

Just Grateful

May 2018



Nothing like hot dogs at camp!

Boys Camp May 4-6

Frogs and lizards, s'mores around a camp fire, and a broken down bus; all the boxes are checked saying we officially completed our 2018 annual Spectrum boys camp! Okay, so we could have done without the busted water pump and the two hours on the side of the road with the bus. But, *God is good*, and we were still able to transport all the kids to Ensenada for fish tacos and on to camp in time for the opening games! This year we had ninety two boys in all, aged eight to twelve. The activities included a zip line, water slide, dunk tank, swimming pool, archery, bb guns, and more!

There is something about the age of the boys that makes camp and being outdoors magical. When we can bring just the right message with skits and videos and teaching, they seem to be incredibly open to hear how God is speaking to them. This year the messages revolved around a make-believe, underground world where life consists of searching for light. Like in the neighborhoods these boys come from, people look for light in things like gangs and drugs, money and material things, fame and popularity, and relationships with the opposite sex. All of these, while bringing temporal happiness eventually dim and don't last. True light is found in the source of light, Jesus Christ. Our theme verse was John 8:12 where Jesus says, **"... I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**



Hands raised during worship!

The message was clear, and this year seven of those boys opened their hearts to Jesus and invited Him into their lives! We're so thankful for the work that God does at this camp every year. And we're thankful to each of you for your many prayers and financial support that makes it happen! I invite you to take a moment to visit our website, www.spectrumministries.org to check out our camp video and get a little glimpse of what the boys experienced!



Wishing all of God's best for Sean and Lori Johnsen

Having served their three year commitment (plus a year!), Sean and Lori are moving back to their home state of Georgia at the end of this month. It's impossible to quantify the impact they've had on Spectrum during their time here. It goes beyond the website work, new Spectrum brochures and information packets they created. It's more than the weekly emails Lori writes and the logistical help with payroll, crossing clothes and, of course, the toys at Christmas time.

It's their loving presence in our ministry- the strong belief they have in all the things God is doing here at Spectrum. And most of all, we'll miss their friendship. **They've given their all the last three years and have left a lasting imprint on Spectrum that will carry on long beyond their departure.** We're sad they're leaving, but grateful for the years they gave us, and hopeful God will use them just as powerfully back home as He did here!

Summer Groups are coming!

May 29th marks the beginning of our summer season where groups from around the country get on busses or airplanes and make the trip south to serve with us in Tijuana. For nine weeks this summer, many will enter into a different culture to build houses, play with kids at an orphanage or pass out sandwiches to hungry people at the Tijuana dump. They will see new sights, and smell new smells and hear a language that most of them don't understand. **Our hope is that God will use these experiences to open their eyes**

to His amazing love for people around the world! Each person who comes will receive a new Spectrum wrist band, made for us by Tom Malloy and his company, Deucebrand. Tom was kind enough to furnish these free of charge in order to provide everyone who comes with a memento from their trip and a reminder to pray for Spectrum. I want each of you to have one as well as an expression of thanks for all the ways you pray for and support the ministry. You truly are a part of the Spectrum team and all that God is doing here in Tijuana!



A group working together to raise a wall on a new home for a deserving family.

From all of us at Spectrum,

Matt Kooi
Director

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40