



## BOOT CAMP CULMINATION CEREMONY

*(First Boot Camp will recognize 9 boot campers. One who did not continue because of health will be recognized)*

*Presiding Elders, SCCLO President, and SCCLO Director of Lay Activities will stand facing the congregation gathered. The congregation is seated.*

PRESIDING ELDER: O merciful God, grant that any Ole spirit of mediocrity may be buried so that the new spirit may, you have sent via this boot camp, be raised in these servant leaders. AMEN

PRESIDING ELDER: Merciful God, grant that they by being here, re-dedicate to you their service in the office of present - in the ministry of the Lay Organization.

PASTORS OF BOOT CAMPERS: May they be endued with heavenly virtues, strong relationship with you, and everlastingly regarded, through your mercy, O blessed Lord God, who does live and govern all things world without end. AMEN

PRESIDENT OF SCCLO: The scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of Christ is the Head; that it is the design of the Gospel to bring together in one all who are Christ's. The fellowship of the Church is the communion that its members enjoy one with another.

SCCLO DIRECTOR OF LAY ACTIVITIES: In that Christian fellowship, known as the African Methodist Episcopal Church, on this occasion, we call forth those who committed themselves to "study to show themselves approved" as presidents of lay organizations. Tonight, they commit to pay forward what they have received as "gifts of knowledge, wisdom, and courage" sharing with all who inquire or show need. They commit to be the living witnesses.

*Then the Boot Campers will be asked to rise and come forward by the SCCLO Director of Lay Activities, each being called by name and church with their Pastors.*

*The Boot Campers and Pastors remain standing facing the Presiding Elders. The SCCLO President and Director of Lay Activities are seated.*

PRESIDING ELDERS: We now propose, in the fear of God, to question them as their commitment, purpose, and calling to this work, so that you may know that they are stepping up:

PRESIDING ELDERS: Boot Campers, What do you believe?

BOOT CAMPERS: As a family of believers, we... Believe that Jesus Christ is the way to salvation and personal relationship with God. We believe that we must be available and faithful.

PRESIDING ELDERS: Remember, "God has not called us to be successful; God has called us to be faithful". There are several ways to demonstrate your faithfulness. What will you do?

BOOT CAMPERS: We will be faithful in daily prayer and devotion; attending weekly services to enrich our faith walk; Engaging both traditional and non-traditional methods of teaching; and reaching those outside the family of faith.

PRESIDING ELDERS: What commitment do you make?

BOOT CAMPERS: Our commitment is to Encourage fellowship with one another as a means for displaying God's love; Build up believers through God's word; Empower believers for ministry through identification and discernment of their spiritual gifts. We understand the need to Glorify God through our individual and collective giving to make sure that there are sufficient financial resources to carry out the ministries of God's church. "We can't teach what we don't know; we can't lead where we won't go" so we are called out and say YES!!

PRESIDING ELDERS: What is the bottom line?

BOOT CAMPERS: Most importantly we will Equip believers with knowledge to spread the gospel through evangelism and Serve others affected by hunger, homelessness, disease and natural disasters on the local, national and international levels.

PRESIDING ELDERS: Is this not what you would do as Christians even if you were not serving as president of a Local Lay Organization?

BOOT CAMPERS: Yes, we would. But tonight, we remind ourselves and publicly declare again. We will LIVE out our belief. The Holy Bible, The AME Book of Discipline, the Lay Constitution and the Lay Study Guide and all other tools will be our source.

PRESIDING ELDERS: With whom will you work?

BOOT CAMPERS: God is the Head of this Church. The Church is our vehicle to carry out God's will. Our pastors are our Shepard leaders. Laity and Clergy are our sisters and brothers this ministry journey.

We leave Boot Camp, empowered, determined, and boldly declaring that "IT IS OUR WATCH"! We won't give up. God's will be done. In the end, we will give thanks to God by using our talents to carry out the mission of the Lay Organization. We will LEAD so that every member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church will be trained to serve and use his/her talents to the maximum ability possible.

Please pray for us and we will pray for you!

PRESIDING ELDERS: Let us pray! (*Extemporaneous prayer*)