

Greetings faithful friends and family!

Camp has kept everyone very busy. We started on July 4th by studying about Independence day in our lessons. We had a fun fireworks show after dark. The kids enjoyed it. They got to have some sparklers. It was cool and rainy that day so we had to have our relay races in the main hall instead of outside. From there we studied about Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's and Easter.

Adam Butler and I had the kids from group 7. (I sent you pictures of each group of kids in a previous e-mail.) Four boys and two girls – all 12 and 13 years old. Quite a handful to say the least. They also have a low level of English so it made things a bit more challenging for Adam and I. The boys were not interested in the theme for the camp so they were not motivated in class. They just wanted to play ping pong all day long. We managed to get some English out of them though and tried to get them involved in the small group decisions in the evenings with their counselors. I sat in on the group the last two nights. I learned some interesting things about the boys I didn't know before. Here is a little about the kids in my class. It should give you an idea of how you can pray for them.

- * Please pray that Sasha would understand that he needs to have discipling and that he cannot continue to live his life the way he does. While he prayed to receive Christ last year sometime, he talks and lives his life like he can do and say anything that he wants and that God is there to pray to when you need something and then you get what you asked. For example, he prayed that his family would make enough money to build a house and now they are building a house in the country. When he needs help with a test, he prays and God helps him. During these two weeks, I have seen a proud little boy who talks down to his peers, disrespects authority and has fits of anger. He understand who Christ is and how his death was atonement for our sins, but his faith is not personal and he is not involved in any discipleship. He does not come to our weekly meetings and does not seem to be plugged into a church.
- * Max knows a lot about Christ, but not all of his knowledge is accurate. He can sure tell you a lot about the life of Christ and what people who go to church do and think. However, he is a spoiled rich kid and at this point in his life, doesn't act like any of the knowledge he has is relevant to his own life. At first, I thought he had gotten much of his information from the evening meetings at camp and in small groups, but as he continued to tell us who Jesus is, it became clear to me that he has gotten information from other sources.
- * Denis also says that he prays but that was about as far as it goes. He says that Jesus is a friend, brother and someone he can tell his dark secrets. He is the class clown who is intelligent, but rarely applies himself. There were occasions when we could get him to work well if we took him one on one, but with five other kids needing your attention, it is hard to focus on one person all the time.
- * Kristi is a preacher's daughter so she was a bright light in our class. She is also good in English so she became the class translator between us and the students. She is very cheerful and helpful.
- * Vasilina is a sweet girl. Her older sister, Rinata, is a Christian, but Vasilina is not. I think that this camp has overwhelmed her a little. She's heard a lot of things about God and been away from home for nearly two weeks. I can see a struggle going on within her, even bringing her to tears at times, but she will not talk to me about it. She is pretty open with Irina Ford so I hope that she will talk to Irina about whatever is bothering her. I can understand her hesitation with me because she doesn't speak good English so we have to use a translator.
- * Vitalik is the one everyone in class picks on. He's a great little boy, but his English is not very good and the other boys ridiculed him for it and then he won't do anything. The only way we could make any progress with him was to put him with the two girls and split the class in half. I can hardly get him to talk with me, but he really likes his counselor, Vasilisa, and responds pretty well to her when she gets him off by himself or with the two girls.



So far, we know of three kids who have prayed to receive Christ. The day we celebrated Thanksgiving, Nikki talked to one of her girls, Alisa, and then Alisa talked to Sussha who helped her pray. (She was our Valentine Ball princess so she is the one getting crowned.) She is

scared to tell her friends about her decision to please pray that she will have boldness to share and to get involved in a discipleship group in Moscow so that she will not fall back into old habits.



Pasha also prayed to receive Christ. Please pray that he will get involved in a discipleship group in Moscow so that he will not fall back into old habits. Pray that he will have a discipler who can really help him grow and keep him accountable.



Susha helped another girl pray to receive Christ at camp too. Please pray that Luba will get involved in a discipleship group in Moscow so that she will not fall back into old habits and learn what it means to be a Christian.

It is so important for them to have someone who can help them to develop their Christian walk, but they have to have the desire as well. We can offer the opportunities and call them each week, but we can't make them attend. Pray that they will have the desire to really grow in their faith and stand firm.

Tomorrow morning, the kids and counselors return to Moscow. Our staff team will remain at the camp and have our camp debriefing time before everyone goes their separate ways. Some are going back to Moscow and others on vacation. We will have to say good-bye to Steve Holland tomorrow as he will fly home to Florida on the 18th. We have really enjoyed having him on our team for the last three months. I will remain here at the hotel with Kyle and Irina until the 21st. Then we will take a train to Kiev where we will stay a few days with some of Irina's relatives. Then we will take another train back to Moscow.

We have gotten to do some fun things while we have been here in Poland. We traveled to a castle and took a leisurely rafting trip one day. We've spent a couple of days in Zakopane just walking around, shopping and enjoying the sights. The group went to Krakow one day and had a walking tour of the city before going to a salt mine. I will go tomorrow for the day so I will get to see some things then. Another day we spend four hours at Auschwitz and the afternoon at an indoor aquapark in Krakow. I learned a lot at Auschwitz and enjoyed playing with the kids at the water park. I'm glad it was indoors because it

rained while we were inside. Yesterday we hiked 3,000 feet to a peak that has a big cross on the top. It was fantastic! I wish all the kids could have gone, but understand that many of them would not have been able to handle the climb. I'm looking forward to relaxing a couple of days before heading back. The hotel is nice and comfortable. We have a great view of the mountains from our rooms.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. I could not be here without you!

In His Service,
Kerri