

THE CROSSING

INFORMATION SHEET

Parents,

On the weekend of **Nov. 15th to 17th** we will have our First *Crossing* camping trip of the 2019-2020 school year. I know I can speak for all the leaders when I say we can't wait to get back down to the Dodson Farm. For those guys who have not yet experienced a Crossing retreat, you have a great time ahead of you!

The Crossing is a program that works to get as many motivated, strong, Christian men as possible involved in the lives of our young men while encouraging them to aggressively seek out God's purpose in their lives. How do we do this? By having as much fun as possible! In the course of a weekend we play AirSoft, go kayaking, target shoot, play chess and card games, have team-based competitions and more! We do all this while also having two or three very open and honest discussion sessions where we try to grapple with the many hard decisions men face today. We have two of these retreats each year. There is one in the fall and one in the spring. They are two night trips spent on the beautiful 35 acre riverfront family farm of David and Anne Dodson in the Tellico Plains region.

As always, we want as many dads as possible to accompany us on the trip for a great weekend of fun, fellowship, and worship. While hav strong dads are integral to what we seek to achieve through *The Crossing*, their participation is highly encouraged but not required. As I have stated many times, we cannot wish to avoid the negative influences of the world being thrust upon our children if we ourselves do not get involved in their lives. Children will be influenced by something or someone. We just have to make sure that it is us as much and as often as possible.

The purpose of the weekend will be to encourage our men to live a life based around purpose. Living a life based around purpose is the only way to avoid flailing through life with movements like that of weather vane while never deciding on a direction or taking a stand on principle. While very few middle or high school boys are ready to decide a career or plot out every step of their life, to avoid the indecisiveness so prevalent today, a young man must decide who it is that he is going to be and what it is that he seeks to accomplish in at least the general terms of "What/who do I want people to see me as?", and "What are the things that I do that have the ability to help or hurt others?". These are just a couple of the questions we will seek to dive into with the guys over the weekend.

The trip will be packed with Airsoft competitions, team challenges, card and competitive games, maybe even a little rafting and hiking (weather providing), and some of the best food you've ever eaten. All food and snacks will be provided. It is sure to be a fun and meaningful weekend for both the kids and adults. The High School leadership team will, as always, be taking on a leadership role in setting up events and running the different challenges. The first 20 high school dads and sons that sign up will get a bunk room slot. After that, everybody else gets to tent-camp or can bring hammocks (Enos). All middle school guys will be in tents.

We are incredibly excited to announce that we now have the ability to sign up and pay online. Just click [here](#) and then click on "sign-up", fill it out, and submit a picture of your insurance card with it. I thank everyone in advance for allowing their sons to participate in what will surely be a meaningful and fun weekend. **Please have the permission slip, insurance card, and admission submitted online or returned to the MS/HS office at CCS by Friday Nov. 1st.**

Thank you,
Ernie Bussell

Please keep for your records

+Competitions:

The boys will be divided into squads and asked to compete against the other squads. Each squad will be asked to compete in some fun competitions involving flag-football, Soccer, rafting, bows and arrows, puzzles, light wrestling, air-soft matches, and multiple other things throughout the weekend. The object of the competitions will be to strategically complete the various challenges as a team while avoiding the many obstacles and barriers to doing so. The team completing the most challenges and thus earning the greatest amount of points will be declared the winners at the end of the weekend.

+Limit:

The trip will be limited to the first 35 boys to sign up and as many dads as we can get. With a maximum of seventy participants.

+Location __Dodson Farm, Tellico Plains (199 LEWIS LN)_____

+ Date ____ Nov. 15-17 _____

+Departure Time –Meet at Kingston Pike campus in front of the student building after school on Nov 15th. Carpool leaving at 4:30

+Cost (turned in with permission slip)**Cash Only Please** __\$60/person
Or by clicking [here](#)

+T-shirt- Comes with price of admission

+ What to bring and wear :

- clothing that you don't mind getting dirty or possibly ruined.
- pants but bring some shorts and swimming trunks in case it's warm enough.
- warm clothes for when it gets chilly at night.
- a pair of gloves
- athletic shoes that will get dirty
- extra sets of clothes to change into.
- Bring tents and sleeping bags. Multi-person tents will be appreciated.
- hygiene items (toothbrushes and etc.)

+Air-soft players: Bring official AirSoft eye protection, air-soft guns, and ammunition. **If you do not have proper eye protection, you will not be allowed to play.** If you have extra guns or equipment, please bring it for those who have none. For the protection of both the participants and the guns, **all guns will be locked up when not being used.**

+Food: All food and snacks will be provided; therefore there is no need to send extras unless you just wish to do so.