

## Camp Is Around the Corner

March 2022



Two of the best ways to reach young people are camps and mission trips. There's something about a new environment that leaves them open to gain new understanding and listen to what God is showing them. For my own kids, they definitely got the "missions experience" when they lived under our roof here in Rosarito, but attending a Christian camp was more of a challenge. That's why we will always be grateful to one of our supporting churches, Grace Bible Church in Arroyo Grande, CA for including our kids, scholarship and all, in their yearly trips to Hume Lake Christian Camp. Hume is a top notch Christian camp here on the West Coast and each year my kids would come home at the end of the week with great stories of all they experienced and connections with new friends they had met. After they unpacked their bags (and showered!), they would grab their binder where they had taken notes during the speaking sessions and

tell me about the teachings each day and what they had learned. I'll cherish those times forever!

Camp is such a special time for young people! Because of our Spectrum family, of which you are a part, we can offer camp year after year to the kids we work with here in Tijuana. These are kids who rarely get to venture outside of their own neighborhood. Children who are subject to the consequences of the poor choices of those around them. Some are kids from the orphanage who to this point, haven't had much go right in their lives. This type of setting is what they face all day every day. As resilient as kids are, it undoubtedly wears on their spirits!

That's why so many of them look forward to the first weekend in May. With close to 150 kids ages 8-12 years old, camp wildlife like frogs and insects need to be on high alert. We offer team games throughout the three days and free time activities like swimming, archery, crafts, and bb guns. The camp also boasts a zip line and a water slide that slithers down the side of a hill and dumps riders out into the swimming pool! We have a cookout on Friday night and a bonfire with smores on Saturday. When it comes to food, the camp kitchen knocks it out of the park with a wide variety of meals. For kids who often have very limited access to food, camp meals are assuredly one of the highlights!





Our Spectrum children's ministry director Paul Alvarado plans out all the teachings and music. Palau (as he is called) is so talented in working with kids. In fact, in years gone by he has done the training for the incoming Hume Lake staff up in California. He brings all of this knowledge and know-how to bear in creating an atmosphere where the kids can hear clear and engaging messages from the Scriptures and join in worship each night. This year will be an army theme, encouraging boys and girls to be on mission in learning about who God is and obeying His commands. Our camp verse is Proverbs 7:1 which says, "My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you." Through the nightly talks, the small group sessions and time with their counselors, our prayer is that each child will gain insights into who God is and understanding of what Jesus did for them on the cross. Through His death, burial and resurrection, Jesus opened the way for our salvation over the course of a Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He is more than able to change the lives of these kids for all of eternity over that

same time frame!

For each kid to go to camp, the cost is 50 dollars. Giving to Spectrum will help us cover these costs and in turn give opportunities for these young kids. On behalf of all of us at Spectrum, thank you for investing in these kids and all that God is doing here in Tijuana. Through ministry areas such as camps, outreaches, kids clubs and many more, God is transforming lives!

Blessings!

  
 Matt Kooi  
 Director of Spectrum Ministries



We're hoping for good weather for the water gun wars!



Camp is a great place to make new friends!!

*"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." - Psalm 19:1*