

## Camp Joy Dress Philosophy & Policy

Dress Philosophy: There are many important aspects to a well-run camp. Dress is just one of those aspects. As camps minister to different people with different needs of God, we believe in important camp purpose and dress philosophies. One of our purpose beliefs is to work where the finger of God is working in the lives of people. God always begins His work with salvation. We want a dress policy that does not distract from this salvation focus. Too strict or too loose of a required dress policy can create an obstacle for some to God's work of salvation. We are always glad for everyone to follow their conscience and live out a deeper personal dress conviction. We want to welcome a wide range of guests at Camp Joy from unsaved bus kids with no dress understanding to mature and conservative believers with deep dress convictions.

In practice we find that the unsaved, of whom the finger of God is focused on salvation, who can be distracted from this redemptive work by too strict of a dress policy are typically girls. Our dress policy is *not to be a distraction to the girls*.

In practice we also know that boys, being made with a created visual way of thinking (Job 31:1), can be effected by dress problems. Girls who understand this truth can dress immodestly to get attention. This also distracts from God's work in our boy guest's lives. Our dress policy is *not to be a distraction to the boys*. Having a separate swim time is also important to this part of the policy.

In practice we also see that seeking a special dress for services can help with the attitude of youth. Staff dress is another important area of consideration as dress communicates authority and opportunity to influence.

### Camper & Sponsor Dress Policy:

In accordance with our important beliefs about the purpose of a camp, we ask campers and sponsors to serve one another with appropriate dress.

Please bring clothes for the fun times at camp. If you want to play our active and rough games, then you will need some loose fitting pants or knee-length shorts. A one-piece swimsuit for girls and swim trunks or shorts for guys are great for the lakefront times. In walking to and from the lakefront, please bring knee-length shorts and a T-shirt to wear over your swimwear. If you don't have any nice T-shirts, the camp store will have super cool Camp Joy branded gear that you can buy and advertise for us back home (that is what you are doing for *Nike* for free ...)

Please bring clothes for the Bible evening service times at camp. For girls, a nice skirt or dress to the knee when sitting with any slits to the knee would be great dress for believers. Please make sure your necklines and shirts are not too tight or too low or sleeveless so as not to be a distraction. For guys, collared shirts and nice pants are great dress for believers. Shirts that are so tight that you risk ripping them if you flex your mighty muscles are also not a good idea.

We ask that you not bring clothing with naughty or disrespectful sayings or advertisements. If your counselor or a camp staff person asks you to change your dress, they are not trying to give you a hard time. They do want everyone to have a great time and for dress to not be a distraction to the fun we want to have at camp!

During family camp swim times please wear dark clothing to cover your swim wear in water.