep everyone safe and help us all have a good time.

- Rooms are out of bounds to the opposite sex
- Camper rooms are out of bounds to leaders, except in an emergency or with permission from the Camp Parents
- No alcohol, smoking, drugs or pornographic material on camp
- Only the Camp Conveners can give permission to leave camp
- Decisions of the Camp Executive are final
- All meetings and activities must be attended
- Mobile phones can only be used during free time unless permission is given by a **Leader**
- Treat other people and their property with respect
- Bullying, victimisation, racism and the like are not tolerated

On the camp application form you agreed to follow the rules. Breaking the rules will have consequences, one of which may well include being sent home.

SERVING ON PY CAMP

The remaining sections are for all leaders on camp.

Over the next few pages you will see the guidelines and policies that we expect you to adhere to - not just while you are volunteering at Camp, but in all areas of your life. These policies are written down for your safety, as well as that of the youth on Camp and the continued ministry of Presbyterian Youth and the Presbyterian Church of NSW.

The most important element in Leading on Camp is your personal relationship with God, through Christ. We cannot lead and encourage others to know God personally if we do not know God this way ourselves. That is why your relationship with God must guide the way you lead, serve, and enjoy your time at Camp. This should not confine this to Camps - your behaviour at Church, when you're with your friends, browsing the Internet or posting on Facebook (or any other social networking site) must be a testament to the God you serve. By volunteering to serve at PY Camps, you are considered a person of authority within the church and you will be held accountable for any breaches in your behaviour.

Leading and Living together on Camp - Holy, Help & Helpful

Be holy. Whatever you do needs to reflect the life of a person striving to be holy in Christ and as one having authority in the Church

Get help. You are not alone. If you are having difficulty with the Campers in your care (such as in your dorm room or Small Group) ask for help. Camp is structured to ensure everyone on Camp is supported in every situation as much as possible.

Be helpful. Adhere to the Camp rules and our Code of Conduct at all times. Co-operate with other members of the Camp team, like Quartermasters, Camp Parents, Activity Leaders. It makes Camp safer, and in general easier.

Leading in Prayer

You may be asked to pray at a variety of times during Camp - before meals or during Sessions. We have to be mindful that we are not only praying to God, but also leading others in prayer and serving them. Remember you are praying on behalf of the whole Camp, so use the plural pronouns 'we' and 'our'. Say short prayers so that everyone can maintain attention. Avoid jargon. Don't switch to an unnatural 'prayer mode'. Use your normal voice and keep a normal posture. Be flexible. Be prepared to give things a go.

For Small Group Leaders

The Small Group Leaders role doesn't start and end with the Small Group time on the programme. Rather, it's through all of Camp - every activity, game, meal, night, day, singing, praying, orderlies and clean up. Being a Leader is a lifestyle. You are at the forefront in helping the Campers have a good time learning about God, themselves and where they stand with Jesus.

Who do I go to for help?

Example: Small Group Leader



Getting to know Campers

Getting to know Campers is a responsibility that we all share, whether we are Small Group Leaders, running Activities or participating in any other role on Camp.

For Small Group Leaders, the Campers in your group are the people that you're most directly responsible for during Camp. It is really important that you establish good relationships with those in your group and that you keep an eye out for them. Here are some guidelines for how to get to know them:

- **Be genuine.** Don't try and behave like a kid if you're in your 20s or 30s; kids appreciate and respond to honesty.
- **Find common interests.** Just like when getting to know anyone else, you can find something you both like (sport, books, funny videos etc). Ask questions to find out what they like doing in their spare time.
- **Give space.** You don't need to hang around the kids all the time. Give them space and remember there is a difference between being lonely and having time to yourself.
- **Look out for those on the outer.** Some kids have a hard time making friends, and getting to know them could make all the difference in the world to their experience on Camp.

It is very important that these guidelines are used wisely. Leaders should never talk to a Camper (of any age) in a closed setting (eg: in a closed-off room with nobody else around). This doesn't mean you can't talk in private but ensure you can be seen by others (ie sitting on the oval or at one end of the hall).

Campers of the opposite sex

It is particularly important to be aware of how you interact with Campers of the opposite sex. If you notice Campers of the opposite sex who are loners or need someone to talk to about personal matters, speak with another Leader of the same sex or ask one of the Camp Parents to look out for them. This doesn't mean you can't build a positive relationship with these kids but just don't do it on your own or in a closed setting. If you don't have a co-Leader of the opposite sex, establish a "buddy system" with another Leader or two so that you can help each other out in these situations. If you need help and don't know what to do, ask the Small Group Conveners, Mentors or Camp Parents.

Physical Affection Policy for PYNSW Camps

This is a policy that relates to people who are in similar positions (Camper to Camper, Leader to Leader) on PYNSW Camps. The PCNSW Child Protection Policy and the PCNSW Code of Conduct should be referred to for all other situations.

PYNSW believes that physical affection outside of marriage should be confined to the biblical standards of brotherly affection. On PYNSW Camps there is an opportunity for Leaders to model appropriate ways of displaying physical affection whether they are friends, dating, engaged or married.

PYNSW believes that dating is to be a pathway to marriage at an appropriate age and will therefore discourage coupling at our Camps. This is in contrast with what the world tells us relationships should and could look like, but we are called to live holy lives, with Jesus as our guide.

Relevant bible passages that inform this policy include:

Romans 13:8-10 - Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore, love is the fulfilment of the law.

Romans 13:13-14 - Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

See also 1 Corinthians 6:18, Ephesians 5:3

On PYNSW Camps, displays of affection should be limited to:

- Touching as you would a brother or sister
- Hand holding/arm linking
- Hugs where your bodies are facing side on, not pressed against one another
- Only fully clothed (no exceptions)

Displays of affection on Camp should never include:

- Kissing
- Contact while partially dressed, such as while in swimmers

- Touching under clothing; Sitting on each other's laps

Participants of PYNSW Camps who are found not to be abiding by these rules will be addressed by Camp leaders and might be referred to the Camp Executive. This will include being asked to change their behaviour but could also require you to be sent home from Camp.

Use of Technology on PYNSW Camps

Technology has become a necessary and core part of much of our modern lives but it needs to be used with wisdom and only at the appropriate times. On PYNSW Camps mobile phones and other technology must not be used in ways that contradict Camp rules, the Presbyterian Church of NSW (PCNSW) Child Protection Policy, the PCNSW Code of Conduct, or that break the law. Links to relevant documents are available on the PYNSW website.

Campers are encouraged to leave these items at home as they can be a distraction and we cannot guarantee they will not be lost or damaged. On PYNSW Camps, mobile phones and other technology are only supposed to be used during free time. These times are usually noted on the Camp Programme, but if in doubt, you can ask a leader. Exceptions to this rule apply if permission has been given by the Camp Executive.

There are a number of Leader roles on Camps that require regular and at times instant communication to ensure the smooth running of Camp and the safety of all participants. This means some leaders will be required to use phones throughout Camp, however leaders are urged to be discrete, so as to not disrupt Camp, and to ensure they are only using their phone in appropriate ways.

God's word tells us in Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This means on PYNSW Camps, we expect all participants to use phones and other technologies, for God's glory and with respect to others.

Any breach of the technology policy will result in disciplinary action by the Camp Executive. Actions taken to resolve issues occurring on Camp may include:

- Disciplinary discussions with the Camp Convener, which might result in the confiscation of technology for the duration of Camp
- Contacting a campers' parents
- Being sent home from Camp
- Contacting the police
- Contacting the Conduct Protocol Unit (CPU) of the Presbyterian Church of NSW

Online Conduct for Leaders

Jesus is Lord over all areas of your life. Jesus sees everything you look at and say on-line. Therefore, everything you do is a reflection on your relationship with Jesus, good and bad. PY expects that Leaders will conduct themselves the same way online as they do in person. As a Leader on a PY camp you are still regarded as a Leader after Camp by the Campers and their parents. Whatever you do needs to reflect the life of a person striving to be holy and as one having authority in the Church.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/esafety-issues/digital-reputation>

Some general pointers to remember about social networking:

- **Don't share too much info.** If you wouldn't say or share something face to face then don't put it online. You might feel anonymous but your digital identity is a lot more visible than you might think.
- **Think before you post.** It is very difficult to remove something once it is online.
- **Friends online are real people.** It is very easy to lie or only show certain parts of yourself online. It is important that you are true and honest.

On-line communications can create intense relational situations because of its ease of access, the comfort of distance and the unobserved nature. A relationship can be developed far more quickly than was possible before on-line communication was common. To avoid getting yourself in an inappropriate situation, you are expected to abide by the following three basic principles when having any type of **conversation with a young person** at camp in person or on-line and after camp:

The **three basic principles** are:

1. Always be in the open – not behind closed doors where you can't be observed by others. This means you should not send private messages or emails to a young person without including others in your conversation.

2. Remember God is listening:

God test – Is this conversation honouring God?

Parent test - If their parents were listening/reading this, would they feel comfortable with this conversation?

3. Don't get in deeper than you can handle – if issues arise that are greater than your ability or experience to deal with refer the young person to others who are better equipped to deal with it. When in doubt pull out and ask for help.

Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat etc

- It is PYNSW's policy that Leaders **do not use Snapchat with Campers.**
- It is ok to accept friend requests or follows from Campers, but it needs to come from them otherwise it can be misinterpreted.
- Do not converse in private spaces with Campers, such as Direct Messages or temporary conversations like Snapchat. Use the wall of the PY Camping page/group.
- All social media communication should be done in ways that are visible and/or known to others.

Text messages/Emails/Phone Calls/Video Chats

- **Be accountable.** Tell a co-Leader or friend that you are conversing with a Camper via SMS or email. Ask the parent's permission to send emails to a Camper.
- **Always copy your co-Leader** in on any emails you send to a Camper. Never use BCC (Blind carbon copy), always use CC (open Carbon Copy).

- Get the parents' permission, where possible, before speaking on the phone or via video.
- Make sure both phone calls and video chats are in public areas where others can see you or are present, e.g. not in your bedroom

Bullying Prevention

For some young people, camp is a marvellous experience where they learn new skills, get to do things that aren't usually available to them, and build confidence in their own abilities to survive in a world without their parents. Unfortunately, other young people, camp is just one more place where their lives are made miserable by bullies. Away from the safety of familiar adults and protective surroundings, young people who are bullied may feel completely cut off from any source of help. At home, a victim of bullying has safety zones – their own home, for instance, or a private place where no one will bother them.

Campers may already be feeling homesick, and have no access to the people to whom they'd usually turn. Removed from their familiar surroundings, the victim of bullying at camp may feel far more isolated and alone than they would have if the same behaviours happened at home.

At the same time, camp may provide a unique opportunity to break the cycle of bullying and instil positive behaviours in its place.

What is bullying?

Bullying is often defined as “repeated acts of emotional, social, or physical behaviour that are used intentionally to control, intimidate, manipulate, or cause harm to another individual”. The dry definition, however, doesn't do justice to the actual act of bullying, nor does it help form a picture of what bullying is and can do. Acts of bullying range from intentionally singling out an individual for exclusion from activities to physical assault. In severe cases, bullying has culminated in the death of the victim of bullying.

Bullying may include many different types of behaviour, but most will fit into one of the following categories:

- **Physical Abuse:** Pinching, poking, pushing, slapping, tripping – physical abuse includes any physical contact that is meant to be harmful, painful or embarrassing.
- **Verbal Harassment:** Name-calling, teasing, snide remarks – any use of words that is meant to embarrass, belittle or hurt another is bullying.
- **Threats and Intimidation:** Threatening another with harm – either physical or emotional – is a form of bullying. Threats need not be verbal – a gesture can be as potent a threat as an explicit, graphic verbal threat.
- **Extortion or stealing:** Demanding, manipulating or stealing money or possessions is bullying.
- **Exclusion:** Deliberate exclusion from a peer group or clique is bullying

Non-bullying behaviour

It is also important to recognise what bullying is not. Examples of non-bullying behaviour:

- Playful teasing where all participants are on equal footing is not bullying.
- Physical fighting where both participants are of equal standing and have 'competing claims' is not bullying.
- Groups of people who choose not to associate with each other by mutual agreement are not bullying each other.

Spotting signs of bullying

The checklists of signs below have been compiled from various sources. The more signs, the more likely it is that there is bullying going on.

The young person:

- is consistently picked on by others;
- has frequent physical injuries, bruises, black eyes and scrapes;
- behaves in an unusually submissive manner – giving away belongings, for example; has a noticeable change in behaviour in relation to another person or people;
- avoids certain areas of the campsite;
- sticks close to leaders in certain contexts, such as during activities or free time or over dinner;
- seems to be ostracised or isolated from the rest of the group;
- is the recipient of name-calling or threats;
- is the recipient of subtle bullying (particularly common to girls) such as eye rolling, snickering when they speak, and deliberate exclusion from social activities; and/or
- is frequently late for activities.

What to do if you see bullying behaviour

When leaders observe a bullying incident or suspect trouble between campers or leaders, they must act immediately. This goes for situations in which verbal bullying or exclusion may be taking place, as well as physical bullying. When leaders see distress on a camper's face, it is imperative that they move into the situation to observe. Leaders who stay back or do not respond consistently set the tone that the negative behaviour will be tolerated.

How to take action –

- **Investigate** if a camper is showing signs of being bullied, e.g. camper sits on their own at meals, always leaves their room last and on their own. Ask what is going on for them at camp.
- **Stop** the person or persons who are doing the bullying – E.g. "That is not an acceptable way to treat people. We expect everyone at camp to be treated with respect and kindness".
- **Warn** the person or persons who are bullying that if they continue to treat others this

way they will be taken to see the camp parents. If they persist further they will likely be sent home by the Camp convener and their parents informed.

- **Check** that the person who is being bullied has someone to talk to (e.g. Small group leader) and is being cared for, e.g. if they feel stressed being in the same dorm room with a bully, talk to logistics to find them another room. Those who are the perpetrators will be cared for by the camp parents.
- **Alert** a relevant camp parent of what has occurred – who, where, what you said to those involved.

Other things to keep in mind:

- Remember that you have authority over the campers. Even though you may only be a year or two older, what you do while you are in charge will have an impact on them.
- Act within your capabilities. If you are struggling with a situation or a camper, seek help immediately from a camp parent, the camp convener or mentor.
- Right from the start of camp, discuss what is and isn't acceptable behaviour. Make sure that campers know that bullying is unacceptable behaviour.
- Do not play favourites with your campers. Kids do notice – and while some might feel excluded, other may use it as a thing to bully another about.
- Keep your eye out for potential bullying victims. Those who are annoying, cry easily or are 'different' are typical victims.
- If you think a young person in your care needs some extra help with social skills – whether because they are a bully or a victim – discuss what you can do with camp parents, your mentor or the Child Protection Officer.
- Spend time with kids who may be annoying or challenging.
- Let kids know that they will be safe if they report bullying. Under no circumstances reveal who it was that “dobbled”.

Aggressive behaviour

If aggressive behaviour is observed, leaders should separate the campers and provide “de-escalation” time. If you are a small group leader it will be best to call a camp parent or your mentor to take the campers involved through a de-escalation time, so it doesn't take your focus off the rest of your group.

During this “de-escalation” time, campers may be given some time to reflect on their behaviour. You can ask them to reflect upon their behaviour using “I” statements and not get into the “blame game.” It is not important who started a situation, but to focus on the personal responsibility of the camper who crossed the line either to antagonise or even to retaliate. Have campers describe what they did wrong in their own words, and what they can do to make reparations. Campers may return to an activity when the emotional reaction has dissipated and there is some ownership of what they did to cause their loss of “fun.”

Creating a non-bullying environment at camp

Bullying cannot survive in an environment that doesn't support it. No matter what reason people have for bullying, when there is no reward for it and when other more appropriate behaviours are

rewarded, the bullying will decrease dramatically. Here are some steps to reduce bullying.

1. Increase supervision in areas where there is unstructured play and interaction. Bullying is most likely to happen in outside areas, in the dining room, in spaces between activities, in bathrooms and in dorm rooms – all areas where there is little adult supervision. One of the first and most important things you can do to start making a dent in bullying is to increase supervision in those areas.

Trust your instincts. If something ‘feels’ like bullying, there’s a good chance it is.

Watch for ‘pack’ behaviour as young people often take their cues on how to behave from one person or one group of campers.

Keep your eyes and ears OPEN to what they are hearing or seeing. Most young people report that bullying and taunting takes place in front of leaders and goes unnoticed. Be aware of the signs of bullying.

2. Role modelling appropriate behaviour sets the tone for the camp. Leaders by their reaction to bullying and the way they treat each other and campers, models what is expected from campers.

Be a good role model for campers in how you speak and act towards them and others.

Be a good role model for bullying intervention as well; step in immediately and calmly when you see a bullying situation. Do not react with anger or attempt to shame. Simply state that the unacceptable behaviour stops immediately. Intervene to stop bullying IMMEDIATELY when you see it happening. Even if young people in the group assure you that no one is getting hurt or being made fun of, remind them that it’s against the rules, and won’t be tolerated.

3. Consistency and consequences are the keys to creating an atmosphere of trust and respect, and in turn an atmosphere that discourages bullying. The most effective way to head off bullying at camp is to train every single leader at camp to recognise and counteract bullying behaviour the moment that they see it. There must be a clear system of warnings and consequences for unacceptable behaviour, and all leaders must be aware of the system and must administer it consistently.
4. Guarantee the anonymity of anyone who reports bullying. In addition, you must also guarantee that you WILL take all reports seriously and investigate them.

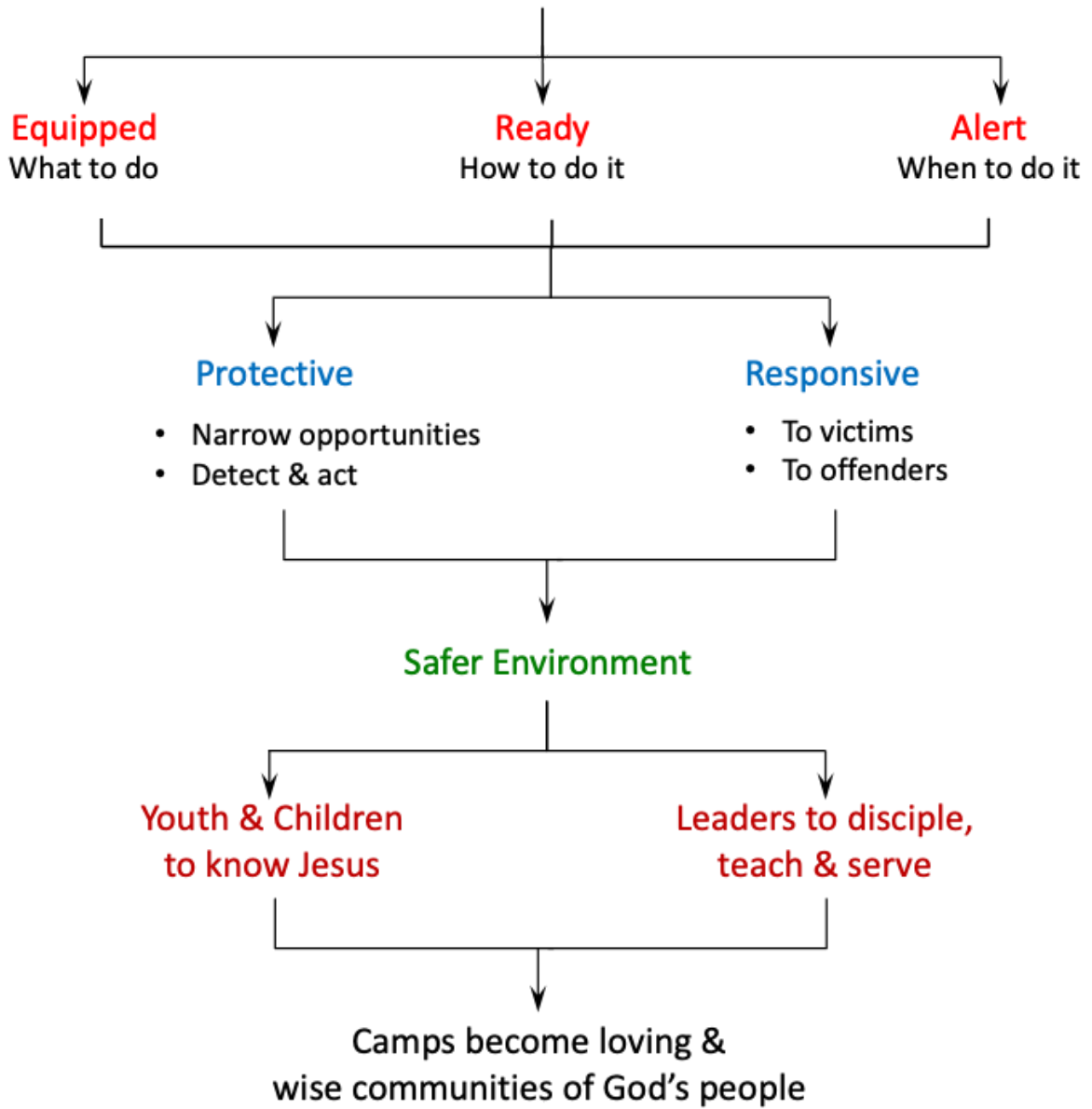
Leaders can be bullied too

Leaders need to understand that campers sometimes bully them. Camp leaders are more likely to report incidents to leadership if they don’t fear humiliation and embarrassment of losing control of their campers. Campers will test leaders. Leaders need to feel supported by other leaders who may have experienced the same thing and/or who are nonjudgmental to help problem solve when these situations arise. If you are experiencing such a situation talk to your Team Leader, your mentor or a trusted fellow leader.

Bullying among leaders

Sometimes there can be bullying behaviour among leaders. Some leaders may accept this behaviour as part of interacting with each other to fit in, but behind the scenes, these behaviours may create unhappiness and distress. Bullying among leaders is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any concerns should be raised immediately with the camp conveners.

Camps aim to be loving & wise communities of God's people



Child Protection

At PY camps we are seeking to be a loving and wise community of God's people. Part of being this community is to provide an environment where both leaders and young people can learn, love and serve God safely - physically, emotionally and spiritually. As leaders we have been given enormous trust to disciple and care for the young people at camp. At PY we take this responsibility very seriously. Therefore, we want our leaders to be equipped, ready and alert to ensure everyone knows how to protect and respond to all those who are at camp.

Being **equipped** means we

- know what are our boundaries in relating to young people,
- have the appropriate government & church certification to serve,
- understand and abide by the Code of Conduct,
- know how to prevent unsafe situations arising and
- the procedure for reporting abuse or disclosure of abuse.

Being **ready** means we know

- how to respond to behaviour by leaders or campers that makes others feel unsafe
- how to conduct relationships with campers and our fellow leaders that is transparent and respects their personal boundaries
- how to respond to someone who discloses abuse to us or makes an allegation

Being **alert** means we know

- when to step in and stop a situation that is or could lead to people feeling unsafe
- when it is appropriate to report to or refer concerns to the PY Child Protection Officer

Caring for Campers who Disclose Abuse

A good camp environment will produce a sense of community and build trust between Leaders and Campers, which will give youth confidence to share personal things in their lives. Sometimes at a camp a topic might be discussed in a Small Group, question time or comments made in a talk or seminar, which could remind a Camper of abuse they experienced. As a Leader you need to be aware of how these things could affect the Camper and the other people in your group.

Keep an eye out for anyone who becomes suddenly withdrawn, agitated, distressed or shows other unusual or uncharacteristic behaviour when challenging topics (sexual, family, bullying etc) are raised. Do not directly confront a person but keep a close eye on them, ask if they are OK and would they like to talk to someone. It is important that information gets passed onto the Child Protection Officer (CPO), so **it is essential you do not promise to keep anything a secret**. Remember you have plenty of support on Camp from the CPO, your Mentor and Team Leader. Being exposed to disclosures can be difficult.

You must tell the CPO if you become aware of:

- any fact, circumstance, allegation, notification, knowledge of, verbal advice of, direct or indirect connection to, or attempt of abuse,
- all allegations or complaints, that identify someone who is currently or has been a member of the church, someone who is currently or has been a person in a position of authority within the church, a current or ex-employee, a current or ex-Camper, a current or ex-volunteer and/or a current or ex-third party.

Abuse is a broad term and you can find definitions of these terms in your Code of Conduct. For the purposes of PYNSW, abuse includes:

- child abuse
- risk of significant harm,
- sexual misconduct, and/or
- conduct that breaches the PYNSW Code of Conduct.

If a Camper decides to disclose to you they have experienced abuse, they are doing something very important, and they have decided they feel safe including you. It is very important that you follow these 5 steps instructions:

1. **Listen.** Don't put words in their mouth or add anything.
2. **Get the gist.** Obtain appropriate information so that you know what is being alleged and who is involved without probing too deeply.
3. **Ask what you can do to make the Camper feel safe.** If it is about a situation on Camp, take action to make sure they aren't at current risk of harm.
4. **Explain what will happen next.** Explain that it cannot be kept a secret. Assure them that it will be kept in strict confidence but you need to talk to the CPO on Camp
5. Leave them with a trusted friend (Camper or other Leader) and tell them you will come back **Report to the Child Protection Officer.** You can find their number in the back of the book and you should call them as soon as the conversation is finished and you

have followed the previous steps.

What do I actually say?

When a Camper makes a disclosure they are usually distressed in some way. The more recent the abuse and/or the younger they are the more distressed they are likely to be. It is really important to respond appropriately and with care. **They could show one or more of the following – anxiety, physical agitation, crying, withdrawal, anger (etc).**

It is extremely important for you to:

- **Stay calm and listen.** Don't rush them and don't answer for them. Let them take their time and tell you their version of things before you report to the CPO. If you require assistance you should ask another Leader to contact the CPO and/or your Mentor.
- Don't be afraid to **show how you feel:** "I'm really sorry this has happened to you"
"I wish I could have been there for you"; "I think you have been brave to tell me this";
"I can see you have suffered a lot"; "It makes me so sad/angry that someone could do that to you"
- **Explain things** by saying:
"This is a really important thing you are telling me and we need some help. I need to talk with someone at camp about this to get some help. I will be very discrete when I do so."
- **Keep reassuring them** by saying: "What you have experienced is a terrible thing and you are not alone" "You are doing the right thing in telling me this" "You will be helped through this one step at a time" "It's not your fault"

What happens when I tell the CPO?

When a person at camp reports a disclosure of abuse, the Child Protection Officer (CPO) will interview the Camper and Leader together in private as soon as possible to determine whether a report to CPU needs to be made and the immediate issues for the child or young person, such as their feeling of personal safety at Camp, level of emotional distress and their personal safety on returning home after Camp. The CPO will then take appropriate action.

Pornography Prohibited on Camp

Pornographic material, depiction of sexual behaviour in words or pictures, in either electronic or hard copy form, is prohibited at camp. This applies to leaders and campers. **If you become aware** or are suspicious someone has such material on camp, irrespective whether they are sharing it with others or not, **report it to one of the following – a camp parent, conveners or the CPO.** These people have special instructions as to what to do in such cases. Do not report it to any other person or discuss it with other leaders. **DO NOT** confront the person yourself or view the material. This is to protect you and the person involved.

QUICK GUIDE

CHILD PROTECTION Reportable conduct is:

- Any sexual offence or sexual misconduct, committed against, with or in the presence of a child or young person, including a child pornography offence.
- Any assault, ill treatment or neglect of a child or young person.
- Any behaviour that causes psychological harm to a child or young person.
- The above applies whether or not actions take place with the consent of the child or young person. This includes emotional, physical, sexual abuse, neglect and domestic violence.

Child Protection Procedures at PY Camps in the case of a disclosure:

1. Listen, listen, listen.
2. Get the gist of the allegation. Do not probe too deeply, do not add anything.
3. Make sure the person feels safe at Camp.
4. Explain that you and they need help in knowing what to do, that in confidence you need to talk to someone at Camp who knows what to do.
5. Report it directly to the CPO. Do not report via another Leader.

PY CRITICAL INCIDENT/ EMERGENCY PLAN & IMPORTANT NUMBERS

The first Leader at the site should:

- Contact First Aid person if necessary
- Where necessary, contact emergency services immediately
- Isolate casualty, stabilise and manage trauma
- Contact Camp Convener
- Reduce further risks to Campers/Leaders
- Provide care, manage shock and trauma in others
- Comprehensively brief the Camp Convener on all aspects related to the emergency or critical incident at the earliest opportunity
- Write up a report as soon as possible

Other Leaders:

- Where necessary, implement change to programme
- Attend incident briefing
- Be alert for shock, gossip and wider trauma
- Redirect external calls about event to Camp Convener
- Direct all media to Camp Conveners

Important numbers will be provided in the Camp Booklet

Questions? camps@pynsw.org.au

How was today?

