



Dear Youth Group Leader:

We are glad you are interested in Life Builders Work Camp. We know that this is a wonderful opportunity for you and your teens to minister to people who are less fortunate. The week will make a lasting impact to both the teenagers who are working and the people who are served. A youth leader who attended with us said, "A teen can attend a week of summer camp, and be somewhat impacted. But the impact of a work camp is greater and longer lasting."

Through Life Builders Work Camps, people are able to put their faith into practice, and live out what James tells his readers in James chapter 2:14-18. We believe in this principle, which is why we encourage youth groups to go above and beyond their comfort zone.

In an article in the Biblical Recorder entitled "Study finds mission trips encourage growth in faith,"<sup>1</sup> the following was found about people who attended a mission trip:

- **"Missions participation encourages faith, growth, and life commitments,"** said Michael Nuckolls, Campbell University Divinity School student and manager of the project. "Volunteer mission experiences give people an expanded view of God, their relationship with Christ, their role in God's plan, their relationships with other people, and their outlook on life.
- **Over 90 percent said they had a greater desire to share their faith.** "I'm always looking at people I don't know and wondering if they know Christ," Jerrylane Swisher said.
- **Almost a quarter specifically said their relationship with God had grown deeper.** Many mentioned God's desire to use those who are willing and/or their desire for God to use them
- **Through their interaction with other people, cultures and life situations, volunteers became more aware and appreciative** of both the differences and similarities in people... Several mentioned an increased ability to see the needs of people around them every day... "I am less judgmental and try to see the needs of others," reported one respondent.
- **What these volunteers seem to have discovered is an element of growth in faith and mercy** that comes through being involved in the lives and needs of other people... "I think that most people learn by doing. Most of us are experiential learners. Too many people think that the intellectual study comes first, then the practical application. When it comes to our faith, I think that the personal practical application comes first and the volunteer's faith grows because of the experience," said Richard Brunson, executive director of N.C. Baptist Men.

Our work camps build upon these points by keeping your youth group together at one site to foster closeness during the week.

An item that is of big concern to those working within youth ministry is the lasting effect on the teens' lives upon graduation. In an article entitled "No More Kid Stuff,"<sup>2</sup> the author records the following:

"Young people need to try to engage in a meaningful activity. . . In doing that, they attain growth and progress through their volunteering. We are effectively equipping them with first hand experiential knowledge of the value of serving others, and hopefully moving them into this while mindset of servant leadership. . ."

. . . it's part of the church's responsibility to engrain in young people an idea of unconditional servanthood.

(continued)

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"Another piece of the transition is to see how to serve God in all areas of life. There's the sense that many young adults don't really know what they're going to do, and they'll serve God when they find out what that is. . . We need to try to create an understanding that your entire life is to be under the reign of Christ."

Once you have decided to attend Life Builders and you pick your week, please submit your deposit per person by the date set to receive the early rate. Then make certain you have the following information for each person attending and mail it all to us with your final payment by the date specified:

<b>Teen</b> (Under 18 yrs. of age)	<b>Adult</b> (18 yrs. old and older)
Youth Registration Form	Adult Registration Form
Youth Medical Form	Adult Medical Form
Skills Sheet	Skills Sheet
Copy Front & Back of Your Health Insurance card	Copy Front & Back of Your Health Insurance card

Prior to mailing your forms, make copies of the Registration Forms, Medical Forms and Insurance Card for your records. We strongly suggest that you make copies to have in each vehicle that you bring to Work Camp.

All of the above forms can be downloaded and filled out to hand in to you, as the group leader, by anyone who has Internet access. You are also welcome to download the forms and make your own copies to distribute to those planning to attend Work Camp.

There is a "Teen Letter" and "Adult Letter" for your teens, their parents, and your adults to read, which describe the Life Builders Work Camp ministry, what they need to do to register, and how to prepare for their week of ministry.

A "Type of Work" list is provided to give you an idea of what you and your group may be asked to do during your week of ministry. There is also a "What To Bring" list which provides an idea of what each person should and should not pack. Additionally listed is what each group should bring, like tools and supplies.

Please take a few moments to look around our website, [www.theworkcamppeople.org](http://www.theworkcamppeople.org), to get some more information about the Type of Work, Participants, Dates & Locations, and Rates & Refund Policy. We care for the food, lodging, program, and work details so you can build relationships with your students while you serve. Spiritual Growth begins and then is nurtured at home because of our relational ministry approach.

If you have any questions or want more information, please send an email to [info@theworkcamppeople.org](mailto:info@theworkcamppeople.org).

May God bless you as you minister to the young church of today, and as you consider this opportunity to build relationships and minister in Jesus' name. God bless,

Sam Yeager  
Ministries Director

1 "Study finds mission trips encourage growth in faith." Biblical Recorder. May 16, 2003. May 20, 2008. <[http://www.biblicalrecorder.org/content/news/2003/5\\_16\\_2003/ne160503study.shtml](http://www.biblicalrecorder.org/content/news/2003/5_16_2003/ne160503study.shtml)>.

2 Yates, Eric. "No More Kid Stuff." Youth Worker Journal. Volume XXIV Number 5. (May/June 2008). May 20, 2008. <<http://www.youthworker.com/resources/culture/11575236/page3/>>.