

The Whole Gospel

by Diana Trautwein p. 35

What should Christian camps be teaching our youth today?

1. What is your earliest positive memory of attending camp? What memories of fear or discomfort do you have about summer camp?
2. Diana Trautwein remembers feeling pressured to come forward and say yes to Jesus at the campfire gatherings at her camp. Covenant camps still provide “altar call” opportunities and keep statistics on the numbers of campers making first-time commitments to Jesus. Do you think this focus has changed over the years? Why or why not?
3. What messages do you think should be taught to young people who attend Christian camps?
4. Christian camping and retreats have typically been viewed as a way to get away and grow in your relationship with Jesus, yet Trautwein suggests that camp should strike a balance between our inner development and taking the gospel to the outside world. Which do you think is emphasized most at our Covenant camps? How equal should the two viewpoints be?
5. Trautwein recalls our original denominational label—Mission Friends—with fondness. Does that name still reflect the priorities of your church?