



Words of Eternal Life

by Don Roe

Buddy time, where each staff member gets to spend 20 minutes with one or two young campers, is the favorite time for many of the children and staff, me included. My buddies were Shearer and Amos. Shearer was happy to have a shoulder ride around the camp until we ended up at the beach, then to skip stones while I watched. Then Amos and I would tell each other about our lives. Amos is only 8 but has lots of stories. He lives in North Point Douglas, and has a high fence around his yard. He has lots of toys and neighborhood children play in his yard because it is safe. His father is a roofer, who changes jobs a lot because his bosses are all "jerks". His mother works too and the family often takes vacations where Amos and his older sister play in the hotel pool while his parents gamble. His 15 year old sister drinks too much and her boyfriend does drugs and the parents are very unhappy about it. Amos' background is like many of the campers here but he is special. He is a very happy, self-assured little boy because his parents love him very much and tell him so.

Dalton missed the bus so I drove him to camp. His uncle got him to the bus on time but we had to wait for his clothing to get there late. On the trip to camp I got to know Dalton quite well. He is a very quiet boy. At 9 years old he is the oldest of five children. His mother is 24. Two siblings live with Aunties, 2 are wards of CFS and he lives with his grandparents.



"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."
John 6:68,69



because kids are worth it

His grandma works in a bank and supports them all. His grandfather He takes him on bike rides, fishing and shopping. He biked from the northeast edge of the city downtown in 32 degree heat to get Dalton's clothes to the bus. He obviously loves his grandson very much. Again I was impressed by how happy and well-adjusted Dalton is in spite of his circumstances.

As the director of Gimli Bible Camp I often have to make difficult decisions such as whether to send a child home or give him another chance. We had to send very few children home this year because the summer missionaries did such a good job of giving them the love they need. They have the opportunity to speak words of life; to let a girl know she is a princess in Jesus' eyes or a teen understand that God has great things planned for his life despite the mistakes they have made. God impressed upon me this year that the words I speak of encouragement or correction to my staff can easily change their lives as well. Most of the staff are in their teens and many come from home situations similar to that of the children. They are at camp because they know how important it is that the campers know about God's love. Far too often I forget that God wants them to grow and receive healing as well and don't speak the words of life they need to hear. Please pray for the children and staff as our gracious God continues to speak into their lives.

Our Faith Journey

Jake & Martha Friesen

Greetings in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever, Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy, And gathered out of the lands, from the east and from the west, From the north and from the south.

They wandered in the wilderness in a desolate way; They found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them, then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses, And led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city for a dwelling place. Oh that men would give thanks to the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Psalm 107:1-8

Wow, our summer has come and gone. It's incredible how quickly this time has passed us by. We had a wonderful 2 months where many people, youth and the elderly entered our camp, leaving footprints on our hearts and making an impact on our ministry. The camp registration was full most weeks during the summer which is always an answer to prayer. The Lord did a mighty work in these children's lives. Out of 599 campers, 55 of them accepted Jesus into their hearts, and 50 recommitted their life to Jesus - Praise the Lord!

Yes, our days were filled with so many jobs and there was always something to fix with maintenance breakdowns here and there. Nothing we weren't able to repair. My maintenance helper was excellent and always ready and willing to give a helping hand.



In August, we hosted a group from Niverville CMC (our home church) whose focus for the week was to help out in whatever way was necessary. We are so blessed to have willing hearts and helpers - Praise God! We were able to accomplish so much during this week - the foundations for our cabins were leveled; the new maintenance work shop was completed, some large trees that were threatening to damage cabins were removed...and the list goes on.

Martha stayed very busy this summer with mowing the grass and maintaining clean and functional bathrooms and showers. As is common during the summer months, there was a lot of laundry and lost & found items to sort through. And also cooking for about 100 seniors & staff was great, had a wonderful Team to work with and what a blessing to serve our seniors, it was a very busy week but lots of fun too.

From the personal corner of our lives, we are grateful to God for keeping us healthy during the summer. It truly was busy and good health is not without the Lord's faithful hand on our lives. We feel blessed to have been chosen for this ministry and believe that God's work is never done. Even in our mature years, God is still working on us. We are so excited to be grandparents again - our granddaughter Layni Keyana Wolff, joined our family on August 15, 2010. This means we now have 6 grand daughters and 10 grandsons - so much love and laughter. Thank you Lord for the gift of life!

Thank you for your prayers on our behalf. We know that prayer is so important. Thank you to those who give so willingly to further God's kingdom. May God bless each one of you as you labour for Him.

Greetings From Our Corner of Heaven

Charlotte Roe

My Thoughts

It's amazing how you can read the same scripture for 30 years, until all of a sudden your eyes seem to be open and its like you are reading it for the first time. Philippians 4:4-7 was such a verse. My summer at camp was full of these verses, so it was an amazing summer but obviously a hard one. God was so faithful and patient with me, I mean He was really patient!

Before we came to Gimli Bible Camp (this is our 5th summer) God was already preparing me for this ministry. There were at least three books that He had me read, all of them riveting. The one that captivated me the most was, "Battlefield of the Mind" by Joyce Meyer. It basically taught you how to take your thoughts captive, and to change them to God thoughts. I ate this book up and excitedly

shared it with everyone that showed any interest at all. But unless you have certain difficulties in your life that encourage you into practicing what you are learning, all your head knowledge stays right there, in your head. It wasn't until I came to Gimli, and was put right into the fire, was I forced to start changing this knowledge into a life style. I say forced, because my only choice was to stay in my negativity or give it over to God and let Him control my life. Of course we all want Him to be the one in charge.

This summer was full of opportunities for me to trust God deeper, but I will share only one instance with you. It was the Saturday before youth camp (August 21), I had just spent the past week being the head cook. It was with my church family and they were awesome, but I was very tired. Also it was the end of the summer rather than the beginning, so I was also tired from that. All summer long I had people praying for a cook for youth camp, I mean lots and lots of people were praying. But it was Saturday afternoon, the day before youth camp was to start and there was only me and two young girls, awesome girls, but still not quite enough to run the kitchen smoothly. So God and I had a talk, it was the same talk I had with Him most of the summer, begging Him to change the circumstances. Well, after the talk the circumstances

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7



were still the same, so I came to the conclusion that I was going to have to cook again. What do you do when you have to do something you don't want to do? Well you just set your mind to it and do it. I've been here before, I know I will exhaust my body and take months to recoup, but for some reason that seemed what God wanted from me. So I told God, "Okay God I'll do this, I know I can handle it physically, sort of, its only one week and I can put up with it, so yes, let's do this."

I opened up my Bible to try and get more strength for this ordeal, and that is when I read this verse from Philippians. "**Let your gentleness be evident to all: Do not be anxious: with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**" I couldn't believe it, God wasn't wanting

me to just do it and get it over with. He was expecting me to do it joyfully and to be gentle and nice to people! That's when I started to cry and told God that this was too hard. Physically I could do it, but emotionally and spiritually I knew I couldn't. I know that when I get exhausted, I'm not the nicest person and I know I'm not gentle with people, and I'm definitely not thankful, this was going to be hard. I would have to change my whole mindset! So after a half hour of crying and saying no, I finally said yes, what other choice did I have? I reminded God that He promises to be with us in all things, and that I could not do this without Him, He would have to walk right beside me the whole time. Then I did a very unnatural thing and thanked Him for this opportunity to serve Him with my whole being, not just with my physical being. It was a scary time with Him, but then the peace came. "**and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**" The peace filled my whole being and I felt calm. That was Saturday afternoon. At 10:00 that night I got a phone call, a cook and six helpers wanted to come cook for youth camp. After I picked my jaw

(Continued on page 4)

Prayer

- ✝ For the 55 new believers and all those whom God is growing
- ✝ For Bekah's health in school
- ✝ For the board as they seek God's guidance for the future of the camp
- ✝ For the healing of Jake's shoulder injured last year

Praise

- ✝ For the best summer yet!
- ✝ For the donation of 480 bibles
- ✝ For the volunteers that God brought this summer. He supplied and we were not short
- ✝ Number of rental groups are good for the winter
- ✝ For a healthy and safe summer season
- ✝ For the \$7500 in donations at senior's camp. Camp finances are good.
- ✝ That Charlotte and I have been married 25 years
- ✝ The camp is in such good shape
- ✝ For the opportunity to be part of people's lives

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(Continued from page 3)

up off the floor, I said, "yes we would love to have you!" Wow! I'm still in awe! God is so much more concerned with our hearts, than in what we can do for Him. I felt so loved after this life lesson, what an awesome God we serve!



Nathaniel Bruce Peters

Yes, our first grandchild was born June 20th 2010, weighing 9 lbs 7 oz. He is healthy, happy, and gorgeous! Mom is also doing fantastic! Nathaniel is now 2 ½ months old and weighs over 14 lbs. As you can see he has learnt to smile!



Bekah and Ian

Bekah was finally able to be a lifeguard this summer as she turned 16 last September. She really enjoyed it and did an awesome job. She was thrilled at youth camp because she got to

work in the dish pit as well as lifeguard. She was really missing doing dishes, go figure!

Ian had a fun summer! This year we had a young man hang out with him all summer, so he was more a part of the camp. He took out the garbage and God used him one day to minister love to one of the little girls. Instead of spending the summer in his room, he actually was out playing the games and swimming. He even made a rocket!



Needed !

- ✝ Two 17' Kevlar canoes
- ✝ 8 kayaks
- ✝ 70+ Stacking chairs for lodge
- ✝ Some double mattresses

and wanted...

- ✝ Materials to build a toboggan / water slide at the lakefront
- ✝ Mitre saw
- ✝ Small arc welder
- ✝ Commercial floor cleaner/ polisher
- ✝ Expansion of play structure
- ✝ Wood screen doors for cabins



Because kids are worth it!