



Camp Penuel East

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September 28, 2010

Greetings from Camp Penuel

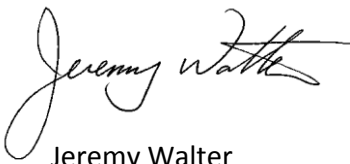
We just want to start off by saying we had a great season this year. We had some obstacles and some issues, but God brought us through and He is always faithful. There will always be opposition to the advancing of God's Kingdom. This should be a litmus test to show that you are on the right track. We came up against great resistance to filling this camp with kids this season, but God prevailed. We can rest assured that not only does God want us to be victorious in reaching the lost, but He will fight with us and for us to accomplish His will. Through all of the obstacles and roadblocks this season we still had 217 children and 164 of them made a decision for Christ. We wouldn't be disappointed even if just one child came to the Lord. We can honestly say this was a great season simply because so many kids made the best decision of their lives. Any of the negative things that happened just simply pale in comparison to the wonderful things that God accomplished for His Glory and the furtherance of His Kingdom.

We are always moved when kids come forward for salvation, but there were a couple of simple things that God taught me this season that will stay with me for a long time. One of those things was this little girl came up to me after the altar call and after she was handed a Bible. She said "nobody ever gave me a Bible before". She was maybe 8 or 9 years old and that simple statement really shook me to the core. It is hard to imagine that there are children her age that are just waiting for someone to tell them about Jesus, just waiting to receive a Bible and hear the good news of what Jesus has done for them. The mission to reach out to the lost is vast and ever reaching, and sometimes can feel overwhelming. God reminded me through that little girl that it's not about reaching the whole world it's about reaching individuals. For anyone out there that feels intimidated at the thought of sharing the gospel with the world just start by sharing it with your neighbor. Making a difference one life at a time is what it's all about.

Another thing that really spoke to me this season was a statement that someone said to me. I don't even remember who said these words, but they impacted me greatly. They said "kids don't care how much you know until they know how much you care". I had never heard this before, but it really got me thinking. God has made me an evangelist and so often he teaches me lessons that help to shape that calling. When I think about those words it changes everything about how we should approach sharing the gospel with the lost. People that are unchurched don't care how much scripture we know or where we went to Bible College. They don't respond well to us pointing out all of their mistakes and flaws. What I have experienced as an evangelist is something I want to pass on to anyone that will hear it. People will always respond to unconditional love. It is that same love that we experienced when we first encountered Christ. We might have experienced guilt for our mistakes and shortcomings, but God didn't hold them over us He just forgave and forgot. When we show people how much we care about them and love them they will be drawn to the Jesus inside of us. Often when they see how much we care they will be willing to hear the message of salvation. Preach the gospel and if you must, use words.

We want to give an update on Harry. For those who don't know Harry Douma is the founder of Camp Penuel. He is still recovering from surgery and suffering the effects from colon cancer. The cancer has been found in other parts of his body as well. When we talk to Harry his spirits are high but his body is weak. He needs his strength to return so the doctors can administer further treatment for the cancer. We ask that you would continue to pray for Harry for his complete healing. We know that God can restore his body and remove all traces of that cancer. When we speak with Harry he thanks God that he is still alive and he trusts God and praises Him for all that He has done for himself and Camp Penuel. Harry told me that since Camp Penuel started they have had over 65,000 children and all of them have been offered salvation. He was in the hospital with his staff members adding up all of the numbers for this season and praising God. Even in the hospital during recovery the mission of Camp Penuel is still motivating him to keep pressing forward.

This maybe our last letter for 2010, so we want to make sure that you all know that we love you and thank you for all of your prayers and support. We couldn't do this ministry without all of the loving people that have not only sowed into the kids that come here, but also into us. We hope that Camp Penuel is as much of a blessing to all of you as is it to us. I'm starting to understand a little bit more about what Harry says about Camp Penuel. It becomes your whole life. It is what we talk about everywhere we go to everyone we meet. It just becomes such a part of our everyday life that's not just a job or even a ministry, but a way of life. What an awesome way of life God has provided for us.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeremy Walter". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeremy Walter
Director