

--Isn't God Just Wonderful? --

As many of you know, CAM has spent the last week preparing Cornerstone Kid's Ranch for the many camps coming soon. Everyone had a blast and we got almost everything finished. We started at the Hooper's house on Wednesday night. There we got to know each other a little better, and were introduced to what CAM is all about. The group of kids that joined us this year was amazing. Each one had their own personality and added something special to the group as a whole.

Thursday morning everyone woke up bright and early and headed for Cornerstone Kid's Ranch. It took us a little over an hour to get there. When we arrived, we realized that we had a huge task ahead of us. However, that didn't get anyone down and they all dug in and got it done! Some of the work consisted of mowing and weed eating trails, painting the arena, cleaning horse stalls & oiling saddles and bridles, moving rocks (large rocks) and cleaning out the snack shack. There were many other jobs as well, and each person did their part... (2:14 it-)WITHOUT COMPLAINING-- Philippians 2:14! It was wonderful how joyfully each student accomplished his or her job.

On Thursday night, Alysa Hooper gave a great devotion on people's personalities, and how we need to take the opportunity to learn from each other. God has given each of us a motivational gift (Roman 12) which is part of why we act the way we do. Each person took a mini test, to see what "color" they were. The colors represent their personality. For example, I'm orange, meaning I am fun loving, spontaneous, and I don't like structure or major planning. In the devotion, each color learned how to respect, honor, and get along with the other colors.

Friday night Zoe Young presented the idea of sticking up for people being bullied. She gave examples and advice on how to react to different problems. Zoe challenged everyone to be more observant of life and act on the idea of "what would Jesus do?" In all situations, we, as followers of Christ, are called to love everyone including enemies. It's not always easy to do, but if we expect to represent Christ completely we have to strive for this. This was the first time for Zoe to lead a devotion and she did an excellent job.

Natalie Wimer gave a devotion on asking God for whatever we need, and He will fill us up. She led everyone outside and sent teams on a scavenger hunt to find various items. Her point was to show that we may have to search, but God will give us all we need. Natalie gave an illustration by using a jar. She placed golf balls in it to represent the large things we fill our time with, marbles to represent possessions, and sugar to represent acts. The jar still had spaces and places that were empty. Then she poured red water into the jar and slowly every nook and cranny of the jar was filled to the brim. This represented God's presence in our lives. He is the only thing that could ever fill us completely and leave us wanting more at the same time!

This was a beautiful group of people gathering to serve God. Thank you so much to those who participated! Moreover, to everyone, I hope that each one of you will be able to continue being apart of CAM for many years to come! See you at the next CAMp!!!

Sincerely,
Abi Hooper