

EVALUATION

# closure

Closure and re-entry are important elements in camp life. Because learning experiences are enhanced when we can associate new behavior (understandings) with previous learning experiences (history), the act of closure and the process of re-entry can affirm and support persons in their personal life journeys.

## C L O S U R E

Closure is a specific time at camp when a celebration (a Drawing together) of new lessons is shared, verbally and experientially, indicating the end of the life of a particular group.

### CHARACTERISTICS INCLUDE:

- Defined in space and time
- Reflection/summarizing
- End of group life
- Unique group at camp

### Common to both include:

- Intentional
- Experiential/verbal
- Affirmation/commissioning
- Necessary for staff and campers to experience
- Staff need to be a part of the act of closure and process of re-entry (training and development)

# and

## RE-ENTRY

Re-entry is an ongoing process enabling persons to apply these new learnings (gained at camp) to their back-home responsibilities. It includes, but is not limited to, the emotional re-adjustment required by a change of living environment

### Characteristics included:

- Ongoing process
- Future-oriented
- Before, during, after camp
- Home-camp-home linkage

# re-entry

## **TECHNIQUES FOR CLOSURE**

These games, experiences, and techniques may be adapted for use in camp meetings:

- Closing campfire
- Banquet or agape meal with worship
- Worship and candles, fires, or special symbol
- Fellowship circle – facing in/facing out
- Gift exchange
- Summary discussion of experiences of camp, utilizing value clarification strategies such as “what I have liked,” etc.
- A clear statement that this experience is ended, perhaps accompanied by some symbolic actions such as extinguishing a fire
- A discussion of re-entry issues, such as “what I will tell my friends about camp,” is in itself a powerful aid to closure because it helps move people (psychologically) back home.
- A structured way of each person saying “good-bye” to other group members.

## **TECHNIQUES FOR RE-ENTRY**

- Letter to parents prior to arrival, upon arrival, or during camp session to help parents understand values of camp which can be applied at home, how to talk with their child about camp, and skills their child may be able to demonstrate at home.
- Conversations with pastors about campers.
- Identify ways campers can reinforce each other back home and provide addresses.
- Meal or program at end of camp involving parents.
- Role play or puppet play simulation of campers meeting parents, friends, or pastor and explaining their camp experiences.
- Break campers into groups from same town or church to discuss back-home strategy.
- Formulation of strategy for applying new behavior at home.
- Fantasy trip to arrival at home.
- Use of stories, parables such as “The Sower” or “Talents” to help campers see camp experiences as a seed or as a talent.
- Letter written to all campers by director.
- Letter written to self for later mailing.
- Fellowship circle facing in/out.
- Develop final charge or blessing and commissioning.
- Review of personal goals and objectives set at beginning of session and sharing of new lessons and setting goals for future.

## Camper/Participant Evaluation Process for Conference Events/Camps and District Youth Camps

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1. Camper/participant evaluations should be **CONFIDENTIAL**.
2. **“Confidential”** means:  
No one from the camp/event itself should view the camper’s/ participant’s evaluation before the Conference Office has had a chance to screen them for confidential information. The reason for this is the camper / participant is less likely to write something confidential if he/she knows that the adult who is part of the conflict will be reading it.
3. Campers / participants should be told that they may put their names on the evaluation form if they wish and that no adult from the camp/event would be reading those forms while their names are attached. Explain the evaluations are read by other youth workers who are interested in the camper’s / participant’s honest comments, and who will help them if they want to share about problems of any kind they experienced that week at the camp/event.  
  
Campers / participants should be told the camp deans would review all evaluation forms without names after the Conference Office has reviewed them.
4. The small group leader should collect the evaluation forms, place them in a manila envelope and seal the envelope in front of the campers/participants.
5. The sealed camper/participant evaluations are then sent to the appropriate Age-Level Ministries Department for screening. We will screen for confidential information and take the appropriate steps if necessary.
6. After all names are removed, the evaluation forms will then be compiled/summarized and returned to the Camp Deans/Design Team Chairs in electronic format (unless otherwise requested) as quickly as possible for compilation and summaries. District Camp evaluation summaries will be CC: to the appropriate District Superintendent.

### CHILDREN/YOUTH LEADER EVALUATION FORM

Leader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Age Level \_\_\_\_\_ Camp Site \_\_\_\_\_ Camp Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Dean(s) Providing Evaluation \_\_\_\_\_

Covenant/Application on file?                      Yes                      No

This information will be made available to future deans as they begin to recruit leadership.

Leader's strengths:

Leader's weaknesses:

In your opinion, is this person "dean quality"?                      Yes                      No

**THIS FORM IS CONFIDENTIAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



7. How would you evaluate the camp deans?

8. How would you evaluate the leadership team?

9. How would you evaluate the other leaders?

10. How did the camp leader training prepare you for this week?

11. In what areas do you wish you had received more training?

12. Next year which camps would you like to work?

SITE: \_\_\_\_\_ Canyon                      \_\_\_\_\_ Cross Point                      \_\_\_\_\_ Egan

AGE LEVEL:                      \_\_\_\_\_ Fifth/Sixth                      \_\_\_\_\_ Third/Fourth                      \_\_\_\_\_ First/Second

\_\_\_\_\_ Music, Art, and Drama

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## Elementary camp evaluation

My favorite part of camp was.....

Something new I learned was.....

I wish camp.....

I did not like.....

I can't wait to tell my family.....

We hope to see you next year!

# **Sixth Grade Camp Evaluation**

The best part of camp for me was....

I will never forget....

If I could, I would leave out or change....

I would add....

Overall I would say camp was....

**The Best!**

**OK!**

**Yuck!**

Something else I would like to say is....

# Joy Camp Evaluation

The best part of camp for me was.....

Something new I learned was.....

I wish camp.....

I did not like.....

I can't wait to tell my family.....

**See you again next year!**

# SONSHINE CAMP EVALUATION

**YOUR LEADER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this sheet completely and return it to your counselor or camp dean.

1. The experience I will remember from camp was
2. My least favorite experience at camp was
3. My family group was special because
4. I felt closest to God when
5. The first thing I will tell my family is

**PLEASE RATE THE FOLLOWING:**

- |                                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6. The Leaders:                  |   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 7. The Shepherds:                |  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
| 8. The Camp Site:                |  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
| 9. The Camp Food:                |  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
| 10. The overall Camp experience: |  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |

**Additional Comments:**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!!**

## Summer Camp Evaluation of Permanent Staff

**Permanent staff** - ropes facilitators, kitchen, office, and maintenance personnel

Score permanent staff according to the 1-5 ranking with "1" meaning "unsatisfactory" and "5" meaning "no improvement needed" on the following items. Please include comments as necessary so we can correct any problem areas and **return this to the campsite's director manager before departure** so any issues can be immediately rectified.

\_\_\_ All meeting/living areas are professionally cleaned prior to your group's arrival.

\_\_\_ All meals are nutritionally balanced, tasty and attractive.

\_\_\_ Special menus are prepared for those who need them.

\_\_\_ Staff is responsive to campers and guests who speak to them.

\_\_\_ Staff respond to guests without making them feel as though they are interrupting.

\_\_\_ The telephone is answered by a staff person 24 hours/day when guests are on site and messages are relayed to guests promptly.

\_\_\_ The staff was cooperative.

Please list any building or ground conditions that you feel need repair. Especially potential dangers (ie: broken electrical outlet) and any other thoughts you might have.