



DATES:

CROSSROADS: HOMETOWNS

NAME:

CHURCH/GROUP:



CAMP LOOKS A LITTLE DIFFERENT

Sadly, for the first time in 25 years, we won't be hosting camp at a college campus in 2020.

BUT, we've put all of the heart and soul into Hometowns that has made camp so special for all these years, and we know that you're still going to have a great time right where you are!

This book is for you to capture all of the things God will teach you over the course of Crossroads: Hometowns. You'll want to keep this, so use your best handwriting and ask God to reveal things to you that you'll hold tight for years to come!



DAY ONE QUIET TIME

Let's get this [daily] bread.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- Have a conversation with someone in your group that you don't know very well.
- Follow CKM on Instagram (@ck_ministries) and hashtag a photo #crscHOMETOWNS.
- Ask three people (anyone) how you can pray for them today.

READ: Isaiah 40:28-31

If you're reading this, you've probably had a really strange year. You might have had to switch to online school, attend church through Zoom calls, and you probably haven't sat inside of a Chick-fil-A in at least three months (I'm not crying... you're crying).

Maybe one of the most disappointing parts of this year was your original camp plans being ruined. It's just one of the things that have made 2020 a huge bummer.

But, when you really think about it, this isn't the first time something like this has stopped the world in its tracks. There have been wars, other plagues, economic disasters, and all sorts of other things. This isn't to make you sad, but to remind you that God has remained the same through the ages.

Because of sin, there is a lot of pain in this world. But God always finds a way to restore His people! Just like today's verse says, the Lord will RENEW our strength if we just wait on Him. He's where we can find the hope that seems so far away right now!

How do you need God to renew your strength before you start your Hometowns journey today? What might keep you from focusing on Jesus during Hometowns?

Write a prayer below for God to use this experience to grow your relationship with Him.

DAY TWO

QUIET TIME

Wakey wakey! Let's get in the Word.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- Intentionally encourage someone in your group during activities today.
- Thank your student pastor/group leader for leading Hometowns for you.
- Take some time to pray for a friend today.

READ: Acts 2:42-47

In this morning's Scripture we read about a community unlike any other. Jesus' disciples were on a mission after He rose from the dead and returned to Heaven. They had a common love for Jesus and for each other, and it made people want to join them in following Jesus. In fact, we read in Acts 2 that over 3,000 people did.

Why were people so attracted to this group of Jesus followers? Because they were participating in an uncommon bond with one another that could only be orchestrated by God.

As we all know, people are messy. We all have sin, but as you've probably heard so far in Hometowns, Jesus was sent to die for those sins. Because of Jesus, we now get to live in that freedom. But it doesn't make living in a world full of sin easy, just more hopeful.

These disciples and the people that decided to follow them dedicated themselves to one another - that means even when things got hard between them. There was probably still plenty of arguing and conflict between these people, but the Holy Spirit was guiding them through living a life that represented what Jesus came to teach - love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

Because they were dedicated to loving each other the way Jesus loves us, more and more people wanted to be a part. Jesus knew that one of the best ways to be a witness for Him is by how we treat the people around us.

Why do you think Jesus thought it was so important for His people to live in a certain type of community? What happens when we live like that?

How can you practice living in this kind of community with your friends today? How can you serve them? How can you pray for them?

DAY THREE QUIET TIME

Turn off your phone. Get in the zone.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- List everyone in your life that doesn't know Jesus yet, and say a prayer for them!
- Encourage somebody today. It can be at activities, family time, anywhere!
- Commit yourself to pay attention as much as possible during today's sessions.

READ: Luke 15:11-32

You might have read The Parable of the Prodigal Son before. It's one of the most popular ones in the Bible! Jesus used parables as a way to actively engage his audiences with the lessons He was trying to teach them. Parables are just made-up stories, but they came from the mouth of Jesus, which means we should listen closely!

In this parable, we read about a man who wanted total control of his life and all of the things that he thought would make him happy. Little did he know, the things he desired the most would lead him to total helplessness. He had selfishly taken his money from his father and used it to his own demise.

He shows back up at home, ready to beg his father to let him be a servant for food. He assumed that he could never be considered his father's son ever again after all he did. Luckily, his father is thrilled to see him and throws him a party! He didn't deserve that kind of embrace from his father, but his father's love outweighed his mistakes.

That's the love we have from our Father in Heaven! No, seriously. God loves us like that. That should change how we walk and talk! We are the sons and daughters of the most gracious and loving Father to ever exist. How great is that?!

What are some mistakes you've made that you might have told yourself will always keep you from truly being loved by God? How does that make you feel?

Below, write a prayer thanking God that we do not have to live the life that you just wrote about above! Thank Him for his love and grace today.

DAY FOUR QUIET TIME

Wakey wakey! Let's get in the Word.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- Is there anything you've wanted to share during this experience? Use today to do that.
- Send a friend a quick text and give them an update about what you're up to!
- Make a gameplan for how you're going to continue to pursue God after Hometowns.

READ: Matthew 28:16-20

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

This wasn't Jesus simply making a suggestion. He didn't say, "Go and make disciples if you feel like it and if you think people won't judge you for it". No, He commanded us with this passage of Scripture that is often called "The Great Commission".

We get it. Sharing the gospel with your friends and family can be SUPER scary. It's not common for people to walk around asking people if they know a guy who doesn't exist in the flesh anymore. However, we're called to do it by the God who has given us everything!

You might live in a place where people know the name of Jesus, and they might even claim to follow Him, but they don't know what it means to truly be after the heart of God. If that's the case, maybe sharing the gospel for you is trying every day to live like Jesus tell us to. It's not easy, but as we learned a couple days ago, how we engage with the people around us is our greatest tool for the witness of Jesus Christ.

How can you be bold and brave for the gospel this upcoming year?

What are the reasons that have kept you from sharing the gospel before? Why does it feel so scary to you?

Below, ask God to give you the strength and courage to live out The Great Commission. He'll give it to you!

DAY FIVE QUIET TIME

It's been real, and it's been fun.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES:

- Start the disciplines that will continue your spiritual growth TODAY!
- Ask your family or friends for accountability in your next steps with Jesus.
- Post about your experience on social media! And don't forget to hashtag #crscHOMETOWNS.

READ: Romans 8:12-17

In this last passage, we read that we are heirs of the King - Jesus Christ who is seated on high. How cool is that?!

This means we have eternal life as the sons and daughters of God. When we "die to our flesh" (which simply means to give up the sins and things we want for the way of Jesus), we not only gain life forever with Jesus, we gain a happy and fulfilled life here on earth!

Life is hard. You might be on a Hometowns high right now, but it probably won't be all rainbows and butterflies. You're going to have some hard days, because that's just part of being human.

The good news is that we get to now face those hardships with the armor of God and the ownership that comes with being a child of the King! He is more than enough for a life overflowing with goodness. He wants to give that to us freely. Who wouldn't want to serve a God like that?!

As you head back into your everyday life today, think about what can be different when you identify as a child of the King. Doesn't that give you confidence? Doesn't that make you want to be live like Jesus lived?

What is one thing you will begin doing today or tomorrow that will set you up to grow in Christ in the coming weeks? Is it reading your Bible regularly, praying, or reaching out to your brothers and sisters in Christ?

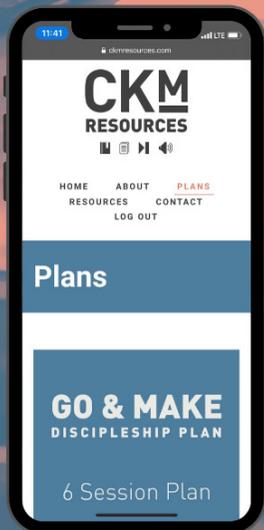
List three new things you learned about God this week below.

CKM

RESOURCES

FIND HOMETOWNS SERMONS IN AUGUST

CROSSROADS: HOMETOWNS



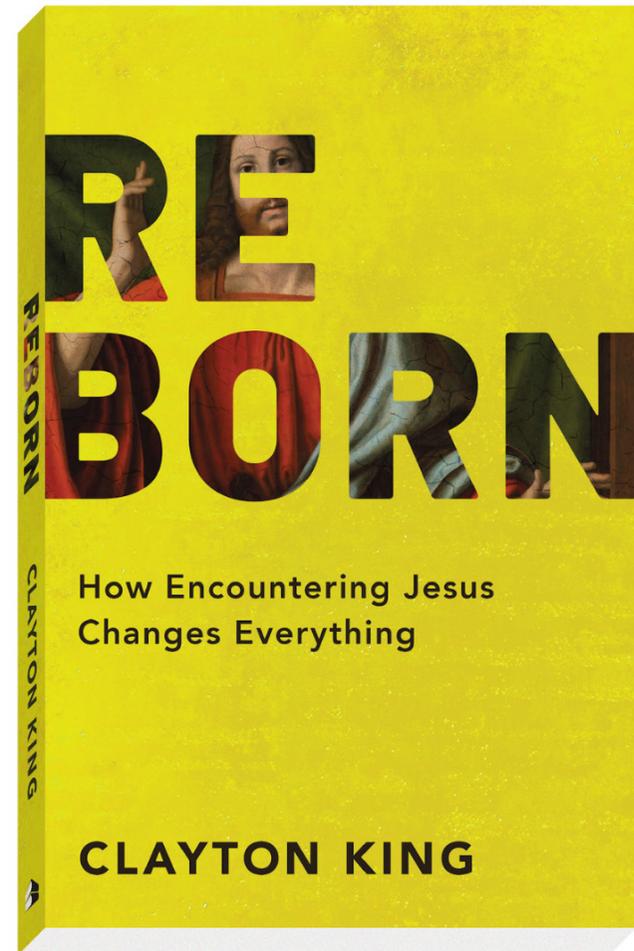
START A BIBLE STUDY PLAN
WITH YOUR GROUP

KEEP EACH OTHER
ACCOUNTABLE WITH THE
PROGRESS TRACKER

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR
NEW PLANS SOON!

WATCH. READ. LISTEN.
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