

August Update

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The Lord protects the simplehearted; when I was in great need, he saved me. Psalm 116:5-6

Trials and Triumphs: Camp for the boys in our care centers was August 11-16. This year we invited the three outside care centers, which was a delight for them. I was one of the leaders for the junior boy's camp and we had a team from Ireland that came to help.

Our theme this year was James 1:2-3, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds; because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance." They learned about the many trials that David faced when he became king. His life was threatened by Absalom's rebellion, he lost battles because of his and the Israelites disobedience, and he missed out on having the Ark of God in Jerusalem for many years because he did not follow God's instructions. But David had many triumphs as well. God protected his life many times and through faith in God he won many battles. He also had the privilege of seeing the Ark of God brought to Jerusalem. They learned that living a life for



Christ does not mean that the path will always be easy. We will have trials in our life and we have to trust in God and live in obedience.

There were several fun activities for the boys in the afternoons. They painted pillows, constructed a wooden game, did craft activities and had a treasure hunt. They played lots of sports in the afternoons and one day we all played crazy soccer. Picture this; one hundred boys and staff running



all over the field with four soccer balls trying to make a goal. It was like one minute you were chasing a ball and another minute one ball hit you in the back. It was definitely crazy, but we all had fun.

The evenings were filled with a movie night, a talent show, and lots of music and dancing. The Irish team taught the boys some Irish dancing. We locked elbows and swung round and round until we were dizzy. We all had fun.

In the mornings, after the teaching, the boys broke up in their small groups for Bible activity time. No one was designated to teach the little boys group, so I got to teach them along with two other leaders. Those little boys are just too cute. We had fun coloring pictures, learning the memory verses, doing puzzles and playing with legos. I really got to know two boys from the outside centers that were in my group. We had fun doing activities together all week. I hope I will get a chance to go to their center and visit them soon.



The last night was a special night. We all gathered together for a time of sharing testimonies. It was touching to hear of the trials that these boys had endured in the past and then of the triumphs God had given them through salvation and their time spent in the ministry. Many were presently facing trials and were looking to God for guidance. Then the leaders gathered around the boys and prayed that God would strengthen and guide them through their present trials and the ones to come. The rest of the night was celebrating with roasted meat, bread, and lots of dancing.

Miango Boys: These five boys I call my Miango boys. They have been reconciled back



to their homes in Miango. All of them were brought to the center because they were involved in occultic practices. I was close to all of these boys when they lived at the center. Two of them were happy to go back to their homes and the others have had some hard transitions. All of them came to camp this year and it was so good to see them and spend time talking to them. Some of the boys expressed that they are having difficulties being fully accepted by their families. One of them said that his family does not believe that he is really a Christian and that he is just putting on a show. Pray for these boys and their families during this transition time.

August Blooms: August is the month that we get heavy showers almost every day. Due



to the heavy rain, the plants grow abundantly and the flowers bloom beautifully. I spend a lot of time in August planting and grooming my flower garden. It is always a pleasure to see the beautiful blooms. I spend time walking around the garden or sit reading a book surrounded by the sights and smells. This is definitely the time to enjoy the flowers because soon dry season will come and most of the flowers will fade away.

Praises:

- Spending time with the boys at camp.
- A great time getting to know the boys from the outside centers.
- No injuries or illnesses during camp.
- A chance to spend time talking with my Miango boys.

Prayer Request:

- Pray for the lives of the boys in our ministry. Pray that they will trust God through the trials and the triumphs in their lives and that they will continue to grow closer to God each day.
- Pray for the Miango boys and the many others boys in our ministry that have been reconciled home. Pray for a good transition back to their families and the community.
- Pray for the new team leader at the Gyero care center. Pray that he will have a good working relationship with the staff.

- Pray for the camp for the girl's in our girl's center. Camp will be September 8-12.
- Pray for a safe journey as I travel to Kano September 13-20. I am going to visit Mary Paulson and the Hammocks to encourage them and see how their ministries in Kano are going.
- Pray for the M people around the world during the time of Ramadan.

Gay Lynn McCrady