

Welcome to Merge Kids Camp 2026!

What is Large Group?

Large group time is a time for you to connect with your church to go over all that happened during the day and prepare your students for the next day. The Monday large group time takes place **BEFORE** service, while the ones on Tuesday and Wednesday happen **AFTER** service.

Here are a few ideas for the first large group to help you and your group be best prepared for camp. Setting up expectations and guidelines on the first day will be key to helping your students get the most out of camp

- Pass out books, room keys, and name tags
- Camp shirts will be worn on Thursday! If you pass them out anytime before please let your students know not to wear their shirts until Thursday.
- Go over the map of the campus, pointing out where your students will go for meals, worship services, small groups, and large group
- Give basic guidelines for camp: what to do and what not to do while at camp

You may also want to remind them and begin to talk more about the theme. Our theme for camp this summer is “ECHO”! Our focus for each day will be Created to Echo, Came to Echo, and Charged to Echo. Your students will hear about these three topics throughout the week. Our theme verse is **Ephesians 5:1** Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children.

- Reiterate the camp theme and verse. Remind them of the three parts “Echo” that we will discuss this week. A lot of camp information can be found in the camp booklet on pages 2 - 8, especially page 8 when talking about the purpose of each day.
- Begin by talking with your students about what an echo is. An echo is a sound that repeats what was originally heard. When you shout into a canyon or across a large space, your voice comes back to you. The echo doesn't create a new message—it simply repeats the original one. In the same way, God created us to reflect and repeat His love, truth, and character to the people around us. Our lives are meant to be an echo of who God is. But before we can echo something, we have to hear it clearly. If we're listening to the wrong voices, we'll end up repeating the wrong message. The world is full of voices telling us who we should be, what matters most, and how we should live. This week, we're going to discover how to recognize God's voice above all the others.
- Point them back to the idea that tonight we will learn what it means to “Created to Echo” and that we all are created on purpose and with a purpose.

Additional note: Before you dismiss, please remind your students to save all glow items for after service. To help the service free from distractions, we ask that no glow items be used during the evening worship services.