



Camp Penueel East

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Greetings from Camp Penueel

It is with a heavy heart that we have to inform you that on January 18, 2011 Harry Douma the founder and president of Camp Penueel went home to be with the Lord. As many of you know Harry was battling cancer and even to the very end he was diligently working and praying for Camp Penueel. I believe Harry accomplished what God assigned him to do and that his work here was complete. The legacy of Camp Penueel that Harry left behind will continue on forever, but its mission will never be complete. There are thousands of kids waiting to hear about Jesus and this ministry was created to reach them all. Harry's faithfulness and obedience to the Lord accomplished so much to advance God's Kingdom here on earth.

Harry was the most humble person that I have ever had the honor of knowing. He shared with me several months before he passed that felt like he could have done more for the Lord. Because of Harry's devotion to God's call and his passion for this ministry over 65,000 kids have heard the message of the Gospel. I told Harry that if I can accomplish half of what he did in my lifetime I will consider myself a success. I also told him that so many people look up to him and aspire to model their lives after Jesus as fully as he had done with his. He thanked me for the kind words and prayed with me as he usually did and told me that he love me and said goodbye. Because of

Harry's illness I didn't get many more opportunities to speak with him. No one could ever take Harry's place, but we will press on and continue the good work that he started. God established this ministry through Harry and God will sustain it in his absence, but that won't make us miss him any less.

Our 17th annual fundraising banquet is coming up on April 16, 2011 and we will be celebrating Harry's life and commitment to Camp Penueel. Our banquet will be held at our lodge here at Camp Penueel East. We will be sending out tickets soon. If you are interested in coming please call us or email: jeremy@penueeast.org. We would like for churches to fill some tables. If you would like to fill a table for your church just let us know how many tables you want. Each table will accommodate six people and the cost for the banquet as always is free. We have around 150 spaces available and we want to see this banquet hall filled with people that love the ministry of Camp Penueel.

We are currently working hard to try to fill our camp season. We are also looking for many new staff members this season. We need lifeguards, general staff and maintenance you must be at least 16 years of age to apply. If you know someone that you think might enjoy this kind of ministry opportunity then send them our way. We are also looking for groups that would like to come and volunteer their time and energy to better our facilities. One of our big projects this season is renovating the dorm. Some of the beds are in need of repair and some of the walls need fixing. There are a couple of plumbing issues and painting that needs to be done. We would also like to add permanent doors in the bathrooms instead of curtains that are being used now as stall coverings.

I just want to close this letter with some personal thoughts. I learned a lot about ministry and life from the time I spent with Harry. He would constantly go and find time to spend in prayer with the Lord. His son said something that impacted me at Harry's funeral. He said his dad told him that if he had to do it all over again... Harry said I would have prayed twice as much. This coming from a man who I feel touched the very heart of God and tapped into something that few people on this earth get to experience. Harry was completely in love with the Lord. It had been said that Harry never met a stranger. If you had the honor of shaking his hand or sharing a cup of coffee with him then you know what that means. We all could learn a lot about how to love others as Christ loves us by looking at Harry's life. Harry was the best example of a Godly man that I have ever known. His ability to interweave the Great Commission with his everyday life is how we should all strive to live our lives. Harry's life could be summarized like this: Preach the Gospel and if you must use words.

Jeremy Walter
Director