



# CHOOSE HONOR



With your prayers and support campers this summer learned what it means to honor God and one another with our head, heart and hands...



*Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

*Romans 12:10*





**Camp Life gives them permission to be kids, allowing them to put aside the worries and responsibilities of every day life...**

Camp is a place for kids to play and laugh, to hope and dream and to make new friends and to be light of heart! Mr. Matt often says to the staff, "I have hired you to play." The way to a child's heart is through play. All these happy places at camp...the pool, water slide, canoes, horses, river, peddle carts, etc., are places for some of our most powerful ministry moments. Camp life is a shared experience of wonder, joy and celebration, helping kids to conquer doubts and fears and then cheering them on as they try something new. From the moment they awake each day until the moment they fall asleep, we are celebrating their value, building trust, and pointing them to the heavenly Father who delights in them.

These pictures are just a glimpse of camp life and some of the moments that remind us of why we do what we do.





# Someone to listen, someone to care...

At camp this summer over 650 kids experienced the love of the Lord through over 70 young adult staff. Away from the distractions of daily life and through the power of both nature and nurture, children's eyes were opened to the beauty of creation. Their hearts responded to the love of the Father who made them, Jesus who died for them, and the Holy Spirit who lives in them.

Just listening to children is a powerful act of love. Our staff listens to the heartache of their personal stories, which lifts their burdens. We answer a thousand little questions and reassure them of God's plan for them. Camp becomes a place of great hope and endless possibilities. Although we only have them here for a short time our prayer is that they will forever remember this place where people really loved them and talked about Jesus a lot! Hundreds of children will return over and over each year and the long term implications of planting the seeds of the gospel in their lives is now being seen in their teen years and beyond. We were so honored to encounter several adults this summer who were prior campers as they lined up at registration to sign their small children up for the kind of week at Pine Valley that had changed their lives!



# A chance to look up and look inside, to face challenges and grow in faith...



The first night of camp one week, a young girl raised her hand to share, "Please don't judge me, I know this is a Bible camp, but I don't believe in God! But who knows maybe I could by the end." Her stand was forceful, but her heart seemed opened, so we prayed for her all week. It became obvious that her story of her home life is sad and she was also bullied relentlessly in school. However, at camp she wore a bright smile and gave out lots of hugs. At devotions she was full of great questions and she listened intently to the hope of the gospel. On her last night at camp at the say-so fire she stood up in front of her peers and said, "In the beginning of the week I knew nothing about God, but now I understand more about His love and I really want to

follow Jesus." Her smile, her hugs and her new found love for God will be a lasting memory on our minds and on our hearts!

Hearing hundreds of these kinds of stories never gets old. It is exciting to see the wonder and amazement in the eyes of a child who comes to understand the hope of the gospel. It is a joy to watch children experience the truth of simple Bible stories for the first time. It is so rewarding to see the growth in our teens who are straining to keep their eyes on Christ and growing in Him against all odds. From morning to night this place echoes with praises of God's children whose hearts are truly His. Photos can barely capture the depth of the moments of growth and impact as kids intersect with God's love and as staff pour their lives out and see God grow their faith as well!



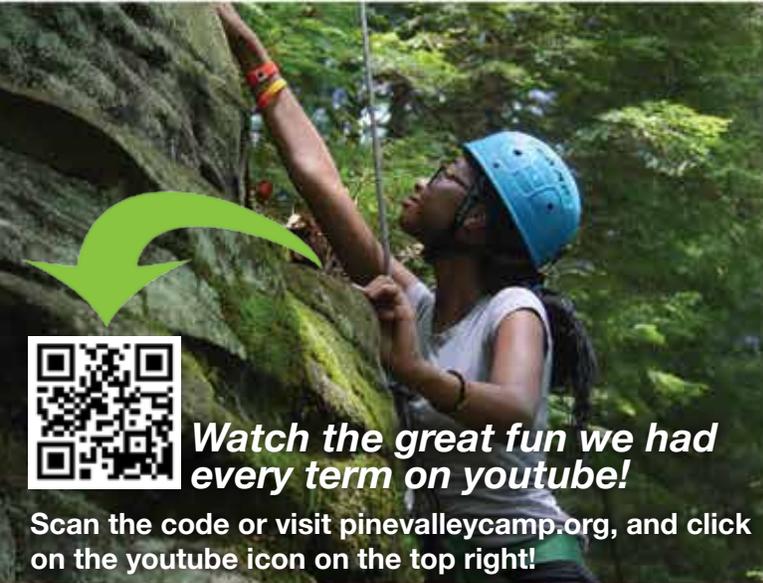


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*Watch the great fun we had every term on youtube!*

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# Thank You!

Thank you for investing in the ministry of Pine Valley. Please consider continuing to support Pine Valley towards our summer expenses and our on going year round ministry.

For 19 summers now we have seen incredible life-change and growth in our campers, teens and staff who serve them!

