

M4 Camps 2026
FOCUS
Bible Studies

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU for being here. We are so excited to spend time with each of you and can't wait to see what God has in store. God has brought you here, at this time, to love and pour into kids. God can also show us, the grown-ups, so many things as well. Be ready to FOCUS on Him.

Before you get ready to lead out, take some time to pray and ask God to help you focus on Him. Psalm 139 reminds us that God focuses on us. He created us. He knows everything about us. He loves us. In verses, 23-24 David asks God to search His heart and show him what needs changing. We pray that God will change each of our hearts to love Him more.

We have prepared three small group Bible studies for you to use during your time here at M4 Camps and a cabin time devotion to be done at night. Please know that as you are having these bible studies, members of our staff will be praying for your group. There are so many distractions that take our hearts, eyes, ears, thoughts away from Christ. Our hope is that all of that will be pushed aside so each person here can truly FOCUS on Christ and our relationship with Him. We are praying for salvation, renewed focus on what is most important in each of our lives and boldness in sharing our faith. If you have any specific prayer needs, please place them on the card provided in your backpack and hand it to a staff member or in the prayer box located on the counter in the Friendship Center. We want to cover you and your campers in prayer.

Now for a few instructions:

- *We suggest that there be no more than 10 people in your small group. This will allow more children opportunities to share in the discussion.
- *All the supplies that are required have been prepared for you and will be given to you before each bible study. If the supply is highlighted in **yellow** please return it to the counter in the Friendship Center when you have completed the bible study.
- * Don't be afraid of silence. Allow them to share during the devotion.
- *Be prepared. Although we have everything ready for you, please take time to pray and study before you lead your small group. It's going to be an amazing time!

Cabin Time Night One

*Cabin time is just a moment for you and your students to reflect on the day and bring it to a close. (If you're lucky it might settle them down for bed. 😊)

Remember, some of your students may not have conversations about God with an adult at home. This is a great time to form relationships with your students. We are praying for open hearts during this time.

Supplies: None

What have you enjoyed the most since we've arrived at camp? Let's look at our focus verse. "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2. We have been talking about focusing on Jesus. That's what this verse means. We all get distracted easily. We can lose focus quickly. What are some things that distract you from focusing on Jesus? Let's pray and ask God to help us stay focused on Him so we can see what He has to teach us. (Pray)

Small Group Bible Study
Morning One of Camp-Before Breakfast

Supplies: **Binoculars**

Good morning! Are y'all ready for a great day at camp? Let's say our camp verse together this morning. It is from Hebrew 12:2 "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2. That's great. What are some things that help you see better? (glasses, contacts, microscope, telescope...)

I want to show you guys something. (Pull out binoculars). Do you know what these are used for? (allow for answers) That's right they are used to see things far off. However, if they aren't used correctly, you can't see clearly. You have to focus the binoculars, and you must know what you are looking for.

Last night we learned about who? (David) David was chosen to be King not because of who his family was, what he looked like or where he was from. God chose him as King because God looked at his heart and saw that David wanted to focus his life on God. David wanted to love God and love others. God looks at our hearts too.

It's easy for things to get blurry in life if we aren't focusing on what God wants us to focus on. Where can I look to know what God wants me to focus on. (The Bible) Let's look in the Bible to see what it says about what we should focus on. Let's look at Phillipians 4:8 "Finally brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any moral excellence or if anything is praiseworthy-dwell on these things." Do those all sound like good things? They are. How can I know what is true? - God's word is true. When we spend time in God's word, we will be able to know what helps our hearts focus on Him. How else can I focus on what God wants? (Prayer, going to church, praising him, talking with other believers.)

How can we lose focus on what is important? (Filling our hearts and minds with things that are not true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable.) Sometimes that happens without us realizing it. Think about the music you listen to. The tv shows, movies and videos you watch. The games you play. Not only can we lose our focus filling our minds with words and actions that don't please God,

but with spending all our time on other things that distract us from spending time with him too.

Sometimes we can get distracted and lose our focus. Just like using these binoculars. I can look at something far away. When I use the binoculars to focus on what I am looking at it becomes very clear. I can see all the details. However, I can hear something and turn my head away. Or something else can catch my eye and I lose focus. I have to keep my eyes, or as the scripture says "fix my eye" on what is important. Let's pray and ask God to keep our focus on Him.

Small Group Bible Study 2 Evening Day 2

Supplies: Magnifying glasses (students can share) , cliff cards.

What was your favorite part of the day? (*Allow for answers.*)

Let's say our camp verse together: fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2

We have already learned that God looks at our heart and that we should be friends that encourage and help one another in our faith. Let's pause for a minute and think about what faith is. Our camp verse says that Jesus is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. That means our faith or belief is in what Jesus has done for us.

Hold up the magnifying glass and ask: "What does this do?" (Allow the children to answer. Explain that a magnifying glass doesn't change the object—it simply helps us see what was already there. Have children look at their own fingerprints and a friend's fingerprint without the magnifying glass.) Can you see all the little details in your fingerprint? Probably not. But when we look through this magnifying glass...(Let them look through it.) Now you can see things you couldn't see before! Sometimes we think we're doing just fine, but when we look at our lives through God's Word, we see something important. Let's focus in on His word now.

We believe that God's word is true. In the very first book of the Bible we see that God created everything. All the beautiful things you see here at camp, God created. He also created people-Adam and Eve. God's word also says that He walked with Adam and Eve. Everything was perfect. (Show Card 1) However, man sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. The bible tells us that everyone sins. We can read this in **Romans 3:23**. "**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**" Can you tell me some things that are sins? Sin separates us from God. (Show card 2)

When there is sin there must be a payment for that sin. Romans 6:23 tells us what that payment is. "**For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is**

eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." The Bible says the payment for sin is death. God knew that we could not pay the wage for our sins. God loves us so much that He decided to send the payment for our sins. John 3:16 tells us, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son. That whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have eternal life." God sent His son, Jesus to earth. Jesus never thought, said or did anything that displeased God. He did not deserve to die but He took our place to pay the price of our sins. Another verse that talks about this is Romans 5:8. "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Show Card 3)

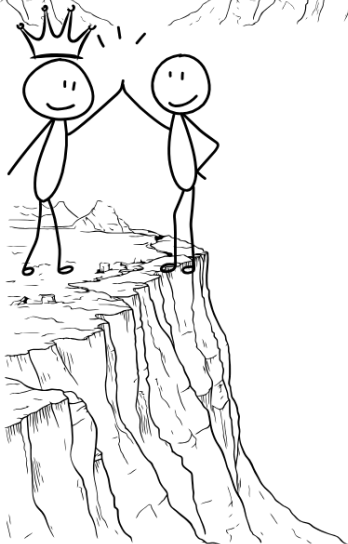
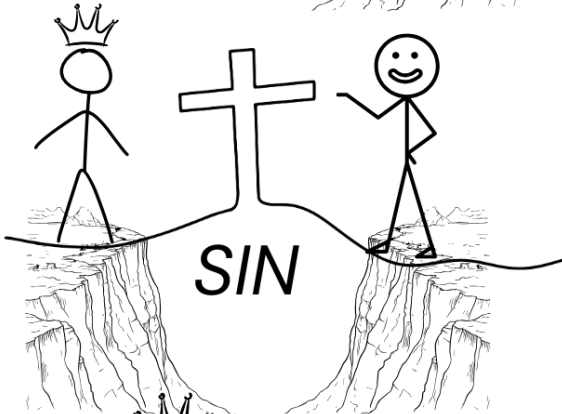
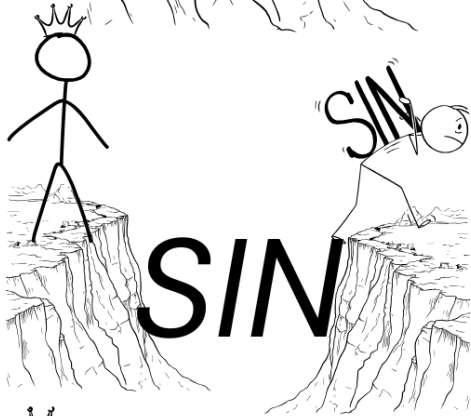
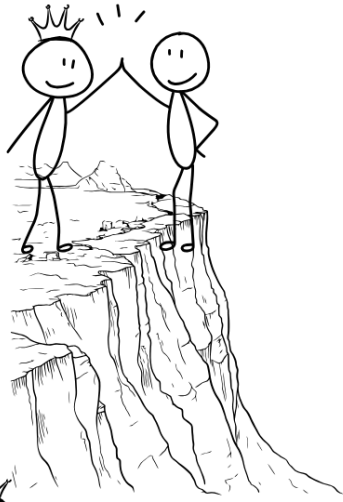
Jesus is the perfecter of our faith because His willingness to die on the cross-to pay the price for our sins-is the only way we could have a relationship with God. God's focus on us started at the beginning of time. He created us. Remember your fingerprints? Every one of is unique and creator by God. We are sinners and God made a way for us to be with Him by sending his son to die for us. Romans 10:9 says "If we confess with our mouths that Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead we will be saved."

Having faith is believing that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and that He rose from the grave to make a way for us to be close to God again. It also means that when you ask God to forgive you of your sins, believe God sent Jesus to pay the price of your sins through his death and resurrection, and commit to following Him -You will be saved.

(Pull out the magnifying glass again.) This magnifying glass helps us focus on tiny details. In the same way, we should keep our eyes focused on Jesus. When we look closely at what God says in the Bible, we see both our need for a Savior and His amazing love for us."

Tonight, you all have a challenge as you go to large group. Let's all lean in and listen to what God has to teach us tonight. Let's make sure we are ALL IN. Listening, singing and paying attention to what God has to teach us.

(Below is a picture of the cards you will receive for the bible study.)



Cabin Time

Night Two

Use this time to follow up with each student in your cabin. We are praying for you as you share with each of them. Just as a reminder here are the numbers from tonight's sermon.

1. I know that I have already turned from my sin and placed my faith in Jesus for salvation.
2. I have not done this yet, am not yet ready, and that's ok.
3. I have not done this yet, and I want to talk to someone about becoming a follower of Jesus.

Small Group Bible Study 3
Morning Day 3

Supplies: jar, bag of rice, bouncy ball, image sheet (students can share copies).

Small Talk: (As kids are getting settled, here are some things to talk about.)

What was your favorite thing that you did yesterday? What about that activity did you like? What did we talk about last night in Worship?

Let's say our camp verse together: "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2

In just a few short hours we are going to be headed home. Do you guys have some plans when you get home? (Allow students to name some things. Hold up the clear jar, a container of rice, and a large bouncy ball. Pour the rice into the empty jar until it is completely full.) Each grain of rice represents something that takes up our time—school, sports, games, chores, hobbies, television, phones, toys, friends, and even worries.

The bouncy ball represents Jesus. When we fill our lives with so many other things we often find that we don't have a place for Jesus. Simply because we have taken our focus off who is most important. (Place the bouncy ball on top of the rice showing there is no room for Jesus. Next, empty the jar. Place the bouncy ball in the jar first. Slowly pour the rice around it. The rice will settle into the spaces around the ball, allowing everything to fit together.

When Jesus comes first in our lives, everything else can find its proper place. It doesn't mean we stop doing fun things or important responsibilities. It means we make Jesus our highest priority and let Him guide the rest.

Let's read verses 1 and 2 of Hebrews 12. **1 Therefore, since we have such a large crowd of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run the race that lies before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."**

This verse tells us to "fix our eyes on Jesus." Think about a runner in a race. If they keep looking behind them or get distracted by the crowd, they might stumble. The best runners keep their focus on the finish line.

Our lives can become crowded with many good things, but even good things can distract us from the most important thing—our relationship with Christ. Spending time praying, reading God's Word, worshiping, going to church, and obeying Him helps us keep our focus where it belongs. When Jesus is first, He helps us know how to handle school, friendships, family, work, and play. But when everything else comes first, we often find ourselves too busy or too distracted to spend time with Him. Just like the bouncy ball only fit when it was placed in the jar first, Jesus deserves first place in our hearts and lives.

While we have been at camp, we have learned that God looks at the heart. What is your heart focused on? (Hand out the sheets of paper) Are there things that are keeping you from spending time with Jesus? (Have students look at the sheets and talk about the pictures that encourage them to keep their eyes on Jesus.) If there is something that is distracting us, we should set it aside like Hebrews 12:1 says.

We also learned that our friends can support us and help us follow God's plan. We need to surround ourselves with friends that encourage us and that we can encourage to follow Christ. One way to do that is going to church. Learning about Jesus together.

What is one way you can spend time with Jesus this week? How can you encourage one another in your walk with Jesus? Now think of friends who aren't here but go to church with you. How can you encourage them in their walk with Christ when you get home? Do you have friends that don't come to church? What are some ways that you can invite new people to church?

We are about to go to large group one more time. As we go, let's sing with all we have. Let's lean in and listen in to what God has to teach us. Let's pray and ask God to help us focus on what He has to show us before our last session.

