



SEPTEMBER 2014



Flying H Youth Ranch 370 Flying H Loop Naches, WA



Dear Friends of the Flying H,

Another eventful summer here at the Flying H Youth Ranch. Many wonderful opportunities to be out in God's creation. For our boys it may have been working here on our beautiful property, hiking, or playing in the nearby rivers and lakes. Beyond the comfortable and clamor of everyday life nature has a place where the Lord can sharpen and transform you. Everything that we experience in nature reflects our awesome creator.

"Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!"

Psalm 148:7-10

I want to specifically share with you some of the experiences we had on our annual Survival Hike last month.

The boys always have some pre-survival training and this year Shane Turner, who works for Bethel Ridge Family Resources put the boys through a Survival Training workshop. It was a really neat experience for all of them which included some team building activities, axe throwing, and even eating ants (for those who were brave enough).

We had to relocate the hike location due to wildfires near the location that was originally planned. Our new location (South Cascades) provided us with the opportunity of being close to the ranch. The hike is one of the biggest challenges for many of our residents. They are graded on many different aspects such as teamwork, attitude, along with survival preparedness. The boys that were diligently keeping watch were rewarded with finding a patch of huckleberries and wild strawberries.



The most impactful part of the hike was talking to the boys about the eight Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12 given at the Sermon on the Mount by Christ. By memorizing these verses they were

rewarded by earning items such as a hook and a line to fish with. Given the small rations of food they receive this is a big motivator. We had some great discussions and several boys in particular shared with me that they read a whole chapter of the Bible while on the hike!

Throughout the Bible we can see also how the wilderness is God's training ground, where He uses the wilderness to grow His children as godly leaders, stretching them spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally. We all know about Moses and his experiences with God on Mt. Sinai. Elijah spent many days hiking to Mt. Horeb to hear God. In the Gospels of Matthew and Luke we can see how Jesus Himself often sought the solitude of the wild places. The Survival Hike is just **one** of many experiences God uses here at the ranch to show himself. We covet your prayers as we look for his direction here at the ranch.



Needs/Prayer Requests:

- Do you like working on vehicles? Like working with teen age boys? Do you feel led to do volunteer work? We are in need of a mechanic that can work on gas and diesel engines.
- Continue to pray for SMK, he still needs to make better decisions and continue to work on his discipline hours.
- Our family Resolve weekend is coming up October 11-13. Please be praying for the boys and their families.

Praises:

- Our lodge remodeling has begun. We have S.O.W.E.R.S. here for 3 weeks, and they have almost completed ½ of the ceiling. (We are still in need of funds for the paint, curtains and carpet though)
- We have had a successful start to the school year. So far, so good!

Misc:

Do you shop online, using Amazon? If so, if you go to www.smile.amazon.com and select the Flying H Youth Ranch, we will receive a percentage of the sale.