

## **Tapawingo Parent/Guardian 2009 Survey**

There were 464 parent evaluations mailed out in September. As of October 29, 2009, 126 evaluations have been returned. This represents ¼ of our camper attendees.

Thank you all for your comments, concerns and suggestions. All evaluations are read thoroughly and assist in the future planning of Camp Tapawingo.

**Note:** All camper names have been replaced with 'camper', 'she', 'her', or 'daughter.' Some comments have been shortened slightly. Some evaluations represent more than one camper and therefore categories will add up to more than 126 responses.

### **HOW THEY HEARD**

Parent (Mom) attended as camper - 10  
Deerfoot - 13  
Family - 13  
Church - 14  
Friend - 43  
CAMP-of-the-WOODS – 34  
Tapawingo Girls Fellowship - 0  
Online - 1

### **NUMBER OF YEARS COMING**

1- 49  
2- 25  
3- 22  
4- 20  
5- 5  
6- 8  
7- 2  
8- 1  
9- 1  
10- 1

### **MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE**

Counselors/Staff- 16; "Positive and encouraging;" "Counselor antics."

Table cheers - 2

Banana Boat- 14

Friendship- 30

Fun - 1

Vespers on the rocks – 3

Activities – 20; "Wildlife (1), waterskiing (6), wakeboarding (3), archery (2), canoeing (2), sailing (1);" "First time on skis all the way around the island;" "Tried sailing for the first time and loved it."

Entertainment - 1

Event Hour – 3; "Olympics;" "Wells Fargo;" "Carnival or trench sphere evasion."

Christian relationships/environment - 2

Overnight hike - 8

Sleepout on the beach - 4  
 Counselor one-on-one - 12  
 Devos on the rocks – 1  
 Cabin devos – 1 “With Miss Karly.”  
 Hiking – 10 “Climbing Castle Rock and seeing God’s beauty.”  
 Everything- 11  
 Island swim - 2  
 Vespers - 1  
 Banquet – 4  
 Singing – 5  
 Being a CIT – 2 “CIT training was awesome;” “She loved everything about being a CIT.”  
 Crafts – 5  
 COTW Chapel – 1  
 Exercises – 2; “Doing extreme bananas.”  
 Debate with Miss Joy – 1  
 Hammock – 1  
 Deeper walk with Christ – 1  
 “How Great is Our God – DVD” – 1  
 Pranks – 3  
 All-camp bonfire – 2  
 Being regarded as an honor camper – 1  
 Mail call – 1  
 Learning – 1  
 Passing swim test – 1  
 Free-time – 1  
 Badges – 3 “Earning her tennis badge.”  
 Bible Teaching - 1

- “A counselor’s speech on modesty.”
- “Arriving mid-session after illness, not having her friend there, realizing she can survive anything.”
- “Watching Allison get baptized.”
- “Getting stuck in a sailboat with Miss Meredith, Margie, and Laura.”
- “She spent the last school year in a classroom with kids who were sarcastic and cruel to each other. After she came home from camp, she commented over and over about how kind, fun and gentle the counselors were.”

### **GOALS IN SENDING CAMPER(S) TO CAMP/GOAL ACHIEVED?**

Spiritual Growth - 54 Yes; 2 For the most part; 1 Somewhat; 1 Wee bit  
 Time alone with God – 1 Yes  
 Break from worldliness – 2 Yes  
 Feel presence of God – 2 “A seed was planted.”  
 Fun - 41 Yes  
 Not cry – 2 Yes  
 No gossip – 1 Yes  
 Lasting connections with others – 1 Yes

Experience a safe/secure place – 9 Yes  
 Well-rounded activity – 2 Yes  
 Firm in God's truth but asking questions/Bible teaching/education – 9 Yes  
 Outdoor experience – 2 Yes  
 Enjoyable Christian camp experience (sleep away) – 12 Yes  
 Grow in friendship with other campers that share the same faith and are bold – 4 Yes  
 Godly role models living for Jesus while being cool – 15 Yes  
 Learn about God's love and see it modeled through Godly women – 1 So-so  
 Life-changing time spent with other Christian girls – 1 Somewhat  
 Christian fellowship – 21 Yes  
 Grow with moral values – 2 "A seed was planted."  
 Character Development – 4 Yes  
 New Christian friends – 21 Yes  
 Closer relationship with Jesus/desiring it – 26 Yes; 3 Ongoing  
 Independence in a Christian experience – 23 Yes  
 Learn/love more about the Adirondacks/outdoors – 3 Yes  
 Develop Christian leadership – 1 Yes  
 Learning new Christian songs/worshipping with other Christian friends - 1  
 Survival Skills – 2 No  
 Encouragement to walk with God – 2 Yes  
 Break from craziness of life/relax – 3 Yes  
 Be bolder/have a heart for evangelism – 1 Yes; 1 Still unfolding  
 Coming out of her shell/interacting more with kids – 1 Somewhat  
 Greater understanding of Christianity – 1 Absolutely!  
 Enjoy sports/activities that can't do at home – 4 Yes; 1 For the most part  
 Discover something new about herself in God's love/confidence – 5 Yes  
 Learn more about devotionals – 1 Yes  
 Learning to get along with peers on a day to day basis – 1 Yes  
 To have her surrounded by loving Christians who taught her about Christ – 1 Yes  
 Reward her hard work throughout the year – 1 Yes

- "I was diagnosed with cancer this past year and wanted camp to be a place where they felt safe and secure and not stressed out. I wanted them to come away from camp firm in God's truth but also asking questions."
- "Several awesome experiences."
- "She feels very strongly about her faith and is emerging as a leader in her school and church community."
- "Every year I see my daughter start the school year strong and finish having done well, but feeling exhausted and spiritually drained. At Tap she refuels and gets spiritually nurtured."
- "To be challenged to do the impossible, made possible only through Christ... Absolutely this goal was met! Tap has been life-changing for her!"
- "To experience that to be a Christian is a positive thing and that a strong Christian life is desirable."
- "We wanted our daughter to grow in her spiritual walk, experience independence and make new friends." Yes, however spiritually we would have liked to see a

little more growth but also realize it is also up to the individual camper to help make that happen.

- “Reading her Bible more consistently. She’s easy to correct. Readily sorry for actions.”
- “To gain strength within.” YES
- “I sent her to Tapawingo for many reasons. The main reason was because of the camp’s Christ-centered policies. Another is my level of comfort because of familiarity. A big reason was in order to give her a chance to experience independence within a very safe environment.”
- “To grow deeper in faith and see the Word played out in the lives of other strong Christian leaders. Also to make great Christian friendships.” Yes (in as much as one week can make a difference).
- “To encourage her spiritual growth apart from mom and dad, to help her grow in her independence, to help her make new friends on her own.”
- “I believe her faith is now more her own.”
- “She always comes home JUBILANT and refreshed with so many stories!”
- “As an only child, I wanted her to have a social experience away from home. This was her first time away from mom and dad for an extended time. She had a wonderful social experience. She came home with wonderful stories and more confidence.”

#### **HAS YOUR CAMPER STAYED IN CONTACT WITH FRIENDS/STAFF?**

Yes – 93

No – 23

Not yet, but she plans to – 9

Somewhat - 3

With girls she already knew - 5

The different methods for communication have been letters, e-mail, postcards, Facebook, Skype, MySpace, phone calls, packages, IM, texting and visits with friends.

- “They get together at church.”
- “Planning a CIT reunion.”
- “I’ve lost count of the letters that have been sent and received :o)”
- “She has written some letters to counselors but hasn’t heard back from any. She did get a letter from another camper.”
- “There have been some phone calls and a “smattering” of letters. They LOVE getting letters from counselors.”
- “Counselors have been great about writing back.”
- “I LOVE that staff keeps up with their former campers in such a relevant way.”
- “For the first few weeks.”
- “No, we are missionaries in Colombia, South America.”
- “In the beginning, but it has since subsided.”
- “A few phone calls to campers.”
- “Not really, but she has photos posted in her room and talks about it fondly.”

- “Will be visiting friend.”
- “She will be meeting up with Miss Hannah and Miss Anna tomorrow.”
- “Received some postcards from counselors. Got together with a girl in my cabin for a playdate and sleepover this summer.”

### **CHARACTER CHANGE SINCE BEING AT HOME?**

Yes – 75

No – 25

Yes/no – 4

? – 1

Wants to - 1

Not really – 7

Slightly – 4

Somewhat - 3

More aware of need to spend time with God – 5

Prays more – 3

More time/faithfulness in Bible – 8

Character - 1

In some ways - 1

Having Quiet Time/More consistency- 8

Increased faith - 2

Modesty - 1

No-gossip - 1

Independence – 3

More patient/respectful of others – 1

Better attitude – 2

Greater commitment to Christ - 1

More confident – 2

More introspective - 1

Happier - 2

More upbeat/cooperative – 1

More appreciative of me (mom)/family – 3

More mature/responsible – 7

Identified gifts/talents – 1

Desire for more Christian friends – 2

Increased awareness of worldly things/making biblical choices - 1

- “She grows in grace and appreciation for others. CIT broadened and deepened her.”
- “Better attitude toward her dad.”
- “I’m lucky; she’s devoted to God and family prior to camp. The experience reinforced her faith.”
- “No, but that’s okay – she is great the way she is.”
- “Matured spiritually, socially and personally.”
- “More of a change after last summer, but strength of character grew.”

- “Enjoys telling us stories from her 2 weeks there.”
- “She was awestruck when she came home.”
- “No, I didn’t feel any of these things needed to change but her faith did increase.”
- “Small changes – more responsible and right after camp more generous to her brother and more joyful.”
- “There are moments when she rethinks a situation and decides to do what Jesus would have her do.”
- “No huge changes but she was very happy to learn a way to mark scripture with colors.”
- “She was always good.”
- “Up every morning at 6 to read her Bible. I know Tapawingo has inspired her to do this.”
- “Baptized today!”
- “She is reading her Bible everyday now.”
- “She always comes home fired up to learn more.”
- “She’s still a ‘work in progress.’”
- “Listening a lot to Christian music and hymns.”
- “No, she’s pretty easy-going anyway.”
- “Not really, but she’s a good girl.”
- “Camp had a VERY POSITIVE impact on her whether she realizes it or not.”
- “No, she had good habits before camp.”
- “I see more maturity, self-control and joy.”
- “Her continued contact with other campers/counselors has been very helpful since she is in a new community/school.”
- “Came home asking for help in finding extended time for Bible reading/prayer.”
- “She is always the sweetest when she has just been picked up from camp (to her sister etc.) but her faith remains strong.”
- “Tapawingo is a wonderful reinforcement of what we teach/do at home. Thank you.”
- “I haven’t noticed a difference this year but that is no reflection on the camp.”
- “I’m very pleased! Seems less apt to stay angry or disagreeable, more patience, prays more, talks about religion more (asks questions etc.)
- “I see subtle changes here and there – it certainly doesn’t hurt her character at all!”
- “Yes, but not with her brother.”
- “Yes, but I need to remind her to be consistent with her quiet time with God. I appreciate your program so much!”
- “First 2 weeks, she was very responsible, but turned back to herself afterwards.”

**WHAT DID YOUR DAUGHTER THINK OF THE FOLLOWING?  
OVERALL CAMP EXPERIENCE**

Very Satisfied – 112

Satisfied – 19

Average – 2

Below Average – 1  
Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Awesome!”
- “They are looking forward to returning.”
- “I don’t worry about her when she’s at Tapawingo. I know she’s in great care.”
- “Rewarding experiences.”
- “She loved it!”
- “We recommend Tap to all wholeheartedly!”
- “It is truly a place of joy.”
- “Terrific job!”
- “Great job! You have great people and it really shows – Tap is truly a place of joy. I am thankful my daughters have connected there. Keep it up!”
- “It is such an awesome place. Why else would \_\_\_\_\_, like her mom, cry under the realization that you cannot go back as a camper (too old).”
- “Very enjoyable first year.”
- “She enjoyed her two weeks so much this summer that she is asking for three weeks next summer.”
- “This was her first experience away from home on her own; and it was good.”
- “She loves everything about Tapawingo.”
- “She wants to go for 4 weeks next summer after 3 this year. That is an indication of how much she enjoyed Tapawingo.”
- “Everything about Tapawingo has been extremely pleasing to my daughter.”
- “We did not get the letters she sent to COTW. Only got 1 because it was mailed to our home. Also she mailed one to her brother at Deerfoot and he never got it. We were somewhat concerned but knew she was in good hands. She was disappointed we did not get them.”
- “She loves Tapawingo. If told she could go all summer she would.”
- “She loved it all! She is very excited to return and has something to say about Tapawingo every day (I’m not kidding)!”
- “I think she may want to come every year and then do CIT and on from there.”
- “She just LOVES Tapawingo! It’s a wonderful experience for her.”
- “I know it’s camping, but two showers – quick ones at that – weren’t enough for her!”
- “It’s such a pleasure on the ride home with the girls. For 2 hours they talk non-stop about their week and what they did. It’s obvious they enjoy Tap.”
- “I love Tapawingo!”
- “Keep up the great work. God bless you always!”
- “I know without a doubt that this was an amazing experience for her because I have encouraged her to go to Tapawingo for years and she would not...as soon as she saw me she said, “Mom, I want to go back for 2 weeks next year! Thank you!”

## **CABIN MATES**

Very Satisfied – 103

Satisfied – 29

Average – 6

Below Average – 1

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “With most.”
- “My daughter was homesick and shy, so cabin mates (she mentioned 5) who knew each other were possibly not as inclusive as could have been (she felt).”
- “She would love to NOT be in a cabin with girls from our hometown. She likes to meet new friends and sort of escape from the cliques and relationship stress at home.”
- “She said she wants to go again for just one week but not plan to go with an existing friend. She said it was easier to start fresh.”
- “Trouble with a cabin-mate. She did not like the continued cruel behavior of a certain cabin-mate toward another.”
- “She was in a cabin with younger girls her first week but adapted and seemed to have a good attitude.”
- “I know the three friends will remember this experience for their whole lives! Thank you!”

## **COUNSELORS**

Very Satisfied – 119

Satisfied – 18

Average – 3

Below Average – 0

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Loved them.”
- “The highlight.”
- “I think the influence of other girls who are older and love the Lord is HUGE!”
- “Post-camp contact with counselors would be appreciated.”
- “Counselors were so great – genuinely loving their campers.”
- “I’m so thankful for the counselors and staff who pour so much of God’s love and invest so much spiritually in the campers!”
- “Her counselors were wonderful! They went above and beyond! I do appreciate them!”
- “Her counselors were awesome!”
- “At times she felt her counselors didn’t know how to answer her questions. She has been raised on staff at CCC and her dad went to seminary so for her, she’s grown up with theology.”

- “We were disappointed one counselor was ill and exposed campers to disease. Also, her cabin mate was on the opposite side of the cabin so they weren’t really together. The counselor did not help remedy the situation.”
- “Miss Emily Flavin and Bekah Tripp – nice, kind, very Christ-like, a lot of fun, careful. Would take them for counselors any time!”
- “I loved all the counselors!”
- “It’s wonderful to have Godly role models in her life. As she gets older, these become much more important than parents and it’s a blessing to have this at Tap!”
- “The staff was very accommodating and a pleasure to deal with. You make the girls’ experience memorable!”
- “Counselors were very impressive. Made a large impact on my daughter.”
- “Miss Jacqueline and Miss Anna were great counselors.”
- “Your counselors are awesome – one of the key factors of your success/effectiveness.”

## **FOOD**

Very Satisfied – 86

Satisfied – 31

Average – 15

Below Average – 4

Very Unsatisfied – 1

- “Brought her own gluten free food.”
- “Sorry. She is very unsatisfied because Deerfoot boys rave about their food!”
- “Having a food allergy made it more awkward.”
- “She has celiac and she felt her needs were VERY well taken care of. She was thrilled with the food. Thank you for taking such good care of her.”
- “Need milk at meals beside breakfast. Really liked the banquet.”
- “Good – just not used to camp food. Friday night banquet was FANTASTIC! Cordon bleu and tortellini. Dessert too!”
- “This is a silly thing, but it has always been a struggle to get her to eat and yet she loves to eat at Tap. Her eating habits at home have greatly improved since coming.”
- “Fix the food – needs to be healthier, not laden in grease/gravies/butter.”
- “From what she told me, the camp food has come a LONG way since I was there 20+ years ago.”
- “She didn’t like having to eat food she didn’t like (which thankfully wasn’t much).”
- “She was extremely grateful that her dietary needs were so kindly and competently handled.”

## **PROGRAM/ACTIVITY AREAS**

Very Satisfied – 110

Satisfied – 25

Average – 4

Below Average – 0  
Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Loved capture the flag. Didn’t love the slip-and-slide.”
- “She had 2 disappointing activities. She was strongly encouraged to choose ‘wildlife’ and was looking forward to lots of discovery on the grounds. Instead, she reported, “We sat on the rocks and talked about creation.” The other girl in her cabin who had encouraged her to choose ‘wildlife’ had a very different experience, learning all about...wildlife!”
- “The only disappointment she had was not being able to do some favorite water activities. She said a couple of girls in her cabin rushed ahead a few times and got to do things several times while she was never able to.”
- “She felt there wasn’t enough time to complete some activities.”
- “Should play field games more often.”
- “She was really nervous taking the swim test within 20 minutes of her arrival and feels she didn’t do well enough and therefore didn’t get to do some of the water things she was hoping for. It would be nice to offer a mid-week re-test (We do!).”
- “Wanted to banana boat more.”
- “In 2 cases, when she was anticipating a fun activity, it was replaced with Bible time. She was removed from mini-golf involuntarily because there were too many on the list, rather than asking for volunteers to switch activities.”
- “Reluctant to return next year because of the required 12 and older sleepout (overnight camping).” *(Please note: Cabins that are older than 12 may or may not campout – this is up to the discretion of the program director)*
- “She was disappointed to not be going on an overnight. She loved hiking Crane.”
- “I wished for more wilderness survival skills – required for all campers to accomplish (because they would not necessarily choose to do it as an activity themselves).
- “Heard from girls about some disorganization on part of counselor/leadership (in program areas).”

## **BIBLE TEACHING**

Very Satisfied – 105

Satisfied – 33

Average – 1

Below Average – 0

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “She didn’t share much with me.”
- “I liked it.”
- “I had hoped to perhaps observe some spiritual initiatives gained during her week at camp. She is somewhat resistant to parental urging toward devotional discipline. It may have been encouraged while at Tapawingo, but I couldn’t see evidences upon her return. I was hoping!”
- “She did say the bible teaching was geared a little more for the older girls.”

- “In terms of Bible teaching, she liked vespers more than power hour.”

### **CIT PROGRAM (if applicable)**

Very Satisfied – 17

Satisfied – 1

Average – 0

Below Average – 0

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Hopefully my daughter will do this next year.”
- “Very very satisfied.”
- “She hopes to be a CIT someday.”

### **INTERACTION WITH STAFF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL**

Very Satisfied – 111

Satisfied – 21

Average – 1

Below Average – 1

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Confusing at times.”
- “This year my daughter broke her hand before we were supposed to drop her off and your staff was very accommodating with her arriving a day later. They were great with her when she got there and made her fit right in.”
- “We came the night before Tapawingo started and got to see the concert and worship at CAMP-of-the-WOODS. We loved it. It’s a little piece of heaven. The staff we came in contact with were all just wonderful!”
- “Thank you for arranging pick-up/drop-off at Albany Airport. Please continue.”

### **INTERACTION WITH STAFF UPON ARRIVAL**

Very Satisfied – 113

Satisfied – 20

Average – 2

Below Average – 2

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Hugs, chats, and hi’s.”
- “The counselors did not introduce themselves when we arrived and failed to engage in any conversation with the parents.”
- “I feel upon arrival the counselors should introduce themselves to you in the cabin. They did not come out to meet me etc. I am very comfortable with Tapawingo being a camper myself and know how things work. If I was new I would be very unsure of a lot.”
- “When we arrived the counselor that met us just left us in the field because the next boat arrived. We didn’t know where we were.”

- “We would have liked a little more time/opportunity to talk with the counselors she was spending the week with (we also could have taken more time on our part to talk with them but it was so new to us that we weren’t sure how long to stay on the island etc.).”
- “The love and compassion are fabulous. The welcoming singing upon arriving at the island makes such a great impression. You can just feel the love and joy!”

## **REGISTRATION OF YOUR CAMPER**

Very Satisfied – 101

Satisfied – 27

Average – 6

Below Average – 1

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Weather was awful.”
- “Rainy, crazy day. Long wait. One boat.”
- “Everyone was friendly and efficient making the registration process so easy!”
- “Because the check-in is focusing on efficiency there isn’t much opportunity for warm, friendly interaction with the staff.”
- “The staff has always been helpful in our difficulties with registration/calendar. My only comment is it would be nice if registration didn’t open until Feb. It is SO hard to plan for next summer in late fall because my daughter goes with her friend and schedules with all family members aren’t set. We’ve been closed out of our 1<sup>st</sup> choice week because we had to wait on schedules from other people.”
- “The only thing I would say is the wait was very long to check-in but I do not know how that could be improved, so it was okay.”
- “It is a breeze now these last few years.”
- “Registration took much more time than anticipated (week 8). It took 3+ hours. I had a 5 hour drive that took 6.5 because of traffic.”
- “Much faster this year!”
- “Registration went much quicker this year!”
- “Some of the important documents that I had turned in the day of registration couldn’t be found by camp staff. I was called a few times telling me she should not have been left there without these papers turned in. However I had turned them in. After I called back and left a message about the situation, asking for a call back when they found the papers, I didn’t get a call. I had to call several times to get a live person at which time I was informed the papers had been found.”
- “Everything was great. The only part of registration that took time was waiting for the boat to take her out to the island.”
- “Did not initially receive some documents – had to follow up before camp.”
- “My husband had amazing help registering her.”
- “Registration is ALWAYS a big thrill and has come a long way in being efficient. I love that the store is always open!”
- “Very well-thought out. Prayer cover was self-evident. Only positive comments.”

- “Only suggestion for registration: assign boat # to families so we don’t just stand in a group waiting our turn. That got a bit awkward because no one wanted to be pushy but we all wanted to get over to the island. :o)”
- “Check in and check-out have come a long way and I was very impressed with the staff and how organized everything was – right down to the plastic bags provided during the monsoon!”
- “It was pouring and the system wasn’t efficient for check-in. The staff didn’t communicate well which line to go to and why. Boat needs to be more weather proof so gear doesn’t get wet.”

### **CHECK-OUT OF YOUR CAMPER**

Very Satisfied – 108

Satisfied – 22

Average – 6

Below Average – 1

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Pick up – they sent my daughter’s gear to mainland and called – but she was staying 2 sessions!”
- “Twice my daughter was sick when we picked her up. I would have appreciated a phone call the day before to make arrangements for a doctor visit or to get medications.”
- “Probably nothing can be done to improve the long line and head checks at registration but something must be done about checkout. The ‘sinking of the dock’ and awkward wait for campers needs to change.”
- “I was very pleased with all aspects of the camp including preparation, check-in and pickup.”
- “They even mailed her an earring that was lost as they were leaving. Thank you!”

### **QUALITY OF CABINS**

Very Satisfied – 96

Satisfied – 32

Average – 8

Below Average – 0

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Cabins are exactly the same as when I went there – LOVE IT!”
- “Oneida – Nice and roomy!”
- “She was thrilled to be in the Apache cabin because it was so close to the water. I just don’t think Tapawingo can be improved upon!”
- “We thought the cabins could have been a bit cleaner and less “buggy.”
- “Cabins are a bit small. Could have been cleaner.”
- “Apache cabin is the best! SO beautiful!”

## **QUALITY OF CAMPGROUNDS**

Very Satisfied – 103

Satisfied – 26

Average – 6

Below Average – 0

Very Unsatisfied – 0

- “Great setting for a kids’ camp.”
- “You make the most of limited property and facilities.”

## **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (see above quotes)**

### **SPIRITUAL TRUTHS YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CAMPER TO LEARN WHILE AT CAMP**

Owning their faith – 3 “Especially in light of future college attendance and challenges.”

Continuing devotions at home – 3 “What, when, why, how.”

Attributes of God: Omniscient, all-powerful, merciful, faithfulness, awesome – 3

Trusting God – 4

Anti-perfectionism - 1

Obedience to God – 2

Nothing specific at this time – 2

God is always with us even during hard times – 4

Purity – 3

Holiness – 2

Honesty – 2

Putting God first – 1

Personal relationship with Jesus/going deeper in walk with Him – 10

To rely on Jesus, not herself – 3

For older girls: How to remain sexually pure – 2 “Choosing to wait until marriage.”

Deeper understanding of herself - 1

True marks of a Christian (Rom. 12, 1 John) – 2

Daily Bible reading – 4

Prayer - 2

Uniqueness of Christianity compared to other religions – 2

Evidence of the resurrection – 2

Christ’s deep love for them – 11

He will never leave or forsake her - 1

She’s beautiful in His sight – 1 “Worry less about outward appearance.”

Need for repentant heart when she sins - 1

The Great Commission – 1

His forgiveness - 1

Holiness of God – 1

Grace – 2

Actively sharing her faith/standing up for she believes (especially in public school) – 4

Practical ways to show she’s a Christian – 1

Only God is perfect, forgive yourself - 1

How to make Christ Lord of her life – 1  
 God's Sovereignty – 1  
 His provision – 1  
 Moses and difference between Moses and Jesus – 1  
 Fundamentals of faith: godly speech, attitude, Christian worldview – 2  
 Authority and truth of God's word - 1  
 Sanctification – 1  
 Holy Spirit's role in our lives – 1  
 End times – 1  
 How to deal with those with different beliefs – 2  
 How to apply principles of Scripture to daily life – 3  
 How to deal with peer relationships: Christian and non-Christian friends – 2  
 Basic Christian knowledge – 1  
 More in-depth Bible teaching and application – 1  
 Being a godly woman – How to manage inner and outer beauty - 2  
 Love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself – 1  
 Identity/security in Christ – 4  
 Jesus is the same today, yesterday, and forever – 1  
 Jesus is the answer to all problems – 1  
 The Lordship of Christ – 1  
 Love, acceptance, help your 'neighbor' – 1  
 Reality of Satan and his tactics – 1  
 Not bullying and forms of bullying and leaving others "out" – 1  
 Modesty and WHY it's important as a Christian young lady in today's culture – 2  
 Self-control – 1  
 It's okay to be different - 1  
 Personal responsibility for maturing – 1  
 How to live a vibrant, victorious Christian life – 1  
 Value her femininity and wait for God's spouse – 1  
 Being in the world, but not of it – 2 "Wear the armor of Christ daily."  
 God has a plan for her life - 2

- "More about Jesus – as she did this year."
- "I'd love for her to SEE how God has worked in her life – even if she hasn't seen it yet."
- "Learning to be hungry for more. Importance of surrendering our life to His."
- "Things pale in comparison to heavenly things but while earthly we can direct our lives to help others."
- "Active righteousness vs. passive righteousness (i.e. our 'rightness' comes from what Christ has done for us and NOT what we try to do)."
- "Reinforce that the Bible can help you with any difficulties in life and that our choices should honor God."
- "To be confident in who Christ has made her to be; that she can tap into God's power and strength at any time, that she can do all things through Christ, that God has a specific plan for her!"
- "You're doing a great job!" - 2
- "Keeping Christ at the center of everyday decisions and behaviors."

- “That it’s cool to be a teen and have a relationship with Jesus.”
- “She loved the talks on modesty and Bible memorization.”
- “In today’s world Christians are known more for what we are against rather than what we stand for. I would like my daughter to know what Jesus died for.”
- “Fear is not of the Lord (she fears storms).”
- “Having kindness, compassion, love of Christ reflected in their treatment of others. I have been very happy with the teaching they have received over the years.”
- “I think of Esther and Daniel type themes and having a vital relationship with God in a ‘foreign’ or worldly culture...and intimately knowing Jesus.”
- “As young girls, they are special because they are made in God’s image. God loved them so much, He sent His Son to die for them. Because He loved them so much, they should love and serve Him and love others and care for others.”
- “Christ’s acceptance of all.”
- “Focusing on teaching practical Spirit-led living in a godless world – being a light for Christ. How to love Jesus by loving/being patient with siblings.”
- “To do all her work as to the Lord. Prayer changes things (and hearts and minds).”
- “I’d like her to witness God’s truth working out in the lives of mature Christian women. I’d like her to know that God’s truth can change all of us and make us more like Him. I’d like her to see examples of His love through others.”
- “Keep doing what you’ve always done!”
- “God doesn’t look at the outward appearance but the heart. He wants us to walk humbly with Him, recognizing we are filled with sin, some we see, some we don’t; some are good in our eyes. Everyday we wash our feet from defilement along the way by exposing to Him our idols and sins. God is a huge umbrella covering us and all our sins, past, present, future.”

## **WHAT WORLDLY/CULTURAL INFLUENCES ARE AFFECTING YOUR CAMPER TODAY?**

Peer Pressure- 17

Fashion/Materialism/Clothing/Greed/Stuff - 24

Perfection - 2

Dating/Boys- 6

Friends - 10

Media - 3

Music- 21

Television – 21

Movies – 13

Computer/Internet/Facebook - 10

Popularity- 4

Billboards - 1

Technology - 3

Bullying/disrespect of others - 3

Acceptance of homosexuality - 1

Language - 5

Secular worldview as authoritative - 2  
Body image/beauty/appearance/self-worth - 18  
Sports - 3  
Eating disorder - 1  
Sibling interaction - 1  
Drugs, alcohol and sex - 5  
Gossip - 5  
Immodesty - 9  
Acceptance among peers/cliques - 3  
Failures of other believers – particularly those in leadership - 1  
Public school - 13  
Relativism (all religions lead to the same God) – 4  
Fame - 2  
Crudeness/sexuality - 2  
Pop culture - 3  
American girl dolls – 1  
Disrespect of elders - 1  
Sassiness – 3  
Selfishness - 3

- “They are seeing and hearing a lot of things we do not approve of. We continue to talk about it so they will remember how God ordered things from how to live, to language.”
- “Identity – hard to keep it focused on being a child of God.”
- “Thankfully she is still less influenced by negative worldly culture than many her age. No TV and homeschool help tremendously.”
- “Standing up for herself against those who would put her down.”
- “She’s very uncomfortable when others take the name of the Lord in vain.”
- “As a homeschooler, she really doesn’t ‘fit in’ with some. But I am so thankful that she can be herself at camp and make wonderful friends!”
- “Pressure of life after high school.”
- “Darwinism, humanism, environmentalism (the new communism vs. conservation – care of God’s creation).”
- “Children wanting to separate from parental guidance.”
- “Usual – Being surrounded by people who see no need for God or need to live by anything but their own standards.”
- “You name it! Dress, language, technology, alcohol, disrespect of elders.”
- “All the regular stuff – ‘mean girl’ attitude, coveting material things, etc.”

### **WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE SHE NEEDS TO WORK ON IN HER WALK WITH THE LORD?**

Time with God/closer relationship - 23  
Daily/increased Bible reading and study – 27  
Fellowship – 1  
Patience – 1 “He has a plan for her.”  
Prayer – 25  
Praise – 2

Confession/honesty – 2  
 Gentleness/patience – 1 “Knowing when not to speak her piece.”  
 Hunger - 2  
 Unselfishness/servanthood/compassion - 7  
 Head knowledge applied to heart/actions - 4  
 Surrender/obedience/submission to God (and parents) – 6  
 Focus on her, not faults of others; seeing others with eyes of Christ - 3  
 Showing her faith in everyday life – 2  
 Church more often - 1  
 Reliance on His peace - 2  
 Awareness of her sin and have a contrite heart - 2  
 Consistency - 1  
 Speaking truth in all areas of her life – 1  
 Accepting forgiveness - 1  
 Responsibility - 1  
 No concerns - 1  
 Grace – 3  
 Trusting God – 5 “Resting in His love and assurance.”  
 Evangelism/heart for lost – 5  
 To be set apart – 1  
 Not to “please” people – 1  
 No gossip/holding her tongue - 2  
 Attitude – 1  
 Not sure – 1  
 Confidence – 2  
 Faith – 2  
 Knowing her value in Christ – 1  
 Ownership - 1  
 No materialism – 2  
 Understanding a Christian worldview – 1  
 Being able to stand for what she knows is right - 1

- “Knowing and continuing to develop an intimate relationship with God; praying and not panicking; trusting not just trying; living for God/loving/being loved by God – not just ‘looking’ like a good Christian on the outside.”
- “She is 10 years old and any time in the Word is precious.”
- “She is a ‘good’ girl. She needs to see ways that she is a sinner in need of a Savior.”
- “Learning who she is, making decisions about her path and negotiating around the difficulties blocking the path.”
- “Pursue faith – not just family faith.”
- “Love her sisters; put more effort in her activities.”
- “Trusting God to save the lost – she has a PART but it’s not all her responsibility.”
- “Making a change in her personal relationships with friends and family.”
- “Loving, forgiving, being patient with her siblings who annoy her. Having a more positive outlook on learning (school).”

- “Surrender of her will, desires, and emotions to the Lord – a lifelong process!”

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR**

- Hand sanitizers located throughout camp.
- Refrain from singing melancholy songs at night campfires (promotes homesickness before bed).
- She had to wait ‘til Thursday to get a shower so her sleeping bag smelled yucky. NOT GOOD. She and I would like to see the shower time schedule better facilitated.
- Could you do a basketball section?
- More Bible memory reinforced by “cabin scores” (to encourage group as a whole to all do it).
- You’ve focused on the above concerns just fine – keep up the good work!
- She needs to feel empowered enough to talk about and share her experiences (or write about them).
- Empower these young women to fall in love with Jesus, to not settle for good but to seek God’s best; to bloom where He plants them!
- More teachings to combat secular cultures.
- What is the religious curriculum presented so that we may follow up once our campers return home?
- Always continue the ONE-ON-ONES. These are a real blessing.
- We are very, very pleased with the ministry of Tapawingo. She flourished at Tap. If anything, I would stress self-image informed by image of God in Christ.
- Specific instruction/application for daily study, prayer, and building a personal relationship with God (It sticks much better coming from a mentor vs. the parents!).
- Please give parents more direction upon arrival at island.
- Free archery time so you can get your badge.
- Stay open! Have a week for mom to be a kid again.
- Don’t open registration for next year so early.
- Shower situation and time. Better shower area.
- Need to enforce NO TOLERANCE for campers who exhibit mean behavior.
- Would love to see an alternative for longer hiking/canoeing/camping trips for 2 weekends to develop those skills (even if it costs more).
- Keep the director! 3 directors in 4 summers is hard on the girls.
- Practice sharing her faith.
- Teach them how to have quiet times where they really seek God and teach them what earnest prayer is (pray more for others and themselves).
- Explore more hands-on media workshop activities as an option for sessions.
- We live in a highly competitive sports community. Help the girls focus on what is true success (character).
- Don’t make stayovers move their stuff first to the chapel and then to a stay-over cabin (too much hauling of stuff).
- Less vehemence in enforcing the dress code would help campers be better able to understand the Christian message.

- In general, I would like there to be less focus on talk about materialism – clothes – I know you are not doing this – it’s just a reality that kids interact sometimes in this way.
- Possibly a discounted price for those campers who need to bring their own food to camp, like gluten free (she had to bring \$75-\$100 worth of food with her).
- Quality of counselors is great – hers were open and kind and supportive so she could turn to them.
- Make them write a letter home in the first 24 hours so we know they’re alive!

## **WOULD YOU RECOMMEND TAPAWINGO TO FRIENDS?**

VERY HIGHLY- 118

HIGHLY- 18

AVERAGE- 1

NEGATIVE - 0

NOT AT ALL - 0

## **ANY OTHER COMMENTS?**

- “We love Tapawingo!”
- “Each year it seems like it is the counselors who impact our daughter. We pray the Lord will continue to call young women to your staff who have a passion for Christ and youth ministry. Thank you for another great camping experience for our daughter. She LOVED it.” (THANK YOU! PLEASE KEEP PRAYING!)
- “Thank you so much again for the way you all handled her hospital visit. VERY professional – we knew that she was in good hands. Thank you for being so communicative with us during the whole process.”
- “I am going to send them again this next year. Great camp.”
- “They both loved their time at camp and enjoyed being with other Christian girls. Thank you for being obedient to the Lord’s call in serving the girls.”
- “She loves it at Tap and feels the unconditional love from the counselors and campers. She wants to stay longer next summer...”
- “You guys do a great job. Can’t wait for her, and now her sister, to go next summer.”
- “I think next year she will go for 2 weeks and that will really create the “cement” we’re looking for.”
- “We feel so blessed to have found Tapawingo! Next year we are applying for financial aid as it is getting harder to save for camp!”
- “She had a wonderful time! Thank you for everything!”
- “Thank you for allowing her to attend even though she was only 8 at the time. We appreciate that you would consider girls on a case by case basis. We were confident she could handle it and she loved it!”
- “She enjoyed receiving a letter from her counselors. As parents we appreciated receiving a postcard as well.”
- “The only disappointment she had was that she didn’t get her drama badge. Since she is 15 now, I was secretly surprised that these badges mean a great deal to her. Tapawingo really inspires her to do her best in all areas of her life.

Our little daughter is only 4 but knows the Tapawingo songs! I hope we will be able to send her someday too!"

- "She looks forward to next year and wants to attend for two weeks."
- "Would love to see growth in a tripping program."
- "Well-done!"
- "Thank you for a wonderful '1<sup>st</sup>' experience for my daughter!"
- "She was very homesick but the counselors were wonderful with her! I appreciate them!"
- "I was so pleased that she had such a positive experience. It is really tough letting them go – especially not under your own care. She realized that it is healthy to be away from home and reasonably miss your family but still be alright."
- "The camp store did not have small sizes (youth) for sweatshirts and sweatpants."
- "My daughter said counselors did not play games with them in cabin (card games etc.) as her counselors in the past have."
- "Thank you – would be helpful as parents to have some outside evaluation from counselors about leadership, teaching, relationship capacities, strengths, weaknesses, etc."
- "We will return!"
- "I wish I could have gone when I was 13."
- "I am very grateful for the opportunity for her to attend."
- "She has enjoyed her time at Tap and hopes to do the CIT program in 2011 and I'm encouraging her to do so."
- "Miss Karly – the best Craft Cabin Counselor Tap has ever had."
- "Admin. staff – real friendly."
- "She wants to come 2 weeks next year which means staying over the weekend. I heard Saturday was boring. I would hope there are activities for those staying – group games and other outdoor games. That's what I expect for 2010!" (Please note there are always activities on Saturdays).
- "Boat driver was inexperienced – hadn't checked gas tank – difficulty docking."
- "My daughter had a great time and learned a lot from the chapel times."
- "Tapawingo is a special place – she has loved her experiences there. Thank you for your hard work and love for these girls!"
- "You all are always in our prayers!" (Please keep us in them!)
- "She loves Tapawingo. I am so grateful for the fine examples through so many young women – I know it's influencing her and helping her follow the right path."
- "I can't say it was a big problem this year – more so last year – talk of spending money in the gift shop of \$100 etc."
- "The counselor interest and continued contact with my daughter is a very positive influence."
- "Can't say enough. This was her last year as a camper and it is without a doubt, her favorite place on earth. Thank you. Tapawingo has been transformational in her life. She is positively in love with Jesus because of the truths she's learned

from the godly women who have served at Tapawingo! God's word has come alive in her life – she's been challenged to serve Christ – whatever the cost!"

- "Year 2 was 'so much better' than year 1 because a girl in her cabin had given her a hard time. This year the girls were great. We're so glad she came back to experience a better week."
- "I liked that she got to do a water-sport everyday and that she went to the concert during the connecting week. She loved the Big Slide hike. I liked that older girls still go to camp."
- "She has developed such a heart for serving others. I know that attitude has been encouraged at Tap. Again – I am grateful."
- "To the staff: Thank you so much for your enthusiasm and self-sacrifice to share your faith with these young girls. It makes an impact they won't forget. Thank you for scholarship help!"
- "Tapawingo means a lot to her and she is greatly impacted with the love and spiritual truths while she is there – how to carry that on her own when she is here is difficult although she is in a church youth group."
- "Kindness goes a long way."