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## Points to Ponder

### THE MARK OF A DISCIPLE

The main job Jesus left us to do was to make disciples. There is a difference between a believer and a disciple. There is no such thing as an instant disciple; like the word, it takes discipline. Some people think discipleship is simply getting a believer, add a little baptism water, and “poof” you have a fully-devoted follower of Jesus—a real disciple. But it takes more than water to make a disciple. Disciples are built, not born.

In Luke 14, Jesus was getting closer to the cross. People who wanted to see a miracle or get a free meal from Him were mobbing Him. The crowd is about to become much smaller because He started explaining the cost of discipleship, and it’s not a popular message. It requires total commitment. In this passage Jesus provided five vivid images, and used each one to teach a lesson about discipleship.

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. [That’s mark #1] And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. [That’s mark #2]*

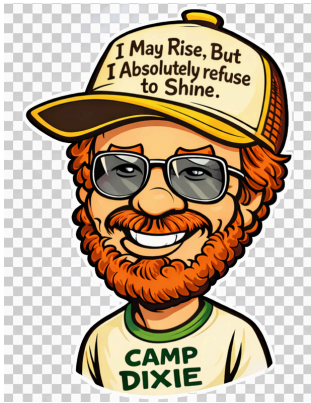
*Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ [That’s mark #3] Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. [That’s mark #4] Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile, it is thrown out. (That’s mark #5) He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” (Luke 14:25-35)*

People have a wide variation in their interest in Jesus. It’s like a set of concentric circles. On the outside you have the crowd. The mob following Jesus knew who He was, but they would soon be gone. A deeper level of commitment is the curious. These are people who attend church occasionally. They are not active participants. A deeper level of commitment is the church, the functioning body of Christ. These folks have become active partners in a local church and have a deeper level of intimacy with Christ and His body. But then come the committed, transformed disciples—radical Christians—sold out to Jesus. These are the people whose entire lives are defined by their relationship with Jesus and are actively sharing him with others.

Which group describes you today? Where would you like to be? Where does Jesus want you to be?

Rev. Joe Pritchett

## The Tony Jernigan Memorial Golf Tournament



The Annual Tony Jernigan Memorial Golf Tournament was held Friday, May 8th at Cypress Lakes Golf Club. 29 teams enjoyed a great round of golf with beautiful weather. The money raised this year went to the purchase of our new ADA compliant playground! The winning team from the 1st Flight were Jason Boyette, Matt Lightner, Grayson Merrill and James Stevenson. The winning team from the 2nd flight was Amy Brown, Beth Anderson, Marlene Carnnell, and Michelle Babos. Thank you to all our golfers, volunteers, and sponsors for another successful tournament. Future tournaments will help raise money for a new 10,000 sq feet dining hall and kitchen facility. Praise the Lord !



### Ministry Happenings:

The **Seffner Community Church**, Seffner, FL, had an all time high of 55 for their Easter Service with three baptisms (mom and daughters) Praise the Lord!



**Our mission is to create an atmosphere of love, acceptance, and limitless possibilities, where every child feels seen, valued, and supported.**

Limitless is a ministry, founded in 2024, committed to offering a meaningful and unforgettable camp experience for individuals ages 7-18 with disabilities and a parent or an approved guardian. Our mission is to create an atmosphere of love, acceptance, and limitless possibilities, where every child feels seen, valued, and supported.

Our program welcomes campers ages 7-18, but our activities—like crafts, music, dancing, and interactive games—are primarily geared toward younger children and are adjusted as needed for older campers.

This year, our two-night retreat will be held May 15-17. Throughout the weekend, campers will enjoy a wide range of accessible and engaging activities such as swimming, games, music, Bible stories, crafts, and special evening gatherings. Our campus also features accessible amenities such as handicap-friendly go-carts, a pool with a water slide, and a lake area that includes canoes and an additional waterslide. Each experience is thoughtfully adapted to meet individual needs, ensuring every camper can fully participate and have a memorable camp adventure.

Limitless not only provides fun and meaningful experiences for campers, but also offers families the opportunity to connect, build supportive relationships, and create memories that last a lifetime. We look forward to another incredible weekend together!



## Ministry Happenings:

The **SACA Executive Board** met for their spring meeting via ZOOM on April 28, 2026. President Rev. Paul Dean led the Board through our conference reports and updates. Business items included discussion of the upcoming ACGC Triennial, including the Declaration of Principles and ordination standards that are on the agenda. The SACA Board voted to offer a \$100 scholarship to those SACA pastors attending the Triennial. Also, they discussed plans for the SACA Triennial, scheduled for April 29-May 1, 2027, in Dowling Park, Florida.

### WHFMS

#### Women's Home and Foreign Mission Society

The WHFMS is an organization to encourage, equip and empower women for personal and group development and effective service in ministries and missions at home and abroad.

#### What do we do?

With missions (at home and abroad) as their key focus, they support ministries in their churches and communities and also are a liaison to their churches regarding the ministry efforts of ACGC. Monthly meetings usually consist of a business meeting, devotion and fundraising work.

#### Where do we meet?

Most groups meet monthly at their home church

#### How do I join?

Contact your pastor or the WHFMS president at your local AC church.

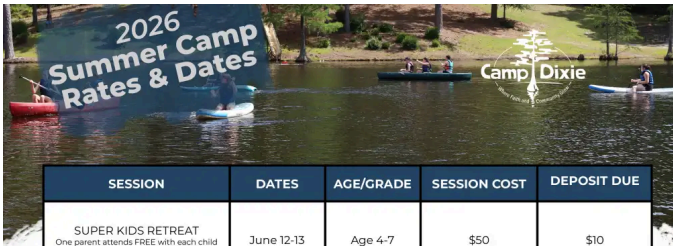
#### How do I start a WHFMS group?

Contact ACGC's WHFMS Coordinator, Faye Richards to start a new group at your church. (frichards@acgc.us)



Shared from the ACGC website

## Summer Camp - 2026



SESSION	DATES	AGE/GRADE	SESSION COST	DEPOSIT DUE
SUPER KIDS RETREAT <small>One parent attends FREE with each child and will receive a FREE t-shirt!</small>	June 12-13	Age 4-7	\$50	\$10
<b>Grade levels are based on Grade entering Fall of 2026</b>				
HIGH SCHOOL CAMP	June 14-19	Grades 9-12	\$425	\$40
KIDS' CAMP #1	June 21-26	Grades 2-4	\$425	\$40
KIDS' CAMP #2 (EARLY SESSION)	June 21-26	Grades 5-6	\$425	\$40
KIDS' CAMP #2	June 28-July 3	Grades 4-6	\$425	\$40
JUNIOR HIGH CAMP	July 5-10	Grades 7-9	\$425	\$40

#### Kids' Camp Options & Information:

- Kid's Camp #2E session enrollment is limited to 56 campers - Hilltop Lodging Only
- Rising 4th graders may attend Kids' Camp #1 and/or Kids' Camp #2
- Rising 5th & 6th graders may attend Kids' Camp #2E and/or Kids' Camp #2
- If camper attends two sessions, a \$40 discount will be applied.

#### Teen Camp Options:

- Rising 9th graders may attend Junior High Camp or High School Camp, but not both

#### General Information:

- 10% Military Discount for campers with a parent on active duty! Discounts apply to total registration cost upon verification and do not include extras.
- A deposit is required to reserve your spot for each session. Total deposit paid will be deducted from the total cost of your camp session.
- For further information and to register, visit CampDixie.com.
- Register early to begin making monthly installments on your camper account. Ex. Camper #1 registers for Kid's Camp #1 in November for a total of \$425. After an initial deposit of \$40, the 6 monthly payments would be approximately \$71 beginning December 1st.

#### Extras:

- **BANK MONEY:** Kids' Camp campers are required to keep all money in the camp bank. Junior High and High School campers are recommended to put all money in the camp bank as well.
- **CABIN PHOTO:** A digital copy is included with each registration for FREE!
- **SUMMER CAMP THEME T-SHIRT:** Included with each registration for FREE!

### WELCOME TO Camp Suwannee

#### A ministry of the Florida Conference of Advent Christian Churches

(Held at Camp Suwannee at the Advent Christian Village)  
Welcome to Camp Suwannee, a place where faith, fun, and friendship come together in the heart of God's creation. At Camp Suwannee, we provide a unique Christian camp experience that nurtures spiritual growth, builds lifelong friendships, and creates unforgettable memories. Our serene setting along the Suwannee River offers a perfect backdrop for engaging activities, inspiring worship, and personal reflection. Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning for another season, we invite you to explore, discover, and grow in your faith with our loving and supportive community. Come and be part of the Camp Suwannee family, where every moment is an opportunity to experience God's love and grace.

#### Contact Us

TEL: **386-243-4455**

E-MAIL: [campsuwanneesenior@gmail.com](mailto:campsuwanneesenior@gmail.com)

#### Summer Camp Dates

Junior Camp July 5-11 (Ages 7-12)

Senior Camp July 12-18 (Ages 13-18)



#### Questions?

Contact us at [registration@campdixie.com](mailto:registration@campdixie.com) or 910-865-5180

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## Coming Events. . .

May	Prayer Emphasis
May 25	Memorial Day
May 31	Advent Christian Village Sunday
June 28	Adventual Heritage Sunday
August 17-21	ACGC Triennial Convention

### Philippians 1:4-6

<sup>4</sup> In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.