

# SUMMER BIBLE MEMORY CAMP GUIDELINES

**Please read through the Summer Camp Guidelines listed.** The following standards, deal with creating a positive and respectful atmosphere at BMC.

**The following attire guidelines which we feel keeps a reasonable but modest approach at BMC.**

1. The clothes worn at camp are a testimony to others and should not distract. Therefore...
  - Spaghetti-strap tops or clothing that shows bare mid-ribs and backs are considered not appropriate to wear at camp. (Think banquet attire especially!)
  - Guys and Gals: Should make sure that their shorts are fingertip length.
  - Guys and Gals: No "side-cut T-shirts" that expose your torso.
  - **No attire should have printed messages that are in direct conflict with the spirit of God's Word and desires. (Phil. 4:8, Matt. 7:12)** Guys & gals, please know inappropriate clothing is not acceptable: the follow is not exhaustive, but gives you an idea: exposed midriff or undergarments, promotes alcohol, tobacco, profanity or displays obscenities, vulgarity or gory pictures.
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  - *Campers and Staff are asked to make the spirit of modesty a priority without reverting to a legalistic approach to attire. (Gal. 5:18, Matt.7)*
2. Guys: No Speedos, Guys wear shirts when traveling to and from swimming areas.
3. Girls: Wear modest 1-piece swimsuit or tankini 2-piece. No spaghetti strap or thin-straped tank tops. Shirts need to cover the stomach. Shirts must cover Yoga pant rear.)
4. For your own protection, shoes are a requirement. **NO BARE FEET.** Everyone one must wear T-shirts and shoes when going to and from swimming areas.
5. Please respect others stuff by staying out of it. **LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND PERSONAL ITEMS.**

## THINGS TO OR CAN BRING WITH YOU TO CAMP

To facilitate a safe and distraction-free environment, Bible Memory policy prohibits campers from bringing certain items. \* See list below.

<b>PHYSICAL</b> BIBLE	SUNSCREEN	FLASH LIGHT	CASUAL CLOTHES
<i>NOTEBOOK</i>	<i>PERSONAL CARE ITEMS</i>	<i>SLEEPING BAG / BLANKET</i>	<i>SMILE</i>
PEN OR PENCIL	MOSQUITO SPRAY	SHEET & PILLOW	FAN (OPTIONAL)
SOAP, SHAMPO	MODEST SWIM SUIT	JACKET/WARM CLOTHES	MUSICAL INSTRUMENT
TOOTHBRUSH & PASTE	BATH / BEACH TOWEL	EXTRA SHOES	GOOD ATTITUDE

**The cost of snacks, crafts, and a camp picture are included in the camp fee.**  
*Optional purchases- Camp caps, sunglasses & sweatshirts. (price range is \$5-\$28)*  
*For extra forms & more camp information check out our website at [www.bmm.life](http://www.bmm.life)*

**For the listing of camps and directions go to: [www.bmm.life](http://www.bmm.life)**

**All camps start on 10am Monday.  
and ends on Thursday at 1:30pm**

**(Except for OK-1 &2, OH-1, IN-1 and IN-2, they end on a Friday @ 1:30 pm)**

Parents/Guardians please be prompt at pick-up times, Thank You.

Dear Parents/Guardians, camper and staff member.

I first want to say thank you for entrusting your camper or yourself with us. We have seen a lot of amazing God things so far and only expect God to continue His powerful work during this week of camp. As you prepare to come to the camp, here are a couple house-cleaning items I want to bring to your attention.

1. We are seeing incredible amounts of campers coming to our camps and this week is no exception. Although we have had the ability to do cabin-mate assignments in the past, **starting 2022 we will no longer be able to do roommate assignments.** With our limited space and staff, it is virtually impossible. We *might* attempt to make arrangements for a first time camper who comes with a friend, to be in the same cabin. Thank you for understanding and please rejoice with us that God is bringing more and more kids into a ministry that focuses on the WORD of God. Please take time to prepare your camper of the possibility of this, but rest assured, they will be able to see their best friend(s) through-out the entire day in a multitude of activities. We are maxed out on rooms and have had new health codes placed upon us that make this virtually impossible. Again, rejoice with us that God continues to bless us with more and more campers. PTL!
2. Registration starts at 10:00 am, however, I would caution you that if you hurry to be here before 10:00 am, you may end up just waiting since we do not start registration until 10:00 am sharp. Also, registration goes on for at least an hour or until we are done. Beware that registration will be outside if at all possible so waiting in the heat or rain could present problems for you as well. When you arrive, the first table you should go to is the MEDIC table **if your camper has any medical needs or medications to turn in.** Once done there, go to the appropriate alphabetically labeled lines according to your last name. Then you will go to the next station which is "scalp/hair check" then finally you will release your camper to their counselor. Once your child is signed in at the registration process, you will not be able to go inside to their cabin area.
3. All meals, classes, and activities of the daily camp schedule are to be attended by each camper.
4. **FOOD ALLERGY issues:** Please note them on the registration. If you camper has a special dietary need, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO PROVIDE THE FOODS THEY NEED OR**

EXTRAS NEEDED TO SUPPLEMENT with what our menus do not meet for your camper's health. Our menus can be emailed to you upon request.

5. The last evening meal is a special worship night for what we call Banquet. It is a tradition where the kids dress up a bit, causal, not a tux or gown. Lol. I just wanted you to be aware.
6. ***During pick-up time on the last day of camp is 1:30pm***, our counselors will walk your camper out to the parking lot area to release them to you.

**NO CELL PHONES or electronic devices! We have spent countless hours praying and preparing for you to experience God without distractions. Please honor this and leave them either at home or make sure to turn them in at registration. Because they will not have access to any electronic devices, please have them bring a Physical Bible to camp.** In an effort to see that students are truly able to "get away" from their everyday surroundings we ask that students leave the following electronic items at home: Cell Phone, iPod, iPad, Kindle, Computer, any portable gaming devices, and basically all electronics.

7. Please be praying each day that the Holy Spirit would move in a powerful way upon you, your camper and our staff. Also please join us in reading through Psalm 23 as this is the main scriptural focus for our week of camp.
8. Respect staff and fellow campers. The Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Manners are a **huge** way of showing respect to both staff and fellow campers.
9. Finally, Campers are not allowed to leave camp and return. They can only return if the reason they leave complies with the Board's following **Camper Temporary Absence Policy**. (See below.)

Again, thank you for allowing us to speak God's WORD into your camper's life,



Christopher Howell  
Executive Director

## **Dear Parent/Guardian and Churches:**

Very recently, we have had situations that are becoming more and more prevalent among our camps...campers being removed from camp during mid-week. The original reason for this flexibility was to accommodate family emergencies and/or health reasons, but there is a growing number of cases of "other" extra-curricular activities taking precedence. Let the next true story illustrate our concern.

Prior to camp, I received a call from "Tommy's" parents requesting if it would be okay for him to leave early after dinner on two different evenings of his camp to go off campus to participate in a summer sport conditioning/practice. (Other activities like band practice are increasing as well.) As I talked to them, my heart sank for what "Tommy" would potentially miss during this week designed and prepared for spiritual emphasis? Even if "He left and came right back."

I kindly said, "It is your choice as a parent, but I would have you strongly consider the eternal impact that may be missed due to choosing volunteer practice over the week of Bible Memory Camp." The phone was quiet. Then with a bit of hesitation in the parent's voice, they said, "He will be at camp then." Inside, I was greatly pleased for the parent's decision to place eternal over temporal. That parental decision paid off.

You see, that night something amazing happen to this Christian young man. That evening at campfire, we split into two groups. The guys and guy counselors went to a different campfire and the girls stayed with their counselors at the original campfire. There was an intense move of the Holy Spirit as many young men cried out for prayer in areas of their life that were very troubling and detrimental to say the least.

Tommy, was one of those young men. He was cleansed and encouraged by God to continue his journey with Christ, but it almost did not happen. This letter is not meant in anyway to be a guilt trip or to produce condemnation. *Conviction on the other hand is from the Lord, it brings hope and encouragement.* My conviction is this, Bible Memory places so much prayer and time to building the best camp experience possible, that we do not want these types of stories to NOT happen.

Some of these temporal priorities also put an additional burden on our staff as well as distract the other campers who are not leaving. Please prayerfully consider how you can help your camper, the other campers and staff with this growing problem. The Board policy is as follows.

### **CAMPER TEMPORARY ABSENCE POLICY**

Giving our campers a fun-filled, unique Bible experience is the heartbeat of our ministry. We are aware that there may be ongoing events and sports that the campers may be involved with during our time of camping. As with any other experience, active participation is crucial to the learning process and overall success of camp life. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that the time that your campers are attending camp is uninterrupted with these other events or sports. To put it frankly, please allow God full use of this time for your child. Please understand that we are not minimizing the positive impact of sports and other extra-curricular activities that your child may be involved in; there are many quality lessons to be learned from teamwork in that aspect. However, as quality as those lessons may be, they are temporal\* in the grand scheme of things. We are trying to instill lessons to prepare them for many of life's battles, and these will serve them well over the course of their lives by keeping the will and providence of God's plan for them at the forefront. Please ponder our camp, your child's extracurricular activities, and the prioritization of those. Show your child that learning the living Word of God ranks higher than sports, music and other events by allowing this time for Bible lessons to take root and flourish, unencumbered by lapses in participation.

Understandably, there may be times where removing your child from the camp is unavoidable. Those being a family emergency, aka sickness or death. Instances like these are no doubt excusable. The

Board of Directors feels very strongly that, aside from these excusable circumstances, post-Covid, it is imperative that campers attend our camps from start to finish. If for some unexcused reason a child leaves camp, they are not allowed to return.

With our growth and waiting list, there are some campers who would love to be there, but can't because a camper that is leaving constantly has that bed space. In the end and most importantly, it waters down the campers' experiences *since at any moment in our camp, God presents an opportunity to speak a change into your child's life.* Do not allow one of these moments to be stolen from your camper.

Sincerely,  
The Bible Memory Ministries  
Executive Board