



LEADER GUIDE 2026

DANIEL SPRINGS BAPTIST CAMP LEADER GUIDE

The Daniel Springs staff has been praying for you and your students! We know that the Lord has mighty things in store for us all! There are a lot of ways students can spend their time this summer, and we are so blessed that your church has chosen to attend camp at Daniel Springs Baptist Camp!

Daniel Springs Baptist Camp was established in 1965 by the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

OUR PURPOSE... To provide an age-appropriate opportunity for all youth to experience the presence of God through prayer, Bible study, small group and fellowship, and recreation.

OUR PROGRAM... To provide a Bible-based program designed to help all youth grow in their relationship with Christ and to equip them to do the work of their ministry. To provide recreation that will challenge them to work with their peers as a team in a way that will bring honor to God.

OUR PROMISE... To do everything possible to bring all campers to a one-on-one relationship with Jesus Christ. To encourage students to be strong in their commitment to Christ in three areas: personal life, family life and church life.

OUR FACILITIES... Daniel Springs is located in Gary, Texas on 54 acres. Our current accommodations include 19 air-conditioned cabins that can accommodate between 20-22 campers each, and 4 air-conditioned and heated dorms that can accommodate between 30 to 50 campers per unit. Small open-air tabernacles are scattered around the campgrounds for small group time and Bible study groups.

REGISTRATION... Camp registration begins weeks, even months before camp starts. All registration fees are due in full at the time of spot requests. All fees are payable by credit card or echeck over the phone or through our website at www.danielspringscamp.com. All registrations are non-refundable but may be transferred to an alternate camper or to another event within the same calendar year as long as we are notified before registration ends for your event. All transfer requests must be requested in writing to jessica@danielspringscamp.com. Changes to t-shirt orders cannot be made once late registration begins. Please visit the website for the fee associated with your event. All late registrations will incur an additional \$35 late fee per camper and do not include a t-shirt. Lodging requests will be considered, but not guaranteed.

WHAT TO BRING - suggested items... Bible, toiletries, towel, shower shoes, bedding (twin sheet set or sleeping bag & pillow), umbrella, swimsuit (one piece), crazy hat for theme day, flashlight, notebook, clothes for the week, and spending money. Dress for the week is casual.

DRESS CODE... Shoes must be worn at all times. No sleeveless, tank tops, leggings or revealing clothes are to be worn. T-shirts and hats cannot promote alcohol, tobacco, drug use or undesirable messages. Shorts may be worn during the day, but capris, pants, jeans or knee length or longer skirts are most appropriate for evening worship. All shorts must be within one hand's width of the top of the knee. Males are expected to always wear a t-shirt except in the pool or in their cabin. Females must wear a cover-up to the pool and must wear a t-shirt in the pool if in a two-piece swimsuit.

CHECK IN DAY... Check-in will begin for Girls Discipleship Retreat at 1:00PM. Check-in for Pre-Teen, Combo, Ark-La-Tex, and Student camps will begin at 3:00PM. During check-in, all medication (including over the counter) in their original containers will be turned into the Health Care Manager or Health Care Assistant.

During check in, groups will receive lodging assignments. As some facilities may be under maintenance, we insist that all groups must check in before heading to any cabins or dorms. Please do not arrive any earlier than one hour before check-in as preparations may still be underway. Staff will not be in place to begin registration until 1:00PM for Girls Discipleship Retreat and 3:00PM for all other camps.

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Please also keep in mind that lunch is not served on the day of arrival. The first meal will be dinner that evening.

ILLNESS... In cases of illness, campers should inform their sponsor and then visit the first aid building. The camper will be assessed for prevailing symptoms by the Health Care Manager or Health Care Assistant. If the first aid staff deems necessary, the camper will be referred to a doctor at the hospital in Carthage, 10 miles north of the camp. All attendees who become ill will be assessed as to whether they may remain at camp by camp leadership. All daily medications of ALL attendees will be dispensed by the first aid staff and logged per dose.

CAMP RULES

CONDUCT- Every attendee is expected to abide by and obey all rules set by Daniel Springs Baptist Camp.

LIGHTS OUT- This time will be specified on the daily camp schedule and no camper is to be outside their cabin after this time.

BUILDING USE- Any damage done to the buildings will be assessed by the camp director and the group responsible will be charged for repairs. Each group is asked to help pick up after themselves. Staff will come by cabins to retrieve trash daily and at the end of your camp. Please ensure all personal items are removed from cabins before departure. Daniel Springs will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced items.

SWIMMING POOL & LAKE- No night swimming allowed. Swimming is only allowed at designated times. Do not enter the lake or pool area until permission is granted by the lifeguard. No running, no food or glass drink containers inside the pool area. Swimmers must be covered while walking to and from the lake & pool. Every swimmer, including sponsors, will obey directions given by the lifeguards or forfeit swim time. All swimmers must submit to a swim test and receive a swim band as appropriate.

Campers must be in the accompaniment of a sponsor anytime they are at the lake. No one should be in the lake except during scheduled waterfront times, typically 2-4pm each day when a lifeguard is present. Paddleboats/corcls may not be untethered, taken down to the dock, or placed in the water except by trained staff. Anyone participating in lake activities **MUST** wear a lifejacket, except while fishing from the bank. There is absolutely no standing or leaning over the paddleboats. Misuse of equipment will result in forfeiture of allotted time and lake privileges. Fishing (with your own equipment- catch & release) is allowed without a lifeguard on duty, but camper must be supervised by an adult sponsor and may not enter the water at any time.

During any water activities if a lightning/thunder alert is activated, all participants must immediately exit the water and take cover in the closest covered building or follow instructions provided by staff.

OUT OF BOUNDS- Boys are not permitted in the girls' area of the camp and girls are not allowed in the boys' area except during loading and unloading your group.

CAFETERIA- No meals will be eaten away from designated eating areas. After eating, each camper must remove plates and cups and silverware to the designated garbage area. Styrofoam cups must remain at garbage area. Food is not to be taken back to your cabin. Tampering with food items will not be tolerated. The cafeteria will continue to be disinfected thoroughly after each meal.

ATTENDANCE- All campers are required to attend all Bible study classes and services. Attendance is taken to ensure camper safety. No one should be in the cabins during class or worship. If ill, camper is expected to be at the first aid building.

SPONSORS- There must be one responsible adult (over 18 years old) for every 5 campers attending with your group. The sponsors are responsible for discipline and their group abiding by the rules. Sponsors must supervise their campers during **all parts of the day and night** except when the campers are in Bible study with their summer

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missionary staffer. No church will be registered without qualified sponsors who submit to a background check annually and receive training in Child Abuse Awareness through *Protect My Ministry*.

LEAVING CAMPUS- To ensure the safety of all campers, sponsors and staff, there will be NO in-and-out privileges during camp. Once your group arrives to camp, you must remain on campus. If you leave, you will not be allowed back on campus until that camp session is over for the week. If there is a medical emergency, communication with the office/director is key. Campers or sponsors who must leave before session is over must check out through the office or nurse.

VISITORS... To ensure the safety of all campers, sponsors and staff, we are a closed campus and DO NOT allow visitors on site during the week. The only visitors allowed per se are delivery drivers of camp goods, necessary maintenance contractors and state health inspectors. These visitors will check in at the administration office. If a church group must have a visitor escort their group to camp to help deliver them, they must remain in constant supervision of their church sponsors at all times while on campgrounds and must leave property once campers have been checked in.

USE OF AUTOS- Parking around cafeteria is limited; we ask for all vehicles to be parked at your cabin. Unless there is an individual with mobility issues (please notify us in advance of this), we ask everyone to walk rather than drive to meals and activities to reduce the risk of accidents. Do not exceed the posted speed limit. Do not ride on outside of autos or vans or on tailgate of trucks. Please do not drive across the large rec field or park in front of main tabernacle. Camp golf carts are strictly for personnel usage.

PROHIBITED- Laser pointers, firearms, fireworks, water pistols, water balloons, drugs and alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the campgrounds. Use of tobacco in any form is not allowed. All pranks are prohibited and if caught, pranksters will be sent home immediately.

PRIVACY- Respect the privacy of others. Use of radios, iPods, and cell phones is discouraged. Take the time to get away, unplug, and draw closer to God!

Violation of any of these rules may result in expulsion from the camp. Choosing to not comply will result in a forfeit of camp fees and camp privileges.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AT CAMP THIS SUMMER

ADULT WELCOME MEETING- All sponsors are encouraged to meet with our Camp Director, Jason Prewitt, for important welcome information in the tabernacle immediately following Opening Celebration on the first day of camp. (*This meeting is for all camps except for Girls Discipleship Retreat.*)

EMERGENCY PLAN PREPARATION/PRACTICE- On your day of arrival, an emergency safety briefing or "muster drill" will be called to ensure that all attendees are trained and prepared in the event of an emergency. All attendees must participate in this event.

CELEBRATION TIME- Attendees gather to kick off each day and end the week in a high-energy paced time of music, skits, and announcements.

BIBLE STUDY- Attendees will be led in Bible study each day by Daniel Springs' staff. Campers will be divided into Bible study teams by age and group size. Adults are encouraged to join the adult Bible study for fellowship and words of encouragement!

REC TIME- Each day attendees will have both organized and free rec time! Organized rec time is high-energy outdoor fun and games. Be prepared to get wet!! Free rec time allows attendees to choose from disc golf, paddleboats, swimming, gaga ball, basketball, ping-pong, and other activities.

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CRAFT TIME- We will offer crafts in the cafeteria. Campers may purchase a canvas for \$5 in our general store if they would like to paint during craft time.

TOURNAMENTS- Attendees will have the opportunity to sign up on the first day of camp for tournaments.

WORSHIP- Every evening attendees gather in the tabernacle for a time of worship through music, prayer, and a message from our camp pastor.

CHURCH GROUP DEVOTION- Each church group will be assigned a meeting place at check-in for their church group devotion. This is a time for your church group to unwind and talk about how the Lord is working in each person's life.

CANTEEN & GENERAL STORE- The canteen will be open periodically during the day and in the evening after church group devotion time. Attendees may choose to bring money to purchase items such as drinks, candy, chips, snacks, etc. Ice is also available for purchase here. The General Store will be open during the day and in the evening after church group devotion for items such as t-shirts, jewelry, sunglasses, stuffed animals, and snacks. Credit cards are welcome for purchases over \$5.00. All sales are final – tax is already included in posted prices.

THEME DAY- Attendees are encouraged to participate by dressing up for "Crazy Hat Day" during morning celebration on the first full day of camp. Get creative and join in the fun!

MISSIONS OFFERING- An offering will be taken once during each camp to support missions. This year we will be supporting Missionary Care. Missionary Care is the ongoing preparation, equipping, and ministering to missionary personnel so they may be fruitful in life and ministry. The heart and focus of this ministry is to come alongside our missionary families with the aid, encouragement, and support they need to carry out the mission of God. More simply put, Missionary Care serves our missionaries so they can better serve others.

