

# UPWARD BOUND

## Base Camp Assemblies Manual

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“...at the name of Jesus  
every knee should  
bow...and every  
tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ  
is Lord to  
the glory of  
God the Father.”

Philippians 2:10–11





# INTRODUCTION

Upward Bound's Base Camp Assemblies scripts "do it all" for you! Full of energy and fun, these light-hearted yet meaningful skits and select songs coordinate every element of each Upward Bound assembly with easy-to-follow directions.

The scripts:

- move quickly
- lead your VBS Backpackers through each assembly's activities
- parallel the daily Gospel presentation
- reinforce Upward Bound's profound truths through each day

Upward Bound's skits are almost entirely scripted to show churches, particularly those new to Reachout, what a thoroughly engaging VBS can look like. *Feel free to use your own words*, or adapt these lines for your own situation; merely view them as a guide in preparing your own dialog.

Your cast characters may decide to memorize their lines, or choose to creatively read or ad-lib more casually with script in hand. (Italics guide the flow of dialog.) Either way is fine. What matters is that your cast is outgoing, animated, and fun! May your Upward Bound Assemblies be fun and joyful, and have significant impact on the hearts of your young Backpackers.

## Essential Upward Bound Lingo

Assistant Guide.....	<i>Classroom Teacher Assistant</i>
Backpackers .....	<i>Children</i>
Base Camp .....	<i>Assembly Room</i>
Breaking Camp .....	<i>Daily Closing Assembly</i>
Crossover to Life .....	<i>Gospel Presentation</i>
Expedition.....	<i>Grade Group</i>
Gospel Guide .....	<i>Crossover to Life Gospel Presenter</i>
Guide .....	<i>Classroom Teacher</i>
Outpost .....	<i>Classroom</i>
Setting Up Camp .....	<i>Daily Opening Assembly</i>
Song Guide .....	<i>Song Leader</i>
Summit Celebration.....	<i>Final Closing Program</i>
Trail Guide .....	<i>Director and/or Base Camp MC</i>
Trail Instructions .....	<i>Announcements</i>

## Skit Cast Main Roles

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb/Katie  
Collin/Kolleen  
Spot

## Summit Celebration

Pastor  
Skit Cast  
Bible Lesson Storytellers

- Simon of Cyrene
- Mary (Jesus' mother)
- Mary Magdalene



## Skit Copies

With the purchase of this manual, up to 9 photocopies may be made for use by cast members.



### **Assemblies Assistance**

If you have any questions, please call us toll-free at 1-866-468-2772.

### **Crossover to Life Gospel Presentation**

These scripts assume that the Gospel Guide is presenting Crossover to Life during Setting Up Camp. If you move this to Breaking Camp, adjust the scripts accordingly.

### **Singing**

Theme-related songs interspersed throughout the scripts are a key element of every Upward Bound assembly:

- Songs relate to the day's Bible lesson and Crossover to Life Gospel presentation wherever possible.
- Song Guide reinforces these common themes when introducing the songs.
- Each song is introduced within the first few days so the Backpackers will know all the music by week's end.

### **Summit Celebration Invitations**

Confer with VBS Director if invitations will be printed to be distributed as the children leave after Day 3. This is included in the final closing announcements for that day.

### **Base Camp Assemblies At a Glance**

The final pages of this book provide a helpful chronological outline to give you a "bird's-eye view" of each assembly's activities.

# STORYLINE, CAST, AND COSTUMES

## STORYLINE

Accompanied by the antics of Spot, the good-natured camp dog, two siblings arrive at camp as Assistant Trail Guides with radically different attitudes. Caleb/Katie has a cheerful, obedient “Upward Bound Attitude”; Collin/Kolleen complains and misbehaves every step of his/her “Earthly Bound” way. Ignoring camp rules and all godly (Upward Bound) advice, Collin wreaks havoc (and causes Caleb and Spot to stumble spiritually and literally, respectively) until Collin’s misadventures finally catch up with him. Humbled, Collin begins to see the folly of his ways and eventually becomes Upward Bound with a changed heart. A bulleted outline of the daily plot is provided on the first page of each day’s script.

## SKIT CAST

**Trail Guide** VBS Director or other staff member serving as Master of Ceremonies

**Song Guide** Song leader

**Caleb/Katie** (Assistant Trail Guide) Solid Christian camper with a servant’s heart and an Upward Bound Attitude; Collin/Kolleen’s sibling

**Collin/Kolleen** (Assistant Trail Guide) Disgruntled, non-Christian camper with an Earthly Bound Attitude who becomes a Christian later in the week; Caleb/Katie’s sibling

**Spot** Upward Bound’s friendly, playful dog

## COSTUMES

**Trail and Song Guides** T-Shirt or short-sleeved khaki shirt; hiking shorts; knee socks and hiking boots; scout-type scarf; forest ranger hat; whistle

**Caleb/Katie** Similar to Trail Guide’s costume but with a different color scarf, shirt, and/or hat

**Collin/Kolleen** Similar to Trail Guide and Caleb, varying colors where possible except for:

- *Day 1, Setting Up Camp*: “just-out-of-bed” attire (pajamas, towel, toothbrush; messy hair)
- *Day 1, Breaking Camp*: swimsuit, T-Shirt, beach towel
- *Day 2, Breaking Camp*: leaves/pine needles in hair, dirt on face, clothes unkempt, wet

**Spot** Full-size dog costume with collar plus:

- *Day 1*: shower/bathing cap, swimming tube, beach towel
- *Day 5*: swimming tube, beach towel



### Top Secret!

Keep the identity of the actor in Spot’s costume secret until the end of your Summit Celebration.

# SET AND PROPS



## Base Camp Gear

### Campsite Set

- ☐ Trees (artificial Christmas trees)
- ☐ Potted plants
- ☐ Stuffed forest animals, birds
- ☐ "Campfire"
- ☐ Large rocks
- ☐ Camping Gear
  - tent
  - sleeping bags
  - backpacks
  - folding camp chairs, table
  - camp stove
  - coffee pot and dishes
  - cooler
  - lantern
  - hiking boots



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## Additional Props

### Day 1

- ☐ Empty pop cans and food wrappers
- ☐ Trail Guide's backpack
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Trail Log
- ☐ Caleb: firewood
- ☐ Spot: bundle of sticks tied to "paw"
- ☐ Caleb: torn backpack
- ☐ Collin: pajamas, towel, toothbrush
- ☐ Collin: wet swimsuit, T-Shirt, damp towel
- ☐ Spot: beach towel, shower/bathing cap, swimming tube
- ☐ Large stuffed bear

### Day 2

- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Caleb: backpack (repaired) with gear, Bible
- ☐ Collin: backpack with gear, Bible
- ☐ Caleb: rocks
- ☐ Collin: walking stick, leaves and/or pine needles in hair; dirt on face; unkempt dirty, wet clothes
- ☐ Spot: toothpick "thorn" in paw

### Day 3

- ☐ Collin: crutches, ace bandage
- ☐ Caleb: 2 backpacks
- ☐ Spot: firewood
- ☐ Caleb: comic book/handheld electronic game
- ☐ Collin: foam ball

### Day 4

- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Collin: Bible

### Day 5

- ☐ "Packed" duffel bags
- ☐ 2 backpacks
- ☐ Spot: beach towel, swimming tube



## Skit Prop Summary

- ☐ Food wrappers
- ☐ 3 backpacks
- ☐ Trail Log
- ☐ 3 Bibles
- ☐ Firewood
- ☐ Bundle of small sticks
- ☐ 1 torn backpack
- ☐ Pajamas
- ☐ Towel
- ☐ Toothbrush
- ☐ Swimsuit
- ☐ Beach towel
- ☐ Shower/bathing cap

- ☐ Swimming tube
- ☐ Large stuffed bear
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Rocks
- ☐ Walking stick
- ☐ Leaves and/or pine needles; dirt
- ☐ Toothpick
- ☐ Crutches
- ☐ Ace bandage
- ☐ Comic book/handheld electronic game
- ☐ Foam ball
- ☐ "Packed" duffel bags



# DAY 1

## Cast

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

## Setting Up Camp Props

- Base Camp Gear
- Empty pop cans
- Food wrappers
- Trail Guide: backpack, Bible, Trail Log
- Caleb: firewood
- Spot: bundle of sticks tied to his “paw”
- Caleb: torn backpack
- Collin: pajamas, towel, toothbrush

## Setting Up Camp Plot Summary

- Collin sleeps in while others search for him; eventually emerges from tent in pajamas
- Boys argue about Collin’s sandwich in Caleb’s torn backpack
- Collin has an “Earthly Bound Attitude”

## SETTING UP CAMP

**Trail and Song Guides** are at front. The campsite has empty pop cans and food wrappers strewn behind the trees.

**Song Guide** Upward Bound March, “Upward Bound”

### Welcome

**Trail Guide** Good morning, Backpackers! (*waits for response which is never loud enough*) I can hardly hear you! Out here in the woods, voices just vanish like the morning mist! Let’s try it again. Good morning, Backpackers! (*louder than the first time*) That was a whole lot better, but if you holler loud enough, we might be able to hear the echo off f the mountain! GOOD MORNING, BACKPACKERS! (*response*) Wow! Now that’s loud enough to cause an avalanche at the Summit! Welcome to Upward Bound!

**Trail Guide** I’m Trail Guide \_\_\_\_\_. How many of you know why I’ve been calling all you kids at a Vacation Bible School “Backpackers”? Because we’re going on an awesome hiking adventure this week at Upward Bound! We’re going to learn how to climb to the Summit, the very top, of a very *special* mountain!

Don’t worry if you don’t have hiking boots and bug spray, because we’re not going climbing in the great outdoors. At Upward Bound, we’re going climbing in the “great indoors!” We’re going to hike to the top of this mountain, and it’s going to be really fun and exciting! Are you up for fun? Yell and clap if you want lots of fun! (*response*) Do you want some excitement? Then stomp your feet! (*response*) Who wants to meet cool travelers from faraway places, and maybe a wild animal or two? Hoot like an owl if that sounds good! (*response*) Great! I love your adventurous spirit!

Sometimes at VBS you’ll work on your own, other times you’ll work together as we hike to the top. In some places the path will be smooth and easy, other places it can be rugged and challenging! (*mimics straining uphill*) But do we have to worry or be afraid on our adventure? Everyone say a big, loud “No!” Do you know why? Because we’re following (*really enthusiastically*) the best Guide in the whole world! God’s Son, Jesus Christ, is our Lead Guide! Who’s our Lead Guide? Yes! We’re going to follow Jesus, and He’s going to give us everything we need for our Upward Bound journey! Do you think Jesus will get us lost? No way! Jesus already climbed to the Summit ahead of us, and He’s given us a Guidebook to help us to follow in His footsteps. If we follow Jesus closely, are we going to make it to the top? You bet!

One of the great things we’re going to do a lot of on our way to the Summit is singing. Song Guide \_\_\_\_\_ is going to teach us one of our Upward Bound songs all about our Lead Guide Jesus right now!

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## Song Guide “Jesus, Jesus”

### Introducing Expeditions, Guides

**Trail Guide** As you head to the Summit, you’ll work together as *Expeditions*—by grade groups (*introduces Expeditions A–D, each standing to cheers and applause*). And like every great climbing expedition, we have experienced Guides! (**Guides, Assistant Guides** stand; *cheers and applause*)

### Introducing the Missions Project Offering

**Trail Guide** Backpackers, I have a special project to introduce us to:

- *Explain VBS Missions Project, including goal you hope to reach*
- *Use a video or other visual aids to create enthusiasm for the project*
- *Encourage the children to bring offering money each day*
- *Use a creative display at front to mark progress towards goal*

**Trail Guide** chooses four volunteers from different Expeditions to pass the offering plates; **Backpackers** sing during offering.

## Song Guide

Let’s sing “Jesus, Jesus” again so we can really begin to learn it.

After offering, **Caleb** and **Spot** enter. **Caleb’s** arms overflow with firewood. **Spot** drags a small bundle of bound sticks tied to his paw.

**Trail Guide** Look, Backpackers! Here comes our camp dog, Spot, and my Assistant Trail Guide Caleb! Hi, you two! Great to see you! Here, let me give you a hand.

**Trail Guide** takes some wood from Caleb, sets it by campfire. **Caleb** deposits the rest, unties Spot’s bundle. **Spot** then sniffs around, ends up hanging around tent.

**Trail Guide** Looks like you and Assistant Trail Guide Collin found plenty of wood. Say, where *is* your brother?

**Caleb** I don’t know, Trail Guide. I haven’t seen Collin all morning. I waited for him at the lake for 20 minutes before Spot and I went to gather the wood ourselves. Maybe he’s laying low because of *this*. (*holds up torn backpack*)

**Trail Guide** What in the world happened to your backpack?

**Caleb** I think you’d better ask Collin that, Trail Guide—if we ever find him, that is.

**Trail Guide** Backpackers, I think we need your help to find Assistant Trail Guide Collin! On the count of three, you Backpackers yell, “Assistant Trail Guide Collin!” then listen real carefully! 1...2...3...ASSISTANT TRAIL GUIDE COLLIN!

**Trail Guide** hushes Backpackers; inside the tent, a just-waking **Collin** noisily yawns, groans, stretches and pokes side of tent, etc.

**Caleb** Where'd that noise come from?

**Trail Guide** I don't know. (*Spot, unnoticed by the other two, points nose toward tent*) Let's call him again. 1...2...3... "ASSISTANT TRAIL GUIDE COLLIN!" (*Collin makes more noise; Spot points toward tent exaggeratedly; is still unnoticed*) Well, I don't know where he could be! I guess we'll have to look for him, Caleb.

**Trail Guide** and **Caleb** look under, behind trees, etc. **Spot** can bear it no more; pulls on Caleb's shirt as **Collin** silently appears behind Caleb with messy hair, pajamas, towel, and toothbrush in hand, ready to hit the showers; **Caleb** doesn't see him. **Spot** does, however, and goes wild trying to get Caleb to turn around. **Trail Guide** is still looking around the other side of the campsite.

**Caleb** Calm down, Spot! Are you smelling a skunk nearby, huh? Me, too. Hey, sit, Spot! (*Spot sits*) Good boy!

**Caleb** pats Spot, looks around for skunk, jumps when he sees Collin. **Trail Guide** heads toward them.

**Collin** (*grins at startling Caleb*) Mornin', bro. What's all the hollerin' about?

**Caleb** We've been looking for you! (*tries to be patient*)

**Trail Guide** And I have some questions for both of you. I found a big mess behind the trees over there that somebody didn't clean up this morning. And Caleb's backpack is all torn. Can someone tell me what happened?

**Collin** It's not my fault, no matter what he says.

**Caleb** That's not true! You know that's not true!

**Collin** Is so!

**Caleb** Is not!

**Collin** Is!

**Caleb** Not!

**Trail Guide** (*interrupting*) Boys, stop...please!

**Collin** (*not as loud, but still wanting the last word*) Is!

**Trail Guide** Collin, you go first. What happened?

**Collin** A bear ripped up Caleb's backpack last night and messed up the campsite, and Caleb somehow thinks it's *my* fault!

**Trail Guide** A bear? Caleb, what makes you think it was Collin's fault a bear tore up your backpack?

**Caleb** Because Collin left his smelly bologna and tuna sandwich in...

**Collin** (*interrupts*) You forgot the peanut butter and cabbage jelly.

**Caleb** (*makes disgusted face*) Collin left his bologna and tuna with peanut butter and cabbage jelly sandwich in *my* backpack over night! When I woke up, my pack was shredded and my stuff was all over creation! I told Collin, you can't leave food out when you camp! Especially his stinky sandwiches; animals can smell those a mile away!

**Collin's roving eyes and exaggerated look of innocence make it clear that Caleb is telling the truth.**

**Trail Guide** Collin, we were very clear about putting food away so that you don't invite unwanted guests—namely bears—into camp. And what was your bologna—and tuna?—sandwich doing in your brother's backpack?

**Collin** (*proudly*) I made my sandwich right after dinner so I could eat it on the hike today. Always be prepared, right? And I put it in Caleb's backpack because obviously I didn't want a bear to get into *mine*!

**Collin, pleased at having "rested his case," folds arms, smiles, nods head. Spot covers his ears and shakes head in disbelief.**

**Trail Guide** (*shocked*) Collin, you didn't! That was a pretty unkind thing to do to Caleb! And someone could have gotten badly hurt! As it is, your actions almost ruined our beautiful campsite. I'm afraid you've just earned yourself the job of getting this campsite cleaned up! (*Collin grimaces*) I want you to understand this isn't just about learning to store camp food properly. Hopefully you'll use the time to think about how harmful your negative choices can be for you and others. Why don't you head to the showers before we all faint from your (*ahem*) fragrance! Then you need to start cleaning up this campsite.

**Boys exit, Collin trailing behind Caleb, mumbling under his breath.**

## Introducing Trail Instructions, Prayer

**Trail Guide** I think maybe Collin needs some attitude adjustment and a change of heart. Would you agree, Backpackers? I'll be praying for him for sure! But now it's time for you to hit the trail! Today we begin our climb as we "Map the Route" of the greatest journey ever made—the journey Jesus took to save His people! Before we sing, let's ask God to guide us through our day. (*prays*)

## Breaking Camp Props

- Collin: wet swim trunks and T-Shirt, damp towel
- Spot: beach towel, shower/bathing cap, swimming tube
- Large stuffed bear

## Breaking Camp Plot Summary

- Collin skips clean up, goes swimming with Spot
- Bear shows up

## Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

### Song Guide “Upward Bound”

## BREAKING CAMP

**Backpackers** hike in singing, take seats.

### Song Guide “Upward Bound”

**Trail Guide** and **Caleb** enter from back just as last song is ending.

**Trail Guide** That was great singing, Backpackers!

**Caleb** We could hear you all the way down the trail!

**Song Guide** I wouldn’t be surprised if the angels could hear them, all the way up in Heaven! Come to think of it, Backpackers, I think you sing like angels!

**Caleb** (*enthusiastically*) Angels? Hey, that’s just what I was telling Trail Guide about—when the angel Gabriel came to visit here today! He made the whole “baby in the manger” story so much more real to me—and so amazing! Think of it! God actually sent a real angel down from Heaven...to a teenager on planet Earth... to tell her that God’s Son Jesus is about to leave His home in Heaven and become her son! Just think of it—God actually becoming a *baby*—an actual newborn baby who was born in a stable!

**Trail Guide** You’re right, Caleb. It’s an amazing thing, and we’re going to learn a whole lot more about our awesome Lead Guide Jesus this week! And speaking of learning, I hear from your Guides you’ve done a terrific job at learning your Bible verses, Backpackers. Hiding God’s Word in your heart is one of the greatest things you can do on the trail of life, and a *must* to be well-equipped Upward Bound Backpackers!

### Song Guide “Toward the Summit”

**Trail Guide** Great job, Backpackers! By the way, where’s Collin been? For that matter, where’s Spot? And now that I think about it, I didn’t have a chance to check whether Collin got the campsite cleaned up. (*goes to check behind tree*)

**Trail Guide** (*hands on hips, eyes sweeping the site with dismay*) Talk about messy places! This place *still* looks like a disaster! Caleb, we’d better get this place cleaned up before we have another problem with that bear!

**Caleb, Trail Guide** clean busily as **Collin, Spot** enter; neither pair notices the other

at first. **Collin** walks in backwards, talking to Spot. Collin and Spot obviously have been swimming: Collin's hair, swim trunks, T-Shirt are wet; towel (slung over his shoulder) is damp; Spot has beach towel around waist, shower/bathing cap, swimming tube.

**Collin** Wow, that water felt great! You know, Spot, I really like doing only what I want to do. How about you? (*Spot looks guilty*) Just think, while everyone else was hard at work, we napped, swam in the lake, threw pine cones at the squirr...(stops abruptly, noticing a frowning **Trail Guide** and **Caleb** who have stopped cleaning and have been listening to Collin)

**Trail Guide** There you two are! I was going to ask if you'd seen what happened to all your hard work here, but I see that's the wrong question! You never cleaned this up, did you?

**Collin** I was just...I tried to get things done today, but...Spot...Spot made me take him to the lake and ...he's the one who trashed the campsite! (*Spot protests*)

**Trail Guide** Really? Then why did you just say, "You know, Spot, I really like doing only what I want to do"?

**Caleb** Busted!

**Trail Guide** Caleb, hush. Collin, you need to do what you're told. We have chores and rules here for a good reason. I can't stress enough how important it is to keep camp clean, the way it was meant to be in the first place.

**Collin** But I hate cleaning up.

**Trail Guide** We don't always like doing what we have to do. We need God to give us an Upward Bound Attitude.

**Collin** (*aside to Spot*) I'm not so bad. And leaving a little food out isn't going to get us in trouble with bears. Bears keep to themselves—they're afraid of people!

A **bear**, visible only to the Backpackers, appears lurking among the trees behind the unaware cast; **Spot** starts sniffing the air.

**Caleb** Spot, are you okay? What do you smell?

The **bear** "sees" Spot and disappears; with the scent gone, **Spot** shrugs like it must have been his imagination.

**Trail Guide** (*looks at watch*) Caleb, time to start on your afternoon chores. Collin and Spot, you two go get supplies to clean this mess up—and please don't get side-tracked!

**Collin, Caleb, Spot** exit.

**Trail Guide** I don't think Collin understands yet what an Upward Bound Attitude is, do you? I'll keep him in my prayers...God can help him understand that an Upward Bound attitude is having the same attitude as Christ.

**Trail Guide** What a great group of Backpackers you all are! I'm really looking forward to the week ahead! Song Guide, let's sing one more song before our Trail Instructions. This song will help us all learn what an Upward Bound Attitude is.

**Song Guide** "The Philippians Prayer"

## Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer

### Trail Guide

#### **General Announcements:**

*Give important reminders—*

- *read Bible Expo each morning before Upward Bound (importance of daily time in God's Word)*
- *importance of bringing Trail Log, and Bible back with them for Day 2 (Encourage them to put them by the front door when they go to bed so they won't forget them!)*
- *invite friends to Upward Bound*

**Spiritual Encouragement:** *Take a moment to share a word of spiritual encouragement from one of the lesson truths of the day. Review how an Upward Bound Backpacker's backpack is prayer, our canteen is the Holy Spirit, our food for the journey is the Word of God.*

**Prayer:** *Pray to end the day.*

## Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** *sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.*

**Song Guide** "Toward the Summit"

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# DAY 2

## SETTING UP CAMP

**Trail and Song Guides** are at front.

**Song Guide** “Upward Bound”

### Welcome

**Trail Guide** Welcome back to Upward Bound! Wait a minute! I think...*(looks through binoculars)*...yes, I see quite a few new Backpackers! Stand up if today is your first day at VBS. Let's welcome our new Backpackers with a loud cheer. *(ap-  
plause)* That was awesome! Song Guide, let's sing about our great Lead Guide Jesus to start our day.

**Song Guide** “Jesus, Jesus”

**Collin, Caleb** enter, discussing the day's upcoming adventure, spot follows.

**Collin** I can't wait to start climbing. I'm dying for some excitement around here.

**Caleb** I can't wait, either! That's why I was reading the Bible, our Guidebook, last night. It's definitely going to be a challenging climb, and I need all the guidance I can get!

**Collin** Why do you waste your time reading that boring book? I don't see why I need to spend my time reading an old book! I'm pretty good at climbing mountains on my own. I don't need any help! *(Spot reacts by shaking his head, covering his ears, etc.)*

**Trail Guide** Maybe you don't see why yet, Collin, but the Bible says we *all* need help to reach the Summit. No one is perfect, not since the very beginning. We need to listen to our Lead Guide Jesus or we're not going to know which way to go!

**Caleb** That's what I'm trying to tell you, Collin. One of the main ways Jesus talks to us and guides us is through the Bible. We *need* to read the Bible or we're not going to find God's way. We'll be lost!

**Trail Guide** The Bible shows us what our Lead Guide Jesus is like—what things are important to Him. We get to know Him through it.

**Caleb** And when I learn what Jesus cares about, I learn what *I* ought to care about! It points me in the right direction—Upward Bound! Do you see?

**Collin** Actually, I don't. I don't think I need a Guidebook. I don't think I'm lost.

### Cast

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

### Setting Up Camp Props

- Base Camp Gear (Campsite Set restored)
- Binoculars
- Caleb: backpack (re-paired) with gear, Bible
- Collin: backpack with gear, Bible

### Setting Up Camp Plot Summary

- Boys go hiking; Collin leaves backpack behind

And I definitely don't care about all this "Upward Bound Attitude" stuff. I don't need anything but me, myself, and I. I'm fine just the way I am.

**Caleb** (*shrugs sadly*) Well, we have to hit the trail now.

**Trail Guide** Right, you two need to get going. Grab your gear and we'll see you later this morning.

**Caleb** *picks up his backpack (Bible prominent), heads off; Collin lingers, then decides to leave his backpack behind.*

**Trail Guide** Collin, you really can't make it separated from your backpack and especially the Guidebook! Trust me.

**Collin** Trust *me*; I *don't* need it! I don't want to lug around all that extra weight. Don't worry! I'm strong and smart. I'll be fine on my own. Come on, Spot. (*exits with Spot, who whimpers, shakes head to show reluctance*)

**Trail Guide** I'm afraid Collin is going to have to learn the hard way about needing Lead Guide Jesus and the Bible in his life. I'll keep praying for him. Song Guide, let's sing one of our songs that's right out of the Bible.

**Song Guide** "The Philippians Prayer"

**Trail Guide** And now it's time for our Missions Project Offering.

### Missions Project Offering

**Trail Guide** *reviews Missions Project, chooses volunteers to take offering. Backpackers sing as offering is taken. Song Guide explains how the song is all about today's lesson.*

**Song Guide** "Jesus, Where Are You?"

**Expedition D** *may exit to Outpost during final verses.*

## Crossover to Life Gospel Presentation

### Introduction, Illustrations 1 and 2

**Gospel Guide** presents the Introduction, and Illustrations 1 and 2 as explained in the Gospel Presentation Manual; ends with prayer; exits.

### Trail Instructions, Prayer

**Trail Guide** If only Collin had seen today's Crossover! Backpackers, is Collin separated only from his backpack? From Whom is he separated? Yes, from God Himself. Collin hasn't been following Jesus, but *we're* going to! Today we follow Jesus to learn about the purpose of the great journey He took here on earth for us. Let's pray that we'll be ready to learn what God wants to teach us. (*prays*) We'll meet back here a little later. Song Guide, let's sing while we dismiss the Backpackers.

### Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** "Toward the Summit,"

Illustration 1



**In the beginning,  
God made people  
happy and holy**

"... "God made mankind  
upright..."

— Ecclesiastes 7:29 (NIV)

Illustration 2



**Our sin has separated  
us from God**

"but your iniquities  
have made a separation  
between you and your  
God, and your sins have  
hidden his face from you  
so that he does not hear."

— Isaiah 59:2

## Breaking Camp Props

- Caleb: rocks
- Collin: walking stick; leaves/pine needles in hair; dirt on face; clothes unkempt, dirty, wet
- Spot: toothpick “thorn” in paw

## Breaking Camp Plot Summary

- Collin returns injured, describes misadventures

# BREAKING CAMP

**Backpackers** hike in singing, take seats.

**Song Guide** “Jesus, Jesus”

**Song Guide** “All for Jesus”

**Caleb** enters.

**Trail Guide** Hi, Caleb. How was your hike?

**Caleb** Great! It was awesome at the top—you could see for miles! And on the way home, I got some really cool rocks for my rock collection! (*takes rocks out of pocket*) Speaking of rocks, there were some huge boulders I had to climb over—that was pretty hard. At first I was afraid I was on the wrong path. But I checked the Guidebook, and it said to expect obstacles along the way. So I stayed on the trail—and here I am! It was pretty exciting! Hey, is Collin back yet? We got separated at one point because he decided to take a different trail and I couldn’t talk him out of it, though I tried hard. Spot went with him. I was hoping they’d gotten back already.

**Trail Guide** No, but that’s concerning. Hopefully he’ll be back soon!

**Trail Guide** How about singing a new song while we’re waiting for Collin?

**Song Guide** “He Has Overcome”

**Caleb** Collin still isn’t back? I’m starting to get worried about him. Maybe I should go look for him.

**Collin** *hollers in pain from the back. He comes in limping, using a big walking stick for support. He looks disheveled—leaves/pine needles in his hair; dirt on his face; clothes unkempt, dirty, and wet. Spot nuzzles him along, limping slightly himself.*

**Caleb** (*rushes to support Collin*) Collin, are you okay? What happened?

**Collin** (*somewhat humbled by his mishaps*) Well, I guess I sort of missed the trail. I started off great, but I got separated from the trail when I decided to go down to the river for a drink...

**Caleb** (*interrupts, horrified*) The river? Those banks are totally steep, and the river has dangerous currents in it! Didn’t you see the warning signs?

**Collin** I didn’t think the signs were all that serious, and the river *looked* okay. But then I fell in—and got carried downstream! I finally grabbed an overhanging branch and made it to shore.

**Caleb** Whoa!

**Collin** I had no clue where I was, so I went east...at least, I thought it was east... I looked up to find the sun and I didn't see the cliff! I must have fallen 15 feet! I landed in some awful bushes full of thorns! That's where Spot found me. My leg hurts like crazy. I think it's broken.

**Trail Guide** Let me see it. *(checks leg)* Thankfully, it's not broken. But I'm sure you've got yourself a whopper of a bruise, and a pretty bad sprain. Spot, are you okay? *(Spot shows splinter in his paw)*

**Caleb** Here, let me get that nasty thorn out. Poor puppy!

**Caleb** *removes thorn, kisses paw, pats head. A much-relieved Spot runs circles around Caleb, then "licks" his face, hugs him, and finally picks him up and spins him in a circle.*

**Caleb** *(playfully)* Spot, stop that! Okay, I got the message... You're welcome!

**Trail Guide** Well, Collin, we're glad you made it back! Next time, you think you might take your Guidebook and supplies with you?

**Collin** *(still clueless, but sincere)* How could they have helped?

**Trail Guide** *(kindly)* Well, to start with, if you hadn't been separated from your backpack, you could have used your canteen. You wouldn't have been tempted to quench your thirst in that deadly river.

**Caleb** *(encouragingly, not self-righteously)* And our Guidebook—the Bible—would have steered you away from the river; you wouldn't have gotten separated from the safe path—that's what I was reading about last night.

**Collin** Maybe. I don't know.

**Trail Guide** Well, you can think about that. For now, Caleb can help you to the nurse's station—and take Spot with you!

**Caleb, Collin, Spot** *exit.*

**Trail Guide** Poor Collin; he still doesn't see that he can't live his life or find his way without Lead Guide Jesus Christ, His Word, and His Holy Spirit. I'm going to pray tonight that Jesus will change Collin's heart, and that I'll get to talk with him soon. Right now, though, let's sing about the one who is the only Way, Truth, and Life.

**Song Guide** "The Way, the Truth, and Life"

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## Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer

### Trail Guide

**General Announcements:** Give dismissal instructions, reminder to bring friends, memorize God's Word, etc.

**Spiritual Encouragement:** Take a moment to share a word of spiritual encouragement from one of the lesson truths of the day.

**Prayer:** Pray to end the day.

### Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** "Jesus, Where Are You?"



# DAY 3

## Setting Up Camp

**Trail and Song Guides** are at front.

**Song Guide** “Upward Bound”

**Trail Guide** Good morning, Backpackers!

**Trail Guide** I need to check some trail markers. Song Guide, would you lead the Backpackers in a few songs until I get back? And please tell Collin and Caleb to collect extra fire wood today. We’re having a bon fire tonight!

**Song Guide** No problem! (*Trail Guide exits*) Let’s stand for our next song. Pay close attention to the words. When we come back for Breaking Camp, I’m going to ask you how they fit in with today’s Bible lesson!

“If You Really Are the Son of God”

*Near end of song, Collin, Caleb, Spot enter. Collin, ankle wrapped and on crutches, is faking that his leg still hurts, but we do not know this yet. Caleb has his and Collin’s backpacks, Spot carries pile of firewood.*

**Song Guide** Hi, Collin and Caleb! Hey there, Spot!

**Collin and Caleb** greet Song Guide; **Spot** tries to wave without dropping any wood. Backpacks, wood are set on stage.

**Song Guide** Collin, how’s your leg today?

**Collin** Not too bad. (*pauses*). Actually, it’s bad. I mean, *really* bad. Ouch! I can barely put any weight on it at all!

**Caleb** (*surprised*) Bummer, Collin. This morning you were doing pretty well. It must be hard to be in these great woods and not be able to enjoy them. If you want anything, let me know, okay? Here, let me help you sit down.

**Song Guide** Good idea, Caleb. And a great Upward Bound Attitude! Well, it’s time to take our Missions Project Offering. Caleb, would you select some Backpackers to help us? Collin, you just rest there. While we’re taking the offering, let’s sing another song.

### Cast

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

### Setting Up Camp Props

- Base Camp Gear
- Collin: crutches, ace bandage
- 2 backpacks; Collin’s contains comic book/handheld electronic game
- Spot: firewood
- Collin: foam ball

### Setting Up Camp Plot Summary

- Collin fakes injury; Trail Guide assigns him Trail Treat duty

## Missions Project Offering

**Song Guide** reviews Missions Project, **Caleb** chooses volunteers to take offering. **Backpackers** sing as offering is taken.

**Song Guide** “All for Jesus”

**Song Guide** (*checks watch*) Time for me to get going. Oh, Trail Guide wanted you two to collect extra wood for tonight’s bon fire. (*exits*)

**Caleb** I’ll do it. And Spot can help me. We can get it all done in a few trips.

**Collin** (*faking sincerity*) Hey, I don’t want you to do all that on your own. I’ll do some.

**Caleb** Are you sure? What about your leg?

**Collin** I couldn’t possibly let you do all of that by yourself. Let me help you. I’ll be fine. (*starts to stand up, yells in exaggerated pain*) Oh, wow, that hurts!

**Caleb** Collin, you can’t carry wood with your bum leg. You’d better just sit here and rest. I’ll take care of the chores. Here, enjoy this. (*pulls comic book/handheld electronic game from Collin’s backpack and hands to Collin*)

**Collin** If you insist.

**Caleb** I do! Come on, Spot. Let’s get to work. (*Caleb, Spot exit*)

**Collin** (*shouting until Spot and Caleb are out of earshot*) Thanks, you two! You guys are great! You’re such great buddies! You’re such great...

**Collin** *hobbles to his feet, pauses for effect, then throws crutches away and does a victory dance.*

**Collin** ...great suckers! Wow! What a scam! I won’t have to do any work for days! I’ll just act all holy and happy, but do anything I want! This I’ll play a little ball.

**Collin** *picks up ball, tosses back and forth with Backpackers; Trail and Song Guides enter, seen by Backpackers but not by Collin. As Collin speaks (dialog below) and tosses the ball back and forth with Backpackers, Trail and Song Guides witness his charade, then exit without being seen.*

**Collin** This is what I call serious fun! I’m going to get a lot of mileage out of this! Trail Guide almost had me believing in all that “the Bible is our Guidebook” talk. But now that I feel fine, I don’t see the point. I’m glad I got lost—Caleb’s become my own private servant! Last night I got him to clean up my tent! I’d better start limping before the others get back.

**Collin** *returns to “hurt mode.” Trail and Song Guides enter and play along with Collin’s deception.*

**Song Guide** Collin, how's the leg? I hope you're doing better.

**Collin** Staying off it is helping me a lot. (*winks at Backpackers*)

**Trail Guide** (*knowingly to Backpackers*) I bet it is. You should stay off it as long as you need. I mean, don't rush it.

**Collin** Thanks, I won't. If this keeps up, I don't think that I'll be able to get firewood or clean up around camp for a few da...for the rest of the week.

**Trail Guide** Not to worry! In fact, I'm "ordering" you to take the rest of the week off from your usual chores!

**Collin** Cool! Uh, I mean, if you say so.

**Trail Guide** I do. You might even need to keep off your feet for the *rest* of your time at camp.

**Collin** Fantasti...er, uh...if you think that's best.

**Trail Guide** (*winks at Backpackers*) We can't have you do all those hard, sweaty, outdoorsy chores. So...I'm assigning you the *indoor, sit-down* job of preparing all the Trail Treats for our [number] Backpackers here at VBS!

**Collin** What? Hey, wait! I...

**Trail Guide** So after Crossover, you just hobble on down to the kitchen and start fixing [day's snack] for each of our [number] Backpackers!

**Collin** *heads to his seat, mouthing the number of snacks over and over: "150 [s'mores]? 150?"*

**Trail Guide** Backpackers, it's time for Crossover to Life. Let's sing a song to get our hearts ready to hear what Gospel Guide has to tell us.

**Song Guide** "The Philippians Prayer"

**Backpackers** sing while **Expedition D** to Outpost.

## Crossover to Life, Illustrations 3 and 4

**Gospel Guide** presents Illustrations 3 and 4 as explained in the Gospel Presentation Manual; ends with prayer; exits.

**Trail Guide** Well, Collin, what are your thoughts from today's Crossover message?

**Collin** (*tries to make light of it, but is half serious*) That I'm up a creek?

Illustration 3



**We are not able to get back to God**

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."*

— Ephesians 2:8–9

Illustration 4



**We are not able to get back to God**

**Our sin brings death and judgment to us**

*"...death spread to all men, because all sinned."*

— Romans 5:12

<p><b>Breaking Camp Props</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collin: crutches, ace bandage</li> </ul> <p><b>Breaking Camp Plot Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caleb discovers Collin's deception</li> <li>• Collin's conscience finally stirs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trail Instructions, Prayer</b></p> <p><b>Trail Guide</b> Hmmm. I think I need to pray for God to open our hearts and help us understand what He wants to teach <i>each one of us</i> today (<i>looks particularly at Collin</i>) as we follow Jesus along a very hard path where He faces an especially difficult time. (<i>prays</i>)</p> <p><b>Dismissal by Expedition during Singing</b></p> <p><b>Backpackers</b> <i>sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.</i></p> <p><b>Song Guide</b> “The Way, the Truth, and Life”</p> <p><b>BREAKING CAMP</b></p> <p><b>Backpackers</b> <i>hike in singing, take seats.</i></p> <p><b>Song Guide</b> “Jesus, Jesus;” “Jesus, Where Are You?”</p> <p><b>Trail Guide, Collin</b> (<i>on crutches, bandage around ankle</i>), <b>Caleb</b> enter.</p> <p><b>Trail Guide</b> Backpackers, what'd you think of today's Mapping the Route lesson? (<i>responses</i>) Assistant Trail Guides, what'd you think?</p> <p><b>Caleb</b> It was intense, hearing how Satan tempted Jesus.</p> <p><b>Trail Guide</b> How about you, Collin?</p> <p><b>Collin</b> (<i>uneasy</i>) I...I don't know. The gecko was cool. (<i>trying to change the subject</i>) Hey, isn't it time to sing?</p> <p><b>Trail Guide</b> It is! Let's sing “If You Really Are the Son of God” as a reminder of our lesson.</p> <p><b>Song Guide</b> “If You Really Are the Son of God”</p> <p><b>Song Guide</b> <i>asks for a volunteer to explain how the song fits with the lesson.</i></p> <p><b>Trail Guide</b> Great singing, Backpackers! That's such a great reminder of how much we need to depend on God's Word, the Bible, as our Guidebook and to help us resist Satan's temptations.</p> <p><b>Song Guide</b> “He Has Overcome”</p> <p><i>A wet Spot enters.</i></p>
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**Collin** Hey, Spot, come here, you wet rag! Did you take a nice, cool swim in the lake? How about cooling me off? I 'ot so hot in the kitchen today.

**Spot** *shakes wildly on Collin, then playfully makes off with one of Collin's crutches. Forgetting himself, Collin gives chase around Base Camp. Caleb is shocked to see Collin run; Trail Guide, of course, isn't. When Spot, Collin run back to a now angry Caleb, Collin realizes he has given away his deception and tries to cover it up by faking an exaggerated limp. Caleb is not amused.*

**Caleb** Collin, how did your leg get better so fast?

**Collin** Uh...it's...a miracle?

**Caleb** I don't think so! Collin, I did all your chores. I waited on you hand and foot. I was really worried about you.

**Collin** It was just a joke.

**Caleb** I'm not laughing.

**Collin** I was just havin' fun.

**Caleb** I wasn't! You tricked me! I...I...I'm going for a walk! (*exits*)

**Collin** (*conscience finally stirring*) Why does he have to get so upset? It was supposed to be funny.

**Trail Guide** You lied to him, Collin, and tricked him into doing your work. Our Lead Guide has a lot to say in the Bible about how to treat one another—and how *not* to. God loves the world, and He cares very much when we sin. When *you* sin.

**Collin** Am I in trouble?

**Trail Guide** What did Crossover say? "Our sin brings death and judgment to us."

**Collin** (*serious expression*) I think I'd better start reading my Guidebook...And for real this time—no faking, no lies.

**Trail Guide** That's so great to hear, Collin!



### **Distributing Invitations**

Ask your VBS Director if Caleb, Collin, and Spot should distribute your Summit Celebration invitations to the Backpackers as they are dismissed from Breaking Camp today.

## **Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer**

### **Trail Guide**

**General Announcements:** Give dismissal instructions, reminder to bring friends, memorize God's Word, etc.

**Special Announcement:** Remind them of Summit Celebration day/time; explain that invitations will be handed out as they leave today to give to their families, friends, and neighbors. (see sidebar)

**Spiritual Encouragement:** Take a moment to share a word of spiritual encouragement from one of the lesson truths of the day.

**Prayer:** Pray to end the day.

### **Dismissal by Expedition during Singing**

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** "Toward the Summit"



# DAY 4

## SETTING UP CAMP

**Trail and Song Guides** are at front.

**Song Guide** “Upward Bound”  
“He Has Overcome”

**Trail Guide** (*looks through binoculars*) Do we have any new Backpackers today?  
(*response*) Let’s start our morning by singing as we take the missions offering.  
Could I have some help from Expedition \_\_\_\_?

### Missions Project Offering

**Trail Guide** reviews Missions Project, chooses volunteers to take offering.  
**Backpackers** sing as offering is taken.

**Song Guide** “The Philippians Prayer”

**Caleb** enters, sulking, followed by a pouting **Spot**.

**Trail Guide** Oh, Caleb, have you seen Collin this morning?

**Caleb** No, and I hope I don’t! I’m so mad at him I don’t ever want to see him again!

**Trail Guide** You need to forgive Collin for what he did, Caleb.

**Caleb** I don’t want to! He was really mean to me! I felt sorry he hurt his leg, and he used that to trick me into doing his chores and waiting on him like a servant.

**Collin** enters slowly, absorbed in reading the Bible; he doesn’t see Caleb and Spot.

**Caleb** Here comes that liar now.

**Trail Guide** Caleb, you need to stay here and talk to him.

**Caleb** I’m sorry, but I just can’t! Come on, Spot. Let’s get out of here! (*they run out unseen by Collin*)

**Collin** (*genuinely cheerful*) Good morning, Trail Guide! Good morning, everyone!

**Trail Guide** Hi, Collin. You look happy!

### Cast

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

### Setting Up Camp Props

- Base Camp Gear
- Binoculars
- Collin: Bible

### Setting Up Camp Plot Summary

- Caleb refuses to forgive Collin, angrily stomps off.
- A repentant Collin decides to “become good,” then hears Crossover and responds with saving faith.

**Collin** I am happy! I've been reading this guidebook and God has been showing me what is true about Him.

**Trail Guide** Wonderful!

**Collin** (*confidently*) So I've decided to become good! I'm not going to lie, or disobey my parents, or be mean to Caleb, or tease skunks at camp, or put down kids at school, and speaking of school, I'm not going to cheat on any more tests, either! Then I'll get into Heaven, right?

**Trail Guide** Wrong! Collin, most people think that leading a "good life" is the way to get into Heaven. But that's *not* what the Bible tells us! Being good is not the way to get back to God!

**Collin** What do you mean? I'm going to try really hard to be good!

**Trail Guide** *Trying* doesn't make us good, Collin. Remember what Gospel Guide taught us yesterday? Only *Jesus* makes us good! Until God changes your heart, you're still Earthly Bound—bound to sin again and again and again!

**Collin** (*frowning*) Then I don't see how I'll ever make it into Heaven!

**Trail Guide** Let's see what today's Crossover message has to say about that, okay? Backpackers, let's sing another song to help us prepare for Crossover.

**Song Guide** "The Way, the Truth, and Life"

**Backpackers** sing while **Expedition D** may exit to Outpost.

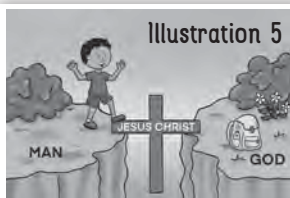
## Crossover to Life, Illustrations 5 and 6

**Gospel Guide** presents Illustrations 5 and 6 as explained in the Gospel Presentation Manual; ends with prayer; exits.

After Crossover, **Collin** whispers to Trail Guide. **Song Guide** takes over the assembly as **Trail Guide** and **Collin** move to a visible but more private spot and become immersed in serious conversation (not audible), showing him Crossover to Life in the Trail Log and flipping to various parts of the Bible. **Trail Guide** and **Collin** bow heads, **Trail Guide** leading **Collin** through the sinner's prayer, line by line; **they** finish with a high five and then exit, talking animatedly (still not audible).

## Trail Instructions, Prayer

**Song Guide** Looks like Collin is really learning about Jesus! Let's pray that God will help *us* learn all that He has to teach us today as we follow our Lead Guide Jesus on the most difficult part of the journey that He took for us. You'll find just how much He loves us! (*prays*)



**God has made a way back to Him for us**

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

— John 14:6



**We cross over from death to life by believing and trusting in Jesus Christ**

"...whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

— John 5:24

## Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Song Guide** “All for Jesus”

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

## BREAKING CAMP

**Backpackers** hike in singing, take seats.

**Song Guide** “Jesus, Jesus”

“Jesus, Where Are You?”

**Trail Guide** It’s been quite a day, hasn’t it Backpackers? Aren’t you amazed by God’s love for us, and by what Lead Guide Jesus has done for us? Do you know that the story Simon just told us is the greatest story that’s ever been told, and it’s completely true?! What our Lead Guide Jesus did for us on the cross changed all of history for all time—and it changed everything for you and me, too, in really wonderful ways! Though Simon’s story ended on a sad note, there’s a very happy rest of the story coming tomorrow. Make sure you come back to hear our next visitor with the very best news ever!

**Song Guide** “If You Really Are the Son of God”

**Trail Guide** Wow, what a great job of singing! You’ve also been doing a great job of giving to our Missions Project offering! Guide \_\_\_\_\_, would you please give us an update on our offering?

**Collin** enters, eagerly looking around with binoculars. **Caleb, Spot** then enter; they aren’t thrilled to see Collin.

**Collin** Hey, there you are! Hurry up—I mean, *please* hurry up! I’ve been waiting to talk with you!

**Caleb** reluctantly comes forward, arms crossed defensively; **Spot** copies him.

**Collin** Caleb, I’m really sorry that I tricked you into doing my chores and made you wait on me hand and foot. That was mean and selfish and...(looks at **Trail Guide** who nods encouragingly)—and sinful of me. Would you please forgive me?

**Caleb** (a bit dazed) Forgive you?

**Collin** I know I don’t deserve it, but I hope you will.

It’s slowly dawning on **Caleb** that something significant has happened to Collin.

**Caleb** (warming) Of course I will! I forgive you. And I need your forgiveness, too.

### Breaking Camp Props

- Collin: binoculars

### Breaking Camp Plot Summary

- The brothers forgive each other, rejoice in Collin’s salvation

I said some nasty things about you when I was angry.

**Collin** *bearhugs him; Caleb's jaw drops in surprise; Spot's does too.*

**Collin** And Spot, I'm sorry you hurt your paw on account of my sin. I was too stubborn and proud—and too lazy—to take along my backpack. Will you forgive me, too?

**Spot** *jumps up on Collin, "licks" his face.*

**Trail Guide** I think that's a "Yes!"

**Caleb** Whoa! Collin, something's way different here! What's happened to you?

**Collin** *(excitedly)* I've become Upward Bound! I believe in Jesus! I learned some true things about God and some true things about myself—I asked Him to forgive my sins and He's given me a brand new, Upward Bound heart!

**Caleb** *(shouts for joy)* Collin believes in Jesus! My brother's become a Christian! Now he's Upward Bound! That is so awesome! I've wanted this for sooooo long!

**Trail Guide** We all have! To celebrate, let's sing about the gift of eternal life Collin has now because of our great Lead Guide Jesus!

**Song Guide** "The Way, the Truth, and Life"

## Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer

### Trail Guide

**General Announcements:** Give dismissal instructions, reminder to bring friends, memorize God's Word, invite families and friends to Summit Celebration, etc.

**Spiritual Encouragement:** Take a moment to share a word of spiritual encouragement from one of the lesson truths of the day.

**Prayer:** Pray to end the day.

## Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** "Toward the Summit"



# DAY 5

## SETTING UP CAMP

*Note: Today's final Campsite Set indicates camp is nearly over: several duffel bags are packed, tent is partially dismantled, gear is gathered up, etc. Also, the script for today has been shortened to allow time for Expeditions to practice their song and/or verse selections for the Summit Celebration.*

**Trail and Song Guides** are at front.

**Song Guide** “Upward Bound”  
“The Way, the Truth, and Life”

**Trail Guide** Welcome back to Upward Bound, Backpackers. Can you believe this is our last day? What an adventure this week has been! We've learned so much about our Lead Guide Jesus and His great love for us!

**Collin, Caleb, Spot** enter.

**Trail Guide** Hey, guys. How was your morning?

**Caleb** It was great! I got up early and went to the lake to read my Bible, and Collin was already there, reading his!

**Collin** (*modestly*) I just thought that since today was going to be so busy, I should do some reading before things got started. To be honest, last night I was tempted to use my flashlight to read my Bible under the covers after lights out. But I prayed...and the Holy Spirit helped me to obey! This morning I got up extra early and read the Guidebook. Caleb was right all along. The Bible *is* interesting!

**Trail Guide** This has really been a life-changing week for you, hasn't it?

**Trail Guide** Song Guide, let's sing a song that will help us get our hearts ready to hear today's Mapping the Route Bible lesson. I'm excited for you Backpackers to hear what our Storyteller has to say about our Lead Guide today!

**Song Guide** “He Has Overcome”

## Missions Project Offering

**Trail Guide** We're almost to our goal for our Missions Project! This morning is our last opportunity to take the offering, so let's see if we can meet or even pass our goal!

### Cast

Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

### Setting Up Camp Props

- Base Camp Gear  
(Campsite Set altered as indicated)

### Setting Up Camp Plot Summary

- Boys describe their personal times in the Word

**Trail Guide** recaps Missions Project, chooses volunteers to take offering.  
**Backpackers** sing as offering is taken.

### **Song Guide**

*Practice songs and/or verse recitations as needed for the Summit Celebration, or allow Backpackers to request favorites.*

**Backpackers** sing while **Expedition D** may exit to Outpost.

**Trail Guide** It's time for our final Crossover to Life presentation. Let's give it up one last time for our Gospel Guide!

### **Crossover to Life—Review and Conclusion**

**Gospel Guide** reviews all 6 Crossover Illustrations and gives conclusion as explained in the Gospel Presentation Manual; ends with prayer and exits.

### **Song Guide**

*Practice songs and/or verse recitations as needed for the Summit Celebration, or allow Backpackers to request favorites.*

### **Trail Instructions, Prayer**

**Trail Guide** Backpackers, today we get to say "Eureka! Mountaintop!"—hey, let's try that together: EUREKA! MOUNTAINTOP!—because we've almost come to the end of Jesus' journey on earth, when He accomplishes His earthly mission and prepares to return to His Heavenly Summit. We have one more special visitor to hear from today, but first let's pray. (*prays*)

### **Dismissal by Expedition during Singing**

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** "Toward the Summit"

## **BREAKING CAMP**

**Backpackers** hike in singing, take seats.

**Song Guide** "He Has Overcome"

*Practice songs and/or verse recitations as needed for the Summit Celebration, or allow Backpackers to request favorites.*

**Trail Guide** Welcome back to Base Camp, Backpackers. Wasn't Mary Magdalene's story thrilling? Can you imagine how she and the disciples felt when they realized Jesus had reached the Summit again! And speaking of summits, are you looking forward to tonight's Summit Celebration where we get to share all of this

with your friends and families? Raise your hands and hoot like an owl if you're planning to come tonight. Terrific!

### Song Guide

*Practice songs and/or verse recitation as needed for your Summit Celebration, or allow Backpackers to request favorites.*

**Caleb, Collin** enter with backpacks, duffel bags, talking happily. **Spot** prances behind, dragging his beach towel tied to his swimming tube.

**Trail Guide** Now here are some happy campers! What are you all so chipper about?

**Caleb** We're making plans to start a neighborhood backyard Bible club when we get home!

**Collin** (*excited*) I want to show other kids how to be Upward Bound! (*frowns*) But honestly, I'm a bit nervous about having an Upward Bound Attitude *all* the time. What happens when I mess up?

**Trail Guide** Remember today's Crossover message, plus what Mary Magdalene told us?

**Caleb** Christians have new hearts, but we won't be perfect until we get to Heaven. That's why we need to repent daily.

**Collin** Oh, right! Daily repentance! We need to ask God—and others (*smiles at Collin*)—to forgive us when we sin. And we need to pray and ask for the Holy Spirit's help to have an Upward Bound Attitude, every day—*throughout* the day, come to think of it!

**Caleb** And the more time we spend with Jesus, the more we become like Him! Your faith and trust in God will really grow, Collin, especially with the way you've been spending time in His Word!

**Trail Guide** Absolutely! Spend time with Jesus! Let's all go over some specific things you can do to grow in your faith:

- **Read your Bible**—some people call that “having daily devotions” or a having a “quiet time.”
- **Go to church**—worship God with other believers.
- **Learn about Him in Sunday School/Kids Ministry**—Sunday School is fun! And when you're a little older you can join a Bible Study. Those are great ways to keep learning about God!
- **Spend time with God's people outside of church, not just on Sunday!** Go to home groups, Youth Group, church picnics. We call that “Christian fellowship.”
- **Use your God-given talents and abilities to honor God** by being a servant—we sometimes talk about “ministering” or doing “Christian ministry.”

### Breaking Camp Props

- Packed duffel bags
- 2 backpacks
- Spot: beach towel, swimming tube

### Breaking Camp Plot Summary

- Boys, Trail Guide discuss evangelism, daily repentance, sanctification

- **Tell others the good news**—we call that “evangelism.”
- **And finally, always pray, pray, pray**—about anything and everything! Remember, you have the Holy Spirit, God Himself, living inside you! He will give you the strength and desire to do all these things! He gives us the power to make the journey safely to the Summit!

**Collin** I’ll try to remember all that!

**Caleb** We can remind each other!

## Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer

### Trail Guide

**General Announcements:** Give dismissal instructions, reminder to check lost and found, information regarding Summit Celebration (schedule, dress, guests), etc.

**Spiritual Encouragement:** Take a moment to share a word of spiritual encouragement from one of the lesson truths of the day or week.

**Prayer:** Pray to end the day.

## Dismissal by Expedition during Singing

**Backpackers** sing one verse together, continue singing as they exit by Expedition.

**Song Guide** “Upward Bound”

# SUMMIT CELEBRATION

## Arrival

**Backpackers;** parents, family, and friends get seated in Base Camp. While guests wait, play Upward Bound music and/or project a repeating slide show of the week's activities.

## Pastor's Welcome:

### What Upward Bound is All About

**Pastor** gives brief explanation to guests about the week, the joy of serving their children, why the church is committed to this ministry, etc. During this time, **Backpackers** quietly approach Base Camp entrance and wait for musical cue of Upward Bound March to enter. **Pastor** introduces **Trail Guide** who then takes over the program.

## Backpackers' Entrance

Led by **Collin, Caleb, and Spot, Backpackers** hike into Base Camp singing Upward Bound March; **Expedition E** goes straight to stage, **all others** find seats but remain standing until song ends.

## Song Guide "Upward Bound"

**Trail Guide** Our youngest Backpackers, Expedition E, will lead off our Summit Celebration by sharing their memory verse with us, Philippians 2:10, followed by their Climbing Cheers.

## Expedition E (2's & 3's)

Sing Philippians 2:10 with motions; Climbing Cheers (Expedition Guide holds up Memory Verse and Climbing Cheer visuals)

**Trail Guide** What a wonderful job of hiding God's Word in your hearts, Expedition E! Parents, isn't it uplifting to hear God glorified "out of the mouths of babes?" Song Guide, how about having our older Backpackers now glorify God with *their* mouths!

**All Backpackers** stand, face guests to sing chorus of "Upward Bound" as **Expedition E** is dismissed to sit with parents or go to the nursery.

**Trail Guide** Let's "confess" that Jesus is Lord in song, and tell our guests where we're headed as we follow Him. Song Guide, can you lead us?

## Song Guide "Toward the Summit"

## Cast

Pastor  
Trail Guide  
Song Guide  
Caleb  
Collin  
Spot

## Bible Lesson Storytellers

- Simon of Cyrene
- Mary
- Mary Magdalene

## Props

- Base Camp Gear
- Acrostic visual aid
- Gospel Presentation visual aid



## Lyrics for Guests

Project song lyrics using the PowerPoint® Song Presentation or Song Overhead Set so guests can read the songs' messages and join in as desired.



### Storyteller Visits

- As each day is introduced, have guest appearances from the respective costumed Storytellers, or project a PowerPoint® slide of them as Simon gives his summary of their story.
- Caleb, Collin, and/or Spot escort Storytellers as appropriate.

**All Backpackers** stand, face guests to sing.

**Trail Guide** I'd like to introduce my Assistant Trail Guides—and brothers extraordinaire!—Collin and Caleb, and our camp dog Spot. (*they wave to guests*) We had some interesting adventures together this week, didn't we, Backpackers? Collin and Caleb assisted us along our Upward Bound Journey. (*Spot's paws beg for recognition*) Spot helped, too, didn't you, boy! How about a hand for these three? (*applause*) We'll hear their story a bit later.

**Caleb, Collin, Spot** sit to side.

Parents, this week your Backpackers met some remarkable individuals who came from the pages of our Guidebook, the Bible, to tell us about the most significant events of their lives. Three of them promised to make every effort to return here tonight, to give you a glimpse of the amazing truths your children learned this week. Backpackers, I need you to help me call Simon of Cyrene pretty loudly—it's a long way to North Africa! Ready? On the count of three: 1, 2, 3...**SIMON OF CYRENE!** (*Backpackers call out*)

### The Journey Begins

*In full costume, **Simon of Cyrene** (see sidebar) makes the first "grand entrance," repeatedly bowing deferentially to the audience as he slowly makes his way forward.*

**Simon** Sincerest salutations! (*bows deeply*) I, Simon, your most humble servant, have come from the distant city of Cyrene...My English, it is not the best. Perhaps my young Backpacker friends and (*to Trail Guide*) this not so young, that is to say, this most magnificent Trail Guide, will help me tonight, will you not? And may I say that I have most earnestly enjoyed making acquaintance with your modern hiking gear? This [backpacking item] from [local outdoor recreation retailer] is most fascinating, is it not?

Tonight, these illustrious Backpackers, this most able Trail Guide, and I are going to take you, oh most venerable grandparents, most honorable parents, esteemed friends, and most beloved brothers and sisters with whom the Backpackers shall never argue again...we shall take you on the journey we ourselves undertook this week following in the footsteps of our Lead Guide, Jesus Christ. We will share the story of others who, like your humble servant, (*bows deeply again*) came from distant times and places, each to tell the story of his or her life-changing encounter with the God-man Jesus.

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## Lesson 1

### The Surprising Journey — *Born in the Likeness of Men*

**Trail Guide** On Day 1 of our journey, we started off focusing on the greatness of Jesus' journey, when Jesus left the Courts of Heaven to come to earth to save us.

**Simon** Did we not meet the angel Gabriel, God's majestic messenger from Heaven, who first introduced us to Lead Guide Jesus? And did not Gabriel explain how Jesus' journey actually began in Heaven, where He reigned with God the Father? Did not Jesus choose to leave the most beautiful and perfect Courts of Heaven, to enter this earthly realm as a vulnerable infant, to journey through life on earth for us and for our salvation? Did we not likewise learn from Gabriel that each one of *us* here in Base Camp is on a life journey as well, is it not so, and that we are either Upward Bound or Earthly Bound in our journey?

**Simon** concludes his presentation with a deep bow, then steps aside.

**Trail Guide** Expedition C will now come up to sing for us.

#### Expedition C (Grades 1 & 2)

- Sings "Jesus, Jesus" (verses 1–2 and choruses)

**All Backpackers** join in on verse 3 while **Expedition C** returns to seats and **Expedition B** moves to platform.

## Lesson 2

### The Humbling Journey — *The Form of a Servant*

**Trail Guide** Day 2 on the trail, brought us to where we focused on the purpose of Jesus' journey on earth—doing His Father's will. Here to tell us about that is someone who perhaps knew young Jesus better than anyone else on earth, Jesus' mother Mary.

**Mary** comes forward to applause.

**Mary** I am Mary, Jesus' mother. A mother can think she knows her own child. But there was one time in particular when I needed to learn something tremendously important about my son, and that's what I shared with these wonderful Backpackers. I hadn't understood that Jesus had one single driving purpose in His life. Backpackers, remember when Joseph and I got so upset at our son? What did Jesus say to us? "Didn't you know I had to be about my (Heavenly) Father's business?" Jesus' business, that is, His job, was to perfectly do His Heavenly Father's will! He did this not for Himself, but for us—to accomplish our salvation!

He lived every moment of every day loving and learning to obey God His Father, and loving and serving the people around Him, even as a child! Parents, can you imagine

what determined love it took for my young Jesus to be so self-controlled! His perfect obedience—every single moment of His life—qualified Jesus to be mankind’s Savior. And as I explained to the Backpackers, if we do not have Jesus as our Lead Guide, if we have not trusted Him to be our Savior from sin, we are earthly bound and are not in a right and loving relationship with Him. That is why Jesus came to earth—to save us. He lived a sinless life then died in our place, that our sins might be exchanged for His goodness, that we might become righteous in Christ, become Upward Bound and reach the Summit, Heaven. Such is God’s great love for us. (*steps aside, next to Simon*)

**Trail Guide** Expedition B will lead us in singing the first 2 verses of “Jesus, Where Are You?” that tells the story of how Jesus as a young boy of 12 already had a settled purpose and desire to do His Father’s will and be in His Father’s house.

### **Expedition B (Grades 3 & 4)**

- Sings “Jesus, Where Are You?”

**All Backpackers** join in after verses 1 & 2 as **Expedition B** returns to seats.

## **Lesson 3**

### **The Obedient Journey — Humbled Himself by Being Obedient**

**Trail Guide** By our third day, Jesus’ journey was becoming more rigorous. Our focus was on (the trials of Jesus’ journey, particularly the temptations) in the wilderness that Jesus had to withstand. Simon, please tell our guests about this.

**Simon** Ah, most cherished visitors! Gilead the Gecko, who stealthily slithered into Base Camp—he was perhaps the sole earthly eyewitness to Jesus’ 40 days of temptation in the desert, was he not? Did not Gilead paint a most clear picture of the devil’s attempts to make Jesus sin? Did not Satan, the Father of lies, try to convince Jesus that something wrong was right? Most valued audience, tonight I, Simon of Cyrene, declare to you what these wisest of Backpackers understand: *Satan tempts us today in the same deceitful way!* Only through prayer, reading God’s Word, the Bible, and through submission to God alone, by the power of the Holy Spirit, will we be able to discern truth, know right from wrong, and say “No!” to Satan and “Yes!” to our Lead Guide Jesus! Is this not so, learned Backpackers?

Moreover, did not Gilead the Gecko also excellently explain that just as a backpacker must be single-minded if he is to reach the summit, so Jesus was single-minded about our salvation. Everything Jesus did was done in order to save us! If we are Upward Bound, we will be single-minded about trusting and obeying Jesus, knowing He must become the most important Person in our life.

**Trail Guide** Backpackers, you have a great song about how Jesus overcame temptation. Song Guide, will you lead us in that?

### **Song Guide** “If You Really Are the Son of God”

**All Backpackers** stand, face guests to sing as **Expedition A** moves to platform.

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## Lesson 4

### The Painful Journey — *Obedient to Death on a Cross*

**Trail Guide** Day 4, brought us to the most momentous part of Christ's journey, where Jesus was sacrificed on the cross for our sakes. Simon, this day was especially significant for you, wasn't it?

**Simon** Most significant, indeed, for we come now to your humble servant's story, do we not, Backpackers? (*bows low*) On that most fateful of days I, Simon of Cyrene, was commanded by Roman soldiers to carry Jesus' cross. I was terrified, was I not? Yet in my terror, I clearly saw that on His journey on earth, Jesus had an Upward Bound attitude. He obeyed His Heavenly Father always, even when it meant dying a horrible death on a cross.

Most marvelous Backpackers, is it not true that on that most tragic day, your servant's life was changed forever? For I, Simon of Cyrene, learned that Jesus died *for* us, for our salvation—He lived and died to make us upward bound! in Him because there is no other way to get us to the Summit. We cannot become Upward Bound by trying to be good. Our hearts are drawn to sin and selfishness, are they not? No, we cannot solve the problem of our sin! Only Jesus can make us upward bound, by exchanging His goodness for our sin and giving us new hearts that love Him and His ways. Jesus' journey was *for* us, and He gives salvation freely to those who believe. This is how you, most attentive listeners, can belong to Jesus and, like your humble servant Simon of Cyrene, become upward bound! (*bows, sits*)

**Trail Guide** Expedition A would you please share with our guests?

#### Expedition A (Grades 5 & 6)

- Sings "The Philippians Prayer"

**All Backpackers** stand, face guests to join in on final chorus as **Expedition A** returns to seats, with the exception of pre-selected Backpackers who will explain Crossover to Life.

**Trail Guide** Throughout the week, our Backpackers learned what we call Crossover to Life, and these Backpackers from Expedition A are going to share with you what they learned.

#### Crossover to Life Summary

**Selected Expedition A Backpackers** use the Crossover visual aid and recite/read its captions and verses while displaying each of the 6 Illustrations.

**Trail Guide** Excellent job, Expedition A Backpackers! (*dismisses to seats; turns to Caleb and Collin, and gestures for them to come stand with him*) Guys, you obviously were impressed by Expedition A's presentation of Crossover to Life. Collin, do you have something to say? You look like you're going to burst!

**Collin** I totally relate to Crossover! Parents, if you had seen me on Day 1, you wouldn't have wanted your kids anywhere near me! I mouthed off, was totally selfish, always tried to get out of having to help—I even faked a leg injury so Caleb would do all my chores for me, right, Backpackers? I was separated from God and was Earthly Bound to the max! But you kept loving me anyway, bro. *(hugs Caleb)*

**Caleb** *(humbly)* Well, I wasn't always loving toward you, Collin, and I hope you can forgive me for that. But Trail Guide, Gospel Guide, and I wanted you to understand that sin is real, and that out of love for us Jesus came all the way from Heaven to earth to rescue us—to die on the cross, die the death that we deserved—so He could save us from our sins and give us new hearts and lives!

**Collin** When camp first started, I didn't care one bit about all that Christianity stuff. But after the disasters I caused trying to do things my way...Backpackers, remember when that bear got into camp, and when I almost drowned in the river?

**Caleb** That was definitely a close call! But God used that near catastrophe as a turning point for you.

**Collin** He sure did! That's when something started changing inside. *(points to heart)* I began to see what a sinner I was. At that point I decided to try really hard to be a...quote...“good person,” thinking *that* would get me to the Summit.

**Caleb** But as Trail Guide explained, even though most people believe that, the Bible says trying to lead a good life *doesn't* get you into Heaven. You'd have to be perfect and never, ever sin to make it to Heaven on your own!

**Collin** I knew *that* was a lost cause, and finally realized I needed Jesus' forgiveness—not to mention Caleb and Spot's! *(turns to Caleb, Spot; Caleb gestures to indicate that's all in the past; Spot nuzzles Collin's leg)* I learned from the Bible, our Guidebook, that the only way to be forgiven and saved is to repent and believe—to trust that only Jesus' death on the cross for me could save me and get me back to a right relationship with God as my heavenly Father.

Well, I was truly sorry for my sin, and I did believe in Jesus. So I prayed with Trail Guide, and Jesus forgave me! He gave me a new heart and made me a new creation with an Upward Bound Attitude. Talk about a mountaintop experience!

**Trail Guide** Amen! It certainly was one of the “high” points of our trek! Thanks, guys! *(they sit)* The next song is a perfect summary of what Crossover and Collin's heart change is all about.

**All Backpackers** stand, face guests to sing “The Way, the Truth, and Life” During final chorus, **Expedition A Backpackers** return to seats while **Expedition D (4's–K)** moves to platform.

## Lesson 5

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## The Joy of the Journey — *God Has Highly Exalted Him*

**Trail Guide** Our final day, brought our last visitor to Upward Bound. A woman who greatly loved Jesus, she has graciously agreed to return tonight. Let's give a warm welcome to Mary Magdalene!

**Mary Magdalene** enters to applause.

**Mary Magdalene** My name is Mary Magdalene. I was once a very sinful woman. But I found forgiveness with Jesus! He gave me a new heart and a new identity—I'm His precious, holy daughter! I had the tremendous privilege of telling these delightful Backpackers about Jesus' resurrection from the dead and His triumphant return to the ultimate Summit, Heaven! We learned that Jesus was always mindful that He was on an Upward Bound mission, on His way back to the Courts of Heaven and His Heavenly Father. When He rose from the grave and returned home, Jesus finally reached the Summit of His Upward Bound Journey! Jesus returned to Heaven victoriously as our Great King and Savior! He perfectly finished what He had come to earth to do: He accomplished our salvation! He saved His people from their sins. Because of this, whoever believes in Jesus will be saved! By faith in Jesus, anyone here tonight can reach the Summit! *(steps aside, next to Mary and Simon)*

**Trail Guide** Our Expedition D Backpackers did a fabulous job learning God's Word this week. Before they sing to us about what Mary taught us, they'll recite a verse that expresses what our response—indeed, the whole world's response—is to be now that Jesus finished His journey and has triumphantly returned to Heaven.

### Expedition D (4's—K)

- Recites Philippians 2:10–11:  
“...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- Sings “*He Has Overcome*”

**All Backpackers** join in on verse 2 while **Expedition D** returns to seats.

**Trail Guide** This has truly been an amazing week with life-changing results—one of which has been the Missions Project Offering we took this week!

### Offering

**Trail Guide** briefly describes the Missions Project, referring to goal chart, and announces the offering total from week.

**Song Guide** “All for Jesus”

**All Backpackers** and guests sing.

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## Closing Remarks, Prayer

### Trail Guide

- *announcement of next year's theme, "Genesis 1: Space Mission"*
- *invitation to your Sunday School program, worship services, follow-up events*
- *instructions regarding dismissal procedure and reception to follow*
- *prayer*

### Song Guide "Upward Bound"

**All Backpackers stand**, face guests to sing as **Storytellers** and **Cast** lead guests to reception area; **Backpackers** continue singing until all guests have left Base Camp.

### Dismissal by Expedition

Dismiss **Backpackers** by Expedition to join parents.



# ASSEMBLIES AT A GLANCE

## Day 1

### **Setting Up Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound"  
Welcome  
Adventure Theme Intro: Upward Bound Overview  
Song: "Jesus, Jesus"  
Missions Project Offering Intro  
Song: "Jesus, Jesus"  
Skit  
Trail Instructions Intro, Prayer  
Dismissal: "Upward Bound"

### **Breaking Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound"  
Skit  
Song: "Toward the Summit"  
Skit  
Song: "The Philippians Prayer"  
Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer  
Dismissal: "Toward the Summit"

## Day 2

### **Setting Up Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound"  
Welcome  
Song: "Jesus, Jesus"  
Skit  
Missions Project Offering  
Song: "Jesus, Where Are You?"  
Expedition D exit  
Gospel Presentation: Intro, Illustrations 1 & 2  
Trail Instructions, Prayer  
Dismissal: "Toward the Summit"

### **Breaking Camp**

Entrance: "Jesus, Jesus"  
Song: "All for Jesus"  
Skit  
Song: "The Way, the Truth, and Life"  
Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer  
Dismissal: "Jesus, Where Are You?"

## Day 3

### **Setting Up Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound"  
Welcome  
Song: "If You Really Are the Son of God"  
Skit  
Missions Project Offering  
Song: "All for Jesus"  
Skit  
Song: "The Philippians Prayer"  
Expedition D exit  
Gospel Presentation: Illustrations 3 & 4  
Trail Instructions, Prayer  
Dismissal: "The Way, the Truth, and Life"

### **Breaking Camp**

Entrance: "Jesus, Jesus," "Jesus, Where Are You?"  
Skit  
Song: "If You Really Are the Son of God"  
Song: "He Has Overcome"  
Skit  
Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer  
Dismissal: "Toward the Summit"

## Day 4

### **Setting Up Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound," "He Has Overcome"  
Welcome  
Missions Project Offering  
Song: "The Philippians Prayer"  
Skit  
Song: "The Way, the Truth, and Life"  
Expedition D exit  
Gospel Presentation: Illustrations 5 & 6  
Trail Instructions, Prayer  
Dismissal: "All for Jesus"

### **Breaking Camp**

Entrance: "Jesus, Jesus," "Jesus, Where Are You?"  
Song: "If You Really Are the Son of God"  
Skit  
Song: "The Way, the Truth, and Life"  
Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer  
Dismissal: "Toward the Summit"

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## Day 5

### **Setting Up Camp**

Entrance: "Upward Bound," "The Way, the Truth, and Life"  
Welcome  
Skit  
Song: "He Has Overcome"  
Missions Project Offering  
Songs: Summit Celebration Practice  
Expedition D exit  
Gospel Presentation: Review and Conclusion  
Songs: Summit Celebration Practice  
Trail Instructions, Prayer  
Dismissal: "Toward the Summit"

### **Breaking Camp**

Entrance: "He Has Overcome," Summit Celebration practice  
Skit  
Trail Instructions, Closing Prayer  
Dismissal: "Upward Bound"

## **Summit Celebration**

Pastor's Welcome, What Upward Bound is All About  
Entrance: "Upward Bound"

### **Expedition E (2's & 3's)**

Sings Philippians 2:10 with motions; Climbing Cheers

Song: "Upward Bound"

Song: "Toward the Summit"

Trail Guide introduces Caleb, Collin, and Spot

**The Journey Begins:** Trail Guide introduces Storyteller Simon of Cyrene

### **Lesson 1: The Surprising Journey**

#### **Born in the Likeness of Men**

Trail Guide introduces Day 1

Simon of Cyrene tells Gabriel's story

#### **Expedition C (Grades 1 & 2)**

Sings "Jesus, Jesus"

All Backpackers join in for verse 3

### **Lesson 2: The Humbling Journey**

#### **The Form of a Servant**

Trail Guide introduces Day 2 and Storyteller Mary, Jesus' mother

Mary tells her story

#### **Expedition B (Grades 3 & 4)**

Sings "Jesus, Where Are You?"

All Backpackers join in after verses 1 & 2

### **Lesson 3: The Obedient Journey**

#### **Humbled Himself by Being Obedient**

Trail Guide introduces Day 3

Simon of Cyrene tells Gilead the Gecko's

Song: "If You Really Are the Son of God"

### **Lesson 4: The Painful Journey**

#### **Obedient to Death on a Cross**

Trail Guide introduces Day 4

Simon of Cyrene tells his own story

#### **Expedition A (Grades 5 & 6)**

Sings "The Philippians Prayer"

#### **Gospel Presentation Summary**

Expedition A pre-selected Backpackers summarize

Crossover to Life

Skit Wrap-Up

Song: "The Way, the Truth, and Life"

### **Lesson 5: The Joy of the Journey**

#### **God Has Highly Exalted Him**

**Trail Guide** introduces Day 5 and Storyteller

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene tells her own story

#### **Expedition D (4's–K)**

Sings "He Has Overcome" (all Backpackers join in on verse 2)

Offering, Song: "All for Jesus"

Closing Remarks, Prayer

Dismissal: "Upward Bound"