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Hope for the Streets! thewayout.org

Having Fun!

As I looked at the thirty-three anticipating faces in Children's Church, I felt a bit overwhelmed. I was especially concerned since my lesson, which always coincides with Pastor Barry's sermon, was about being Fearless in the face of global calamity (*Matthew 24*).

We started our time together with singing, and the children began to request the songs that they had sung the prior week at our "Camp Camelot." This week-long program was the reason for the jump from 25 to 33 children. The week of activities had been a success, and the children were continuing to come. As I

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contemplated the week, two things stood out the most. I recalled watching our wonderful high school volunteers from Iowa playing soccer with the children while dressed in medieval costumes. The Girls in their fancy dresses hiked up to their knees were kicking the ball while dozens of neighborhood children ran after them. The other memory was my conversation with one volunteer who wasn't sure he was getting the lessons across to his four and five year-old boys. I asked him, "Are they having a good time?" "Yes!" He replied. I then shared with him that sometimes what



Shield making at Camp Camelot



Children from Hawaiian Gardens are welcomed to camp Camelot by volunteers from Meredith Drive Reformed Church in Des Moines, Iowa.

is most important is that children know that they enjoy going to church. It is enough to know that they will have fun there and meet people who care. Jesus spent a lot of time just hanging out with people and loving them. I needed to be reminded of this as I looked at my wide-eyed children in church that Sunday.

We sang, we prayed and I shared the scripture with the boys and girls. I was pleased with how well they responded. The lesson reached some of the older ones, and the coloring sheets and snacks reached others. At the end of the lesson I handed each child a little box to raise money for an upcoming youth mission. I shared that the youth would be doing work

projects in our church, telling people about Jesus and doing a big community outreach. I asked the children if they would each fill his or her box with change to help with the mission. As children's church ended I realized that many of them might not remember much about the lesson, but they did have a good time and they did know that I cared about them. Now the Lord wanted to teach me something.

About fifteen minutes after the children had left, a little girl came up to me and handed me her blue box. "I want to help people." She said. I reached out for her box and realized it was full of pennies. "Will you empty it so I can go and ask my neighbors if they will help too?" She asked. This little girl came back two more times and donated over \$7.00 for the mission trip. Wow! She did get the message, and it wasn't even the message I had planned. She realized that God loved her through His servants from Iowa that week and, now she wanted to love those who needed God's love in her community.

God loves us so much and when we get how much He loves us, we in turn want to give back his love to a needy world too.

Thank you, friends, for praying for us and giving to the work of The Way Out Ministries. Without you, we would not be able to present the love of our Lord in deed and truth.

Leuzl

For your convenience in making contributions call 562.429.2397

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 FRIDAY NIGHT • SEPTEMBER 24 • 7PM • THE WAY OUT MINISTRIES STUDENT CENTER

Zion Fest Draws 400

Our youth group made us proud by putting on a large scale outreach which they named Zion Fest. The free Hip Hop/ Reggae music fest drew in approximately 400 people from the community to hear the gospel proclaimed in both word and music. The youth did all the fundraising, advertising, set up and tear down of the festival. The Cavanaugh Law Group sponsored the event and many adults from our church, The Gathering, also helped with cooking and security. Many Bibles were handed out and new faces have been seen in both church and youth group. The week prior to Zion Fest,



Youth Minister, Ryan Bruce, greets some young visitors before the concerts begin at Zion Fest.

the youth group did missions work including cleaning out and organizing the vast storage



Outstanding concerts by Shachah, Dominic Balli, The Message and Sons Of Tribe and Disc Jockeys DJ B-Side and DJ Havcutz. Break dancing marvel Don Sevilla, originally from Hawaiian Gardens, also performed.

room at The Way Out Ministries. What a blessing it is to see young people making such a great effort to bless their church and community!

Back To School

Summer is over and we are gearing up for school once again at The Way Out Ministries. Twenty volunteers helped us renovate classrooms, restore tables, fix plumbing and repair lockers in a twelve hour work day. Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Los Alamitos, California provided new back packs for needy students. Children attending both our school and public schools received the gifts filled with paper and

school supplies. God continues to work through His people even in tough economic times.

Larissa and Lilly get new back packs and supplies for school thanks to God's people.



Can You Help Us?

Financial Needs

- Heater/ Air Conditioner replacement in classroom A and upstairs offices.....
Now Installed!
- Roof Repair.....*Repaired!*
- Signage: bulb replacement & maintenance (remaining need)..... \$700.00
- 12 art desks fully restored

Volunteer Needs

- Construct outdoor cross for church
- Plumbing needs complete
- School lockers painted & repaired
- Drywall patch and paint finished

Kodak

Pictured on envelope cover: Security at Zion Fest had little to do but pose for this picture!