

# Talk the Walk and Walk the Talk

*Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8*

## Discover the Context Micah 6:1-8

 What makes camp such a powerful force in impacting lives for Christ? What are the most important aspects of camp ministry that God uses to change lives? What role do you play in making your camp effective in reaching youth with the gospel?

 Campers will not always remember the devotions you shared. They may not remember the chapel services no matter how engaging your speaker is. But campers will remember the counselors and staff who loved them. Your interaction during the daily life of camp is a powerful tool that points people to Jesus.

 “There is a language in actions. And in some cases the language of action is much more clear and convincing than words.”  
~ Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

Often we get caught in the trap of thinking we are pleasing God by the mere fact that we are serving at camp. Granted, it's a tremendous sacrifice committing your entire summer or even a few weeks. You may be giving up a lot: personal time, more lucrative opportunities, chilling with friends, family, sleep, etc.

But does the Lord want your sacrifice or your obedience (Micah 6:6-7)? What does he require of you? What does it take to really please God?

God does not want us to just perform insipid religious sacrifice. He wants us to walk intimately with him while demonstrating justice, mercy, and humility to campers and staff around us. How can we exhibit these qualities in a manner that is consistent with our faith? We need to look to the author and perfecter of that very faith, the Lord Jesus Christ.

When working with campers there will always be those who are easy to love along with the more challenging ones. Jesus encountered the same types of people and left us many examples to follow. When they hurled insults at him, he did not lash out at them; he trusted God (1 Peter 2:23). He acted justly even in the most difficult of circumstances.

Whether the crowd was big or small, Jesus was moved with mercy and compassion for them, and he served accordingly (Mark 1:41; 6:34; Luke 7:13). Do not pass up the opportunity to demonstrate his mercy to one camper or the whole camp.

Also Jesus walked humbly and obediently with his Father, even to the point of death (Luke 22:42; Philippians 2:8). Think of how much easier camp life is compared to what Jesus faced.

You will not be able to perfectly walk the talk. Only Jesus could do that. But you can look to him in faith and pursue him. From the overflow of your relationship with Christ you will extend his justice, mercy, and humility to many needy hearts. Make your summer count, talking and walking. (JVF)