Salt Crew

CEDAR CANYON
CAMP AND RETREAT



Service And Leadership Training Crew



SERVE.
GROW.
LEAD.

SUMMER 2027

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Dear Youth Pastor,

Some of the most meaningful moments in youth ministry happen when we serve alongside our students—sharing a task, having an unexpected conversation, and watching them discover what it means to lead by serving others. At Cedar Canyon, we're creating a week that makes room for those moments.

Beginning Summer 2027, we're inviting youth groups of 10–20 students to join us for S.A.L.T. Crew: Service And Leadership Training. This free week brings together hands-on service, leadership development, outdoor adventure, and opportunities to grow closer to God, their peers, and their leaders.

Students will serve alongside camp staff in the kitchen and help prepare cabins and camp spaces for incoming guests. Through these shared responsibilities, they'll practice teamwork, take ownership of meaningful work, and experience how everyday acts of service can show Christ's love to others.

Just as importantly, you and your leaders will be right there with them—getting in the trenches, washing dishes together, tackling projects, and celebrating a job well done. Away from everyday distractions, camp offers a focused setting where you can walk alongside your students, encourage them through challenges, and help them connect what they're doing with what God is teaching them. Those conversations can continue on the trail, over a meal, or around the campfire.

The week follows a rhythm of serving, resting, playing, and growing. Students will enjoy camp activities and Black Hills adventures, including zip lines, waterslides, Mt. Rushmore, and horseback riding. A five-day devotional, nightly worship and teaching, and sample talks you can use or adapt will help you guide your group deeper in their faith.

The entire week is free—lodging, meals, activities, and excursions included. We want to make this opportunity accessible so your group can come ready to serve, build friendships, and enjoy camp together.

There's also room to shape the week around your group. Bring your student leadership team for a focused week of team building, or bring students who are ready to discover the joy of serving and grow closer to God and one another. We'll work with you to make the experience meaningful for your students and leaders.

I'd love to talk with you about bringing your group to Cedar Canyon for Summer 2027.

In Christ,
Ben Sutton
Executive Director, Cedar Canyon Camp
director@cedarcanyoncamp.com



Why Your Youth Group Should Be Here

Here's what a week of S.A.L.T. Crew gives your group that a normal camp week or mission trip doesn't:

- **Completely free.** Lodging, meals, and every activity and excursion — including Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, and horseback riding (excursions are varied and dependent on staffing) — are covered. No fundraising, no registration fee, no line item to defend to your church budget.
- **You work alongside your students, all week.** You're not supervising from a distance — you're in the kitchen, on the cleaning crew, and on the trail with your students all week. That's a different kind of relationship than a normal youth group calendar gives you room for.
- **Serving becomes real, not theoretical.** Students don't just hear a talk about serving — they serve real people, in a real kitchen, with real consequences if the work doesn't get done. That's a different kind of discipleship than a lesson on a whiteboard.
- **Genuinely fun.** Zip line, waterslide, horseback riding, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, downtown Rapid City, and more — this is still a camp week your students will beg to come back to.
- **Built around your group's goals.** Tell us your group's goal — leadership development for your student leadership team, or just a great week together — and we'll shape activities and teaching emphasis around it.
- **Spiritual content, done for you (if you want it).** A five-day devotional, a nightly worship/teaching rhythm, and five ready-to-use talk outlines are included — use them as-is, adapt them, or bring your own series. We can also offer speakers for you.
- **Small enough to still be personal.** With 10–20 students per group, this stays small and personal — not a mass-camp experience.

A NOTE ON COST

S.A.L.T. Crew is completely free for participating youth groups — lodging, meals, all activities and excursions, and every teaching resource in this packet.

We ask only that groups arrange their own transportation to and from Cedar Canyon Camp.

Who This Is For

Students: Entering 9th grade thru graduating seniors.
Group size: 10–20 students per group.
Adult leaders: A minimum 1-to-10 adult-to-student ratio, working the week alongside your students.
Best fit: Any youth group looking for a free week that combines real service, real adventure, and real spiritual growth — whether your goal is leadership development or simply a great week together.



The Week Explained

S.A.L.T. Crew runs Monday thru Friday (with optional add-on nights, see below). Students live in Cedar Canyon cabins and eat meals prepared alongside camp staff. The week follows a steady rhythm: serve in the morning, rest and grow at midday, play in the afternoon, worship at night. Here is a tentative schedule:



Monday — Arrival Day

Time	What's Happening
12:00 PM	Arrival & check-in
12:00 – 2:30 PM	Settle into cabins; camp orientation — what we do, why, and how to do your job this week
2:30 – 8:00 PM	Whole group: Kitchen Service (dinner prep, serving, clean-up)
8:00 – 8:30 PM	Change / free time
Evening	Night activity — campfire, night game



Tuesday thru Thursday — Typical Day

Time	What's Happening
6:00 – 10:00 AM	Morning Work Shift — half the group: Kitchen (breakfast); half: Cleaning & Changeover Projects
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Change / free time
11:00 – 11:30 AM	"God & I" Time — personal devotional
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Lunch
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Rest / nap time
1:30 PM	Afternoon Activity Block (from the Activity Options list)
Afternoon – 8:00 PM	Afternoon Work Shift — groups swap assignments from the morning
8:00 – 8:30 PM	Change
8:30 – 9:30 PM	Worship & Teaching Time (youth pastor led or speaker provided)
9:30 – 11:00 PM	Free time / campfire

Note: full-day excursions (Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, downtown Rapid City, etc.) may replace the afternoon work shift for the students attending that day.

The Week Explained Continued



Friday — Changeover & Celebration Day

Time	What's Happening
6:00 – 10:00 AM	Same half/half work shift as Tuesday–Thursday
10:00 AM	Whole group: camp-wide changeover & cleaning, prepping for next week's incoming group
6:00 PM	End-of-Week Celebration Dinner — themed dinner, prizes & awards, S.A.L.T. Crew completion certificates presented
Evening	Relaxed — optional youth pastor closing session, free time, campfire

Groups may depart Friday evening or stay the night and leave Saturday morning.



Optional Add-Ons

Sunday Early Arrival. Arrive Sunday evening for an extra night before the week's schedule begins.

Friday Night. Extend Friday night to be able to take your time coming home on Saturday.



Activity Options

Each afternoon activity block (Tuesday–Thursday) is chosen from the list below. Half-day options fit around the work shift; full-day excursions may replace it for the students attending.

1. Zip Line / High Ropes Course
2. Hike in the Black Hills
3. Horseback Ride in the Black Hills
4. Waterslide
5. Field Games at Camp (run by Cedar Canyon staff)
6. Pickleball and/or Disc Golf Tournament
7. Mt. Rushmore Trip (full day)
8. Crazy Horse Memorial Trip (full day)
9. Low Ropes Course — Team Training (great for leadership-focused groups)
10. Downtown Rapid City Shopping & Ice Cream Trip

More activities are being added —ask your Cedar Canyon contact for the current list when you register. Please note that activities are available based on CCC staffing.

Worship & Teaching Times

You own the spiritual leadership of your group all week. Cedar Canyon provides the space, the rhythm, and (if you want them) ready-to-use resources — you decide how much of it to use.

When It Happens

- Monday evening: an optional short welcome around the campfire.
- Tuesday–Thursday, 8:30–9:30 PM: your primary nightly worship & teaching block.
- Friday evening: an optional closing/send-off session after the celebration dinner.

Shaped Around Your Group's Goals

Let us know what you're going for and we'll help you plan the week's teaching emphasis accordingly:

- **Leadership / team-building focus.** Lean into the Low Ropes Course, team-building activities, and the sample talks on teamwork and servant leadership.
- **Fun & relational focus.** Lean into the fun excursions and keep teaching light, relational, and encouragement-focused.





We Can Help With Worship

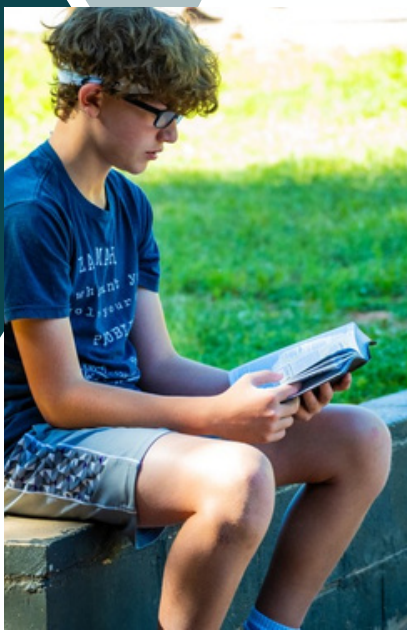
If your group doesn't have someone to lead worship for the week, ask us — we can connect you with an acoustic worship leader for your evening sessions.

Possible Message Subject Lines

Beyond the five sample outlines later in this packet, here are additional title ideas if you're building your own series:

- Serving Like Jesus
- Work as Worship
- The Towel and the Basin
- Kingdom Come
- Team Before Task
- Rhythms: Work, Rest, Worship
- What Nobody Sees, God Sees
- Sent Back Home

Five-Day Student Devotional



Example devotional:
Grow Deeper: 1 | SERVE

Read: Mark 10:35–45; John 13:1–17
DO THIS • Read Mark 10:35–45 twice. Circle what James and John want. Underline Jesus' definition of greatness. Then read John 13:1–17 and note what Jesus knows about His identity before washing feet.
REFLECT • Compare the disciples' request with Jesus' response. What two different pictures of leadership emerge?
REFLECT • In John 13, what makes Jesus' choice to wash feet surprising?
02 | Dig Deeper
In Mark 10, Jesus contrasts rulers who use authority over others with disciples who become servants. His example is not merely a motivational speech: He gives His own life as a ransom. We serve because He served first. John 13 shows that Jesus can take the lowest position without losing His identity. Humility is not thinking you have no value; it is using your value and strength for another person's good.

Jesus says greatness among His followers looks like being a:

_____

The source of Christian service is Jesus' prior:

_____

Serving becomes distorted when my deepest motivation is to be:

_____

REFLECT • Why is service different from trying to earn God's approval? Use Mark 10:45 and John 13:8–10 to explain.

03 | Heart Check
REFLECT • What camp assignment would you be most tempted to consider "beneath you"? Why?
REFLECT • When have you served mainly to be noticed? How did that affect your attitude?
REFLECT • How can you tell the difference between healthy sacrificial service and ignoring safety, limits, or the need to ask for help?

04 | Practice It
DO THIS • Choose one ordinary task today. Before starting, name the real people it benefits. Do it carefully without announcing what you did. Afterwards, ask: Did I become more attentive to people or more focused on my image?
My task: _____ Who it blesses: _____
A specific way I will serve at home or school: _____

05 | Pray & Respond
DO THIS • Pray through the names of people your work serves. Thank Jesus for serving you first. Ask Him to reveal where pride or resentment is growing.
REFLECT • Finish this prayer: "Jesus, teach me to serve when…"

MEMORY CHALLENGE
Mark 10:45 — read it aloud and summarize it in your own words.



Scripture Memory Challenge

One verse per day, matched to that day's devotional and evening talk. Students who recite all five verses from memory to a leader by Friday's celebration dinner earn $7.00 of credit at the Cedar Canyon coffee shop / snack shop.

Day	Verse	Reference
1	"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant."	Mark 10:43
2	"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."	Colossians 3:23
3	"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed..."	Matthew 13:31
4	"Two are better than one... if either of them falls down, one can help the other up."	Ecclesiastes 4:9–10
5	"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest."	Galatians 6:9

HOW IT WORKS

Students can practice verses during free time, cabin time, or with their small group leader.

Recite all five to a leader by Friday's celebration dinner to earn snack shop / coffee shop credit, announced during the awards portion of the evening.

Sample Talk Outlines for the Youth Pastor



Five ready-to-use talks, one per evening teaching slot, each tied directly to that day's student devotional. Use them as written, adapt them, or use them as a backup if you'd rather bring your own series.

Example talk:

Talk 1: Why We Serve

Scripture: Mark 10:42–45

Big Idea: Greatness in God's Kingdom looks like service, not status.

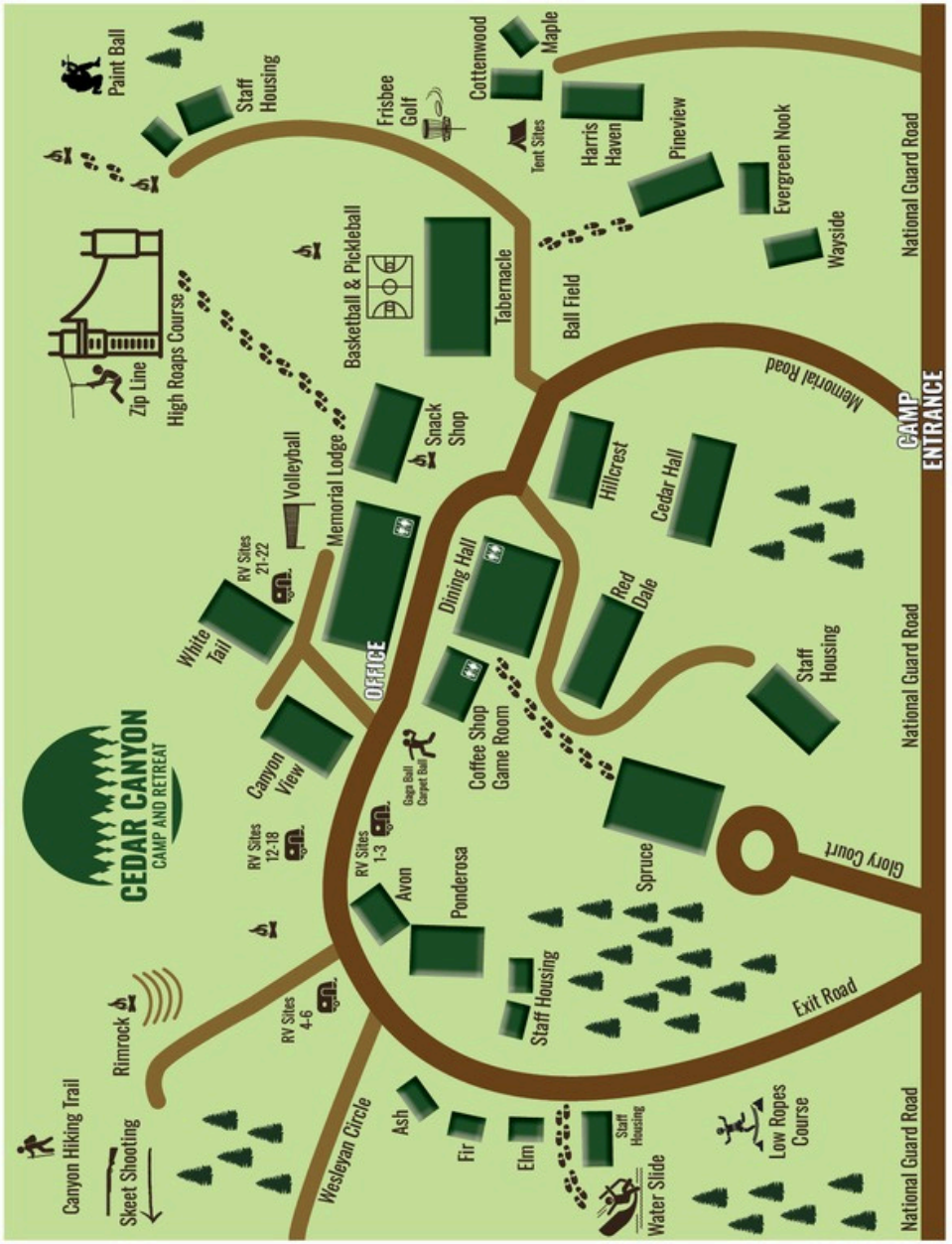
1. The world's model of greatness. Power, position, being served by others.
2. Jesus flips the model. "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant" (v. 43).
3. This week is practice. Every kitchen shift and cleaning project this week is a chance to live out verse 45 with your hands.

Discussion Questions:

- Where have you seen "greatness" modeled as status instead of service?
- What's one place this week you'll have the chance to serve without getting credit for it?

Challenge:
Notice one moment tomorrow where you can serve without anyone noticing, and do it anyway.

Camp Map


CEDAR CANYON
CAMP AND RETREAT
Canyon Hiking Trail
Skeet Shooting
Rimrock
RV Sites 4-6
RV Sites 12-18
RV Sites 1-3
Wesleyan Circle
Ash
Fir
Elm
Staff Housing
Water Slide
Low Ropes Course
National Guard Road
Avon
Ponderosa
Canyon View
White Tail
RV Sites 21-22
Volleyball
Memorial Lodge
OFFICE
Gaga Ball
Carpet Ball
Coffee Shop
Game Room
Dining Hall
Staff Housing
Spruce
Exit Road
Glory Court
Red Dale
Hillcrest
Cedar Hall
Staff Housing
Memorial Road
CAMP ENTRANCE
National Guard Road
Snack Shop
Basketball & Pickleball
Tabernacle
Ball Field
Zip Line
High Roaps Course
Staff Housing
Paint Ball
Frisbee Golf
Tent Sites
Cottenwood
Maple
Harris Haven
Pineview
Evergreen Nook
Wayside
National Guard Road

Camp Rules



Students stay within designated camp boundaries at all times unless on a supervised excursion.

Follow all posted safety rules at activity areas (high ropes, zip line, waterslide, kitchen) and the instructions of camp staff running them.





Closed-toe shoes are required during all kitchen and cleaning/changeover shifts.

Cabin time is quiet time — lights out means lights out.





Cell phone use is limited to designated free-time windows, per each group's own leader policy.

Respectful behavior is expected toward camp staff, fellow students, and any guests encountered during kitchen or changeover work.





No student leaves camp property outside of scheduled excursions without a leader present.

Group Expectations

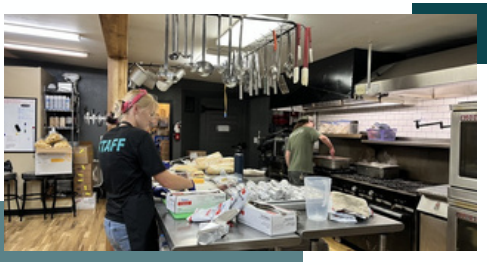
- Groups must maintain a minimum 1-adult-to-10-student leader ratio for the full week.
- Adult leaders work alongside students in every kitchen shift, cleaning/changeover project, and activity block — leaders are not off-duty during the week.
- The youth pastor (or designated adult) owns all spiritual teaching content delivered to their own group.
- Groups are responsible for their own transportation to and from Cedar Canyon Camp.
- Any student medical, dietary, physical-limitation, or behavioral needs should be communicated to Cedar Canyon staff before arrival.
- Camp staff supervise all kitchen work, changeover projects, and adventure activities jointly with group leaders.

Packing List

Work & Activity Gear	Personal & Spiritual
Closed-toe shoes (required for kitchen & changeover shifts)	Bible
Comfortable clothes that can get dirty	Journal / pen for devotional time
Weather layers for early 6:00 AM shifts	Spending money (snack shop/coffee shop, beyond memory-verse credit)
Swimsuit (waterslide)	Camera (disposable recommended)
Closed-toe shoes for horseback riding & hiking	Flashlight
Sleeping bag or bedding for cabin bunk	Reusable water bottle
Toiletries & towel	Small backpack for daily items
Sunscreen & bug spray	Gear for any additional add-ons

Please leave at home: valuables, expensive electronics, and anything you'd be upset to lose or get dirty during kitchen or changeover work.

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Is this really free?
A: Yes — lodging, meals, all activities and excursions, and every teaching resource in this packet are covered. Groups only arrange their own transportation to and from camp.
Q: What do students actually do all week?
A: They rotate through kitchen service and cleaning/changeover projects each day, with a daily activity block, worship and teaching time, rest periods, and evening free time built in.
Q: Is this basically a labor trip disguised as a camp week?
A: It's the opposite framing — the work is real, but it's built into a week that includes genuine adventure (zip line, waterslide, Mt. Rushmore, horseback riding), rest, worship, and relationship-building, on purpose.
Q: What if our group just wants to have fun, not a leadership emphasis?
A: That's a completely valid goal — tell us, and we'll lean the activity choices and teaching tone toward fun and relational connection instead of leadership development.
Q: What if we want the week to be leadership-focused instead?
A: Let us know — we can lean into the Low Ropes Course, team-building activities, and the sample talks on teamwork and servant leadership.
Q: Can we choose which activities we do?
A: Yes — your Cedar Canyon contact will work with you on activity selection from the list in this packet. All activities and excursions are available based on camp staff availability.
Q: Are the 6:00 AM shifts required for every student?
A: Yes, on Tuesday through Friday, with students split into two rotating groups (kitchen / cleaning projects) each morning.
Q: What if a student has a physical limitation and can't do kitchen or cleaning work?
A: Let us know ahead of time — we can adjust a student's assignment to something that fits.
Q: Can we add the Sunday evening or Friday night options?
A: Yes — both are optional add-ons. Mention your interest when you register.
Q: Who leads the spiritual content during the week?
A: You do. Cedar Canyon provides space, structure, and optional resources (devotional, talk outlines, worship help) — you decide how much of it to use. We can also provide a speaker for you if that is what you desire.

Q: What are the Summer 2027 dates?

A: May 24-28
June 7-11
***June 21-25**
July 5-9
July 19-23
***August 2-6**
May 31-June 4
***June 14-18**
June 28-July 2
***July 12-16**
July 26-30
August 9-13

***These dates are the weeks we would love to fill first!**

S.A.L.T. Crew Completion Certificate

Every student receives a completion certificate during Friday's celebration dinner — something tangible to take home that reinforces a week of real service.





Registration & Next Steps

Reserving a week for your group starts with a simple email — no forms to fill out yet.

1. Email director@cedarcanyoncamp.com to let us know you're interested in bringing a group.
2. We'll confirm available Summer 2027 dates and talk through your group's size, goals, and any add ons (Sunday early arrival and/or Friday night).
3. Once your date is set, we'll send your full registration packet, including any deposit details and deadlines.

READY TO RESERVE YOUR WEEK?

Email Ben Sutton directly at director@cedarcanyoncamp.com to start the conversation. Full registration details and deadlines will follow once your group's week is confirmed.

Your students spend a lot of weeks being told what serving looks like. S.A.L.T. Crew gives them one week to actually practice it — in a kitchen, on a cleaning crew, and around a campfire, with you working right alongside them.

> **"I SERVED. I GREW. I LED."**

— what we hope every student says at the end of the week.

Ben Sutton
Executive Director, Cedar Canyon Camp
director@cedarcanyoncamp.com