

BODLIEN HEADLINES

Summer Camp has wrapped up!

We have been involved with Word of Life Camp for over 20 years, and this was my (Mark's) first summer as Camp Director. This is a blessing and a responsibility that I did not take lightly and I knew that it would be a big challenge, I just didn't know how big. Over the course of the summer, we were presented with blessing after blessing, but also faced with challenge after challenge. Joanna and I were able to count each blessing and each story of life change as fuel for the ongoing summer. But it can be difficult to see challenges in the same positive light. Many times we want to wish away the adversity or see it as a bad sign, but God uses these moments to teach us some very valuable lessons. We found it helpful to take notes of each blessing encountered but also to journal each challenge that we faced. This gratitude/adversity journal has helped us look back on what God has done and how God has developed us into the servants that He wants us to be. We are thankful for every person, every decision, and every circumstance.



Job 2:21 - "How can I accept only blessings from the Lord and not adversity also?"

Every Camper - Next Step - With Jesus.

"Every Camper - Next Step - With Jesus." This is our camp mission. This past summer at the Ranch (elementary campers) and Ridge (middle school campers) we saw **2100** campers come and we saw



207 of them take their *first* step with Jesus by trusting Him as their Savior! That is something to celebrate! Altogether, with our NY & FL camps we were able to present to Gospel to 12,112 people and see 1,234 people place their faith in Jesus! What a privilege it has been to serve the Lord in this way. Thank you for your part in supporting and praying for our ministry that helps us reach so many.



Teaching to serve

Our kids have always been around to see everything that we do at camp to serve campers. This summer they were all able to find an area of camp to help in consistently and that was a blessing for us to watch.



Bekah was officially a part of our Camp Crew program where she lived in the dorms with 80 other young ladies who were here serving at camp. She was in the Zoo caring for the animals and helping campers enjoy them too. In the evenings our Camp Crew have Bible studies and discipleship as part of the whole program.

Nicole helped out in the Arts & Crafts area, she must have made a thousand friendship bracelets this summer. She helped set up, clean up and prepare for campers to

come and make memories through works of art.

Abi tagged along with the Wranglers and caught a love for horses, learning the value of hard work and learning how to ride. She's already looking forward to next summer!

Ellie helped out in the Zoo and with Program. They all thrived this summer in their own way and it was a great experience for them to be back in the swing of things. It was also a blessing as parents to see them loved and included by so many older role models and examples.

Praise/Prayer Requests:

- **Summer Camp-** We are thankful for an amazing summer full of campers and lessons, but especially for the fruit of salvation we saw in so many camper's lives.
- **Bible Institute-** A new Bible Institute year starts soon. Pray for Mark as he coordinates the student ministry teams and trips. The fall is the busiest season for ministry teams.
- **Personal Opportunities-** Praise God for many opportunities Mark has had to teach or preach this summer, and hopeful for more this fall.
- **Family-** This summer was very busy for our family. We are taking some time to rest and re-connect as a family. Looking forward to our first tent-camping trip as a family after summer camp.