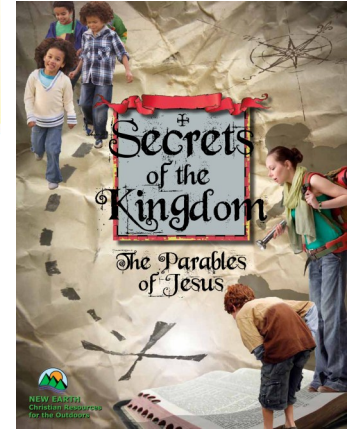


# SUMMER CAMPS 2012



Storytelling is as ancient as human communication. From writing on the walls of caves to oral tradition to written words to campfires and dinner tables - stories are how we pass on the meaning and beauty of our history. Stories make us laugh or cry. They make us more aware. They help us understand. They illuminate any shadowy spots in our lives. Jesus used stories to teach his disciples - and us - about what it means to live in his kingdom. The stories are called parables. In *Secrets of the Kingdom*, campers look to the Master Storyteller, Jesus himself, to discover six different parables and their meanings for our lives today.

#### Discovery 1: We Are God's Soil

Campers will hear the Parable of the Sower and consider how open we are to receive and respond to God's Word at camp and throughout our lives.

Scripture: Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

#### Discovery 2: We Can Ask Boldly

Campers will hear the Parable of the Friend in Need and discover that when we earnestly seek love and grace from God we will receive. Likewise, we are called to provide love and grace to others.

Scripture: Luke 11:5-10

#### Discovery 3: God Is Generous

Campers will hear the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard and consider that God's grace is not determined by anything we do, but through God's love alone.

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

#### Discovery 4: God Treasures Us

Campers will hear the Parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin and will consider that God cares for us no matter what we do and always looks for us because every one of us is precious to God.

Scripture: Luke 15:1-10

#### Discovery 5: Jesus Is in the "Least of These"

Campers will hear the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats and will consider ways we can open our eyes to the needs of the world and respond to them with compassion and generosity.

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

#### Discovery 6: God Plants Us in the World

Campers will hear the Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast and learn that God can use our smallest acts to grow the Kingdom.

Scripture: Matthew 13:31-35