



## Camp Report for 2006

As I think about the year gone by, my mind reels with everything that has happened. By far, the most dominant theme that emerges is that "God can make something good out of any "bad" situation! However, up until August of last year, the over whelming theme would have had to been summed up quite simply as "God is so good!" As a camp, everything was going as good as could be expected. God had sent us a Program Director that was nothing short of perfect and our summer staff was mature and working well together. The summer had gone just like we pray for it to go, no emergency runs to the hospital and no "fires" to put out. Our speakers did an awesome job and several times throughout the summer we had to delay lunch because the Holy Spirit was still changing lives and writing new names down in glory!

Then, while still in the business of summer, I received a wake up call out of this perfect year. We have no money! No money? How did this happen? It was a combination of things actually. Payments on a loan for building the new washrooms, starting the year with debt from last year, moving our fund raising banquet from May to November and the giving from supporting churches was down or slow to this point. We had hit a perfect financial "storm." There was no money to pay bills and we were not able to pay our staff for their final month of ministry. It looked as though we were at least \$50,000 short for this year and possibly another \$20,000 to cover the financially dry first three months of next year. GOD we need help! This was the cry from the board of directors, regular men and women faced with a large problem. As I said before, only God can take tough situations like this and turn it into something good and He did!

Many things happened over the next few months but the most important thing was that we let the churches know that we were in trouble. What followed was a rescue mission! God's people rose to the challenge and in the last two months of the year over \$60,000 dollars flowed in to the general account. I was so thankful and proud of my Christian family for coming to our aid and still today write these words with tears of joy. In addition to this, we have received \$3,500 to renovate staff housing, \$8,600 to replace the pool liner and \$16,000 for a new chapel, all of these project are 100 percent funded!

Two lessons were relearned out of this awesome year, the first is, that we are an important out reach of the local church. We still have non-Christian families sending their children to us, resulting in dozens of new believers each summer. These believers, are then in turn disciplined in the local church, it is great teamwork! Consequently, we need to keep the church informed as to how we are doing, financially and otherwise, so that we can work together.

Secondly, we need to remember that as "front line" troops in this spiritual battle we will encounter the enemy and he looks for any weakness to exploit. We have made a few changes that will guard ourselves against future financial attacks but what really needs to happen is for each of us to remember to pray for one another. Remembering always that Pray Is The Work!

Respectfully submitted by,

*Jerry Dennill on behalf of the West Bank Bible Camp Board of Directors.*