

# BOUND FOR GLORY CAMP 2023

[bfgcamp.org](http://bfgcamp.org)



## Why BFG Camp?

Eighty percent of lower-income fourth graders have a reading deficit. It is well known that students who are not reading proficiently by fourth grade are four times more likely not to graduate high school. Children who cannot read are more likely to experience depression, drug abuse, welfare dependency, and incarceration.

The mission of Bound for Glory Camp is to educate, enrich, and encourage children from low-income families who struggle with literacy. Our campers' families do not have the resources to provide additional literacy instruction and learning opportunities to help their children overcome their reading deficits. By the end of 5th grade, the literacy gap between low- and middle-income children can be more than 2 ½ years caused by summer learning loss. Bound for Glory Camp addresses this crisis by offering a FREE four-week summer day camp, with three hours of literacy instruction each weekday of camp.

We aim to improve the reading skills of our campers and provide opportunities for them to explore their talents, interests, and values. But we don't stop there. We share the hope of Christ with our campers through devotions, worship, and prayer. Jesus tells us in Jerimiah 29:11 that he has a plan for our lives, a good plan, filled with hope. Bound for Glory Camp is all about building hope!

Building HOPE

Educate-Enrich-Encourage





## Director's Letter: Best Summer Ever!

Wow, the 2023 summer camp session was remarkable! For four weeks, we hosted thirteen campers and two junior campers. Six campers returned from 2022, and seven were new. Campers connected like never before. We worked hard to bring more unity to camp this summer by teaching Godly character traits and implementing a behavior incentive program. The rewards often ended with ice water dumped on Scott and I or pie in our faces, but it was well worth it.

Campers enjoyed camp outings such as horseback riding, fishing, hiking, swimming, and Dolly's Ice Cream Bar! There were also plenty of happenings at camp with archery, rock climbing, theater, a live snake demonstration from Earthshine Nature Programs, silly camp games, and so much more. It was all so exhausting and exhilarating at the same time!

Our Bible motto this summer was "Following Jesus Changes Everything," and boy did He! Campers learned that Jesus is holy, trustworthy, and worth following. Jeanette Wayne led our Bible ministry, and Hannah Beasley led our worship, creating an engaging and loving environment. Through missionary stories, our campers visited Brazil, Columbia, and Israel, which brought Christianity to life for them. They also learned about sharing the love of Jesus with others by creating Friendship Soup kits for our local food kitchen. They had a fire to know more about Jesus and to make certain they were saved. We are overjoyed to report that eight campers accepted Jesus as their Savior, praying in our little chapel.

We were excited to use our new education building for the first time this summer, where campers received 1:1 literacy instruction each morning. BFG Camp tutors are all trained in the science-based literacy instructional approach, Orton-Gillingham. Campers also had daily literacy classes in cursive writing and oral reading. Their hard work paid off! On average, our campers improved an entire grade level in just four weeks! These are the most significant reading gains of any camp session BFG Camp has held. We are so proud of our campers! They are better prepared for their school year because of attending camp!

It was, in many ways, the best camp ever. Yet, we know the best is to come! Not because of anything we do but because of who God is! He is a God of increase (Psalm 115:14), a God who brings all things together for his purpose (Romans 8:28), and a God with a plan for our lives (Jeremiah 29:11). How blessed we are to be included in His plan. I can't wait to see what is next!

2024 Camp Dates  
June 24th–July 19th

*"Bound for Glory Camp gives children and parents hope that we didn't know we needed." -Parent*





Lauren-2019



Lauren and Kinsley-2023

## Lauren's Story

Lauren first came to camp in 2019 after finishing 5th grade. She was initially nervous and uncertain about camp but quickly forged a friendship with her still best camp friend, Kinsley. Her bond with Kinsley has grown over the years as they both continued to attend camp. In 2022, Lauren was thirteen and no longer eligible to participate as a camper, so we asked her back to be our first junior counselor. Her confidence flourished as she worked with the campers. As a junior counselor, Lauren learned leadership abilities and the importance of caring for others. She continued to work on her reading skills and made consistent improvements. Lauren is now sixteen, and we proudly announce that she will be our first camper-turn-counselor in 2024!

She will take on more responsibilities as a counselor, including training new junior counselors. She is excited about the new role and looks forward to working with the campers. When asked how her experiences at Bound for Glory Camp could help an anxious new camper, she offered some advice: "First, the bonds you will make with the other campers will quickly grow into friendships, making you feel less alone. Secondly, you will experience opportunities at Bound for Glory Camp, which other camps don't offer, like horseback riding, and you will get to work on your reading."

Lauren's best memory at Bound for Glory Camp was also among her most challenging. In the summer of 2020, during COVID, we took our campers kayaking at Bear Lake. It was Lauren's first time in a kayak. She admits she was very nervous and it took a while to learn to maneuver the kayak but she cherishes the memory. We

purposefully challenge our campers to allow them to grow and realize new strengths.

Lauren says Bound for Glory has changed her most by teaching her to have a relationship with God. She stated, "Talking about God every day [at camp] and learning and teaching the kids has really opened me up to Him. I just want to keep learning more." Recently, she started attending church for the first time. We are so grateful for her and what God is doing in her life.

## Van Ministry

At the end of the 2023 camp session, God gave us the idea to start bringing campers to our church on Sundays. We especially feel a responsibility to those campers who accepted Jesus as their Savior at camp. We want to help nourish their relationship with Biblical teachings and relationships. Also, we could stay connected with our campers and their families throughout the year.

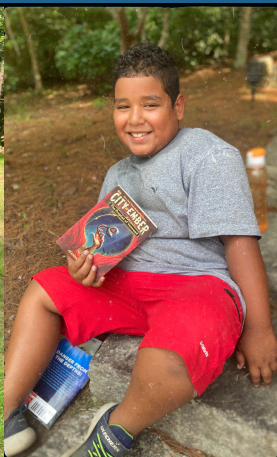
There was one problem: we didn't have a van or the funds to purchase a van. We shared our dream with our congregation at Destiny Church. The response was overwhelming! Over \$12,000 was raised to purchase a van, but that's not all. An anonymous donor gifted their minivan to Bound for Glory Camp so we can start bringing campers to church right away. The ultimate goal is to purchase a fifteen-passenger van, but how great of God to work it out so campers can immediately start attending church.

*"Bound for Glory Camp helps you learn about God and also helps you learn to read and write better and make new friends." -Camper*

# THANK YOU PARTNERS!

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### All donations up to \$30,000 will be matched!



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#### Staff

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Deborah Paratore-Tutor  
Dori Miller-Tutor  
Emma Grace Rice-Counselor  
Heather Merritt-Tutor  
Jeanetter Wayne-Devotion Leader  
Landon Pierron-Counselor  
Linda Schieve-Tutor  
Lise Brown-Tutor  
Mary Elizabeth Koppin-Counselor  
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Wendi Adair-Program Director

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Maria Byler-Secretary  
Kim Limerick-Treasurer  
Graham Beasley-Member at Large  
Carolyn Fraiser-Member at Large  
Wendi Adair-Executive Director

**All BFG  
campers  
attend for  
Free!**

#### Costs of Camp Session Per Camper 2023

- Activities: \$140
- Food: \$520
- Supplies: \$400
- Staff: \$1,700
- Insurance: \$350
- Transportation: \$115

**Total = \$3,225**

#### Annual Costs of Operations 2023

- Program: \$41,000
- General/Admin. \$57,000
- Property Improvements: \$45,000

**Total = \$143,00**