

November 7, 2007

Dear Parents,

Your RAD Students are on a grand adventure that begins in the heart and soul of each Christian. They are walking towards holiness one step at a time and it is a beautiful and crazy adventure. While RAD is placing them in new situations to stretch them, it is God alone who is doing the planting, growing, weeding, and cultivating. Praise the King for HIS work in each young adult.



The students are beginning to grow comfortable in their newest location in the woods of Scout Land. They constructed their “bamboo village” with three shelters; a boy’s room, a girl’s room, and a large common shelter. Although it was quite a feat, the team built three solid, waterproof structures that have, thus far, served their purpose. They are also beginning to fall into somewhat of a schedule (if that is even possible with RAD’s spontaneity!). Students can now help with food shopping, cook meals, and regularly attend church. I think it has been a welcomed transition!



Girls Shelter



Common Shelter and Kitchen



Boys Shelter

The team has participated in an array of trainings in the past few weeks. Training in “Life 101” taught each young adult the basics of food preparation, budgeting, car mechanics, home fix-its, and communication. Also, a whole week was set aside to construct a scale model of an Old Testament tabernacle. Research, planning, and budgeting were all necessary to complete this project on time. In the end, a stand-alone tabernacle was created complete with alter, lamp stands, table of showbread, and more. Trainers Thomas and Christina Karst came to teach on the symbolisms found in the tabernacle and also what that means for our lives. Everyone came away with a new understanding of the power of the Blood of Christ Jesus and the mercy that He has shed upon us.



Life 101



Researching the Tabernacle



Building the Tabernacle!

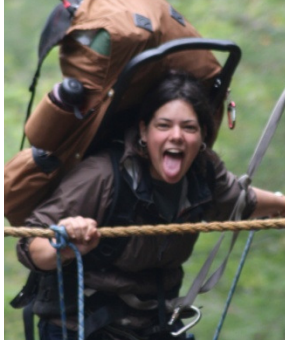
As this week unfolds, the students hope to learn the power that can be found in prayer as they dive into the depths of prayer counseling and how much healing and restoration God wants for each life. Pray for each student as they begin to hear God's voice and follow his calling.

While training sessions provide a wealth of information, much of what is learned throughout the course of RAD is learned in time spent interacting with the students, staff, trainers, and other people surrounding the team. I believe the team is reaching new levels of accountability and transparency as they grow together as a family built on the foundation of Christ. Leadership responsibilities have increased as the "leader-of-the-day" is now the "leader-of-the-next-three-days." Leaders must begin to think ahead, set schedules, and lovingly push the team to their desired goals. This takes boldness and loving communication as well as organization and planning. Although a challenge, each individual is growing astronomically.

Excitement levels are high for three of the five students as a work team filled with family and friends from home, Jacksonville, FL, arrives this weekend to help in the final stages of cabin construction for the RAD campus. Also, Thanksgiving break is only 11 days away! I think everyone is ready for a break from this stretching time, but will surely miss it.

In the mean time, your RAD Students look forward to letters and packages from home. Your prayers are also felt on a daily basis. Thank you. Please pray that the Lord will continue to bring things to the surface so that each young adult can be purified by the Blood. Also, pray for focus and willingness as Thanksgiving break is just around the corner! Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support. It means the world to all of us here at RAD, especially your child.

Pressing Onward,
Kristyn Concepcion
RAD Intern



Katy is incredibly fun loving and also very smart. Her innovative mind has helped to keep the team creative. Her humor keeps the team laughing even in the midst of tedious projects. She surprised us all with her artistic abilities as well! She created 3-D angels for the Tabernacle!



Yvie could possibly be the most enduring person I have ever met. She proved that not only on the A.T., but in everyday life. She knows how to push the team when they are close to giving up and how to push herself when everything in her screams "I can't!" She has the strength of God behind her and a beautiful path ahead of her. She is also an amazing cook! No one here is starving, that's for sure!



Wes is not the timid meek guy I thought him to be. Instead he is full of life and knowledge. He never ceases to amaze me with his word of wisdom and his heart of compassion towards others. He is so gentle and loving with those in need. He pours into others even when he is not feeling 100% himself.

Yogi (Matt) is always ready for a new adventure. His natural leadership skills allow him to help the group get things done no matter what situation they are in. You certainly can't tell that he is the youngest! He passionately wants more; more out of every day, more out of every moment and more out of his life. God will no doubt use that!



Josh, the birthday boy, has really come out of his shell here recently. He has valuable opinions and thoughts on projects and plans and is learning to speak up and not hold back. He has the faith of a child that so many of us envy. He is the first to jump up and pray over anyone in need and offers to help in any way he can. I have to say that his laugh is SO contagious, too!