

Summer Staff Devotions 2010

Opening paragraph

Do you want to change? For the better of course! Most people want to change but fail often. They fail not because they are not trying, but because they are not “training” properly. To change we need to think differently than what just comes naturally, which is to try hard at what we should do, and concentrate on what we should not do. This is a cycle of attempt that rarely works. A lot of people want to change, but most don’t believe it is possible. So we attend church weekly, work at camp for the summer, go on a mission trip, and we just sigh silently and accept our fate. Normally when people decide to change something, they muster their “willpower” and set about trying to change some behavior. This nearly always fails. I want to be like Jesus, I want to be like Him. I would love to have His influence, His impact – but when I look at my own heart I find too many distractions and other influences. As we think differently we can actually begin to balance our desire to change by trusting our Good and Beautiful God who is strong and powerful.

It starts with seeing how Jesus lived a perfect life, one that we cannot live. Jesus gave that life as a sacrifice to God the Father's plan on our behalf and setting us free from having to earn God's love and favor. Take a sigh of relief. Feel a moment of freedom. Catch a glimpse of everyday in heaven. – And then thank Jesus!

So what are you looking for this summer? This is the same question that Jesus asked His disciples in John 1:38, 39...“What are you seeking?” What is it you really want? Jesus answered was simply, “come and see”. So this summer let’s “go and see” God, because Jesus knows that if we follow Him, we will find what we truly want in life. Jesus has invited you to become one of His apprentices. This is not because of your strength or skills, but because He knows that if you learn how to think as He thinks and to do the kinds of things that He did, you can live an amazing life.