

FALL & WINTER 2019
MARMON VALLEY MINISTRIES

SPURS

SPURRING FAITH FORMATION
IN THE NEXT GENERATION



UNPLUGGED

Campers Put Electronics Aside

How many hours per day do you think the average teenager spends in front of a screen?

Common Sense Media tracks this... and their latest study finds that teens spend an average of 6 hours 40 minutes a day on their cell phones, i-Pads, computers, etc.

According to a Pew Research study, 60% of teens say that spending too much time online is a “major” problem facing their age group. More than half of teens (54%) say they spend too much time on their phones, and 41% say they overdo it on social media.

When 15-year old Luke Adelsberger came to Marmon Valley Ministries camp this summer, he was glad the

INSIDE:

50 SCREEN-FREE ACTIVITIES
I WISH YOU KNEW...
THE IMPACT OF CAMP
CAMP 2019



Luke (far left) with his cabin group.
camp policy prohibits the use of electronics, including cell phones.

Regarding his generation, Luke believes that **“Basically everyone is addicted to phones and computers.”**

Continued...



UNPLUGGED

Continued from cover...

Luke admits he tends to spend too much time watching videos on YouTube.

He found it hard to disconnect, but as the week went by he saw benefits. “I realized I can do better things with my time,” he recalls. **“You get drawn into the Bible more and see God’s promises.”**

The electronic restrictions at camp were primarily put in place to eliminate distractions, according to Camp Director Wrangler Matt Wiley. “I think kids can focus and relax more so they can really be with their peers, and be more attentive to their counselors and the activities they are doing. I think it helps them enjoy life to the fullest.”

Many experts encourage parents to limit their teens to no more than two hours per day of “recreational” screen time.

Luke’s parents, Josh and Kristi, are trying to do that, but realize teens

are doing a lot of socializing online and can be isolated from their peers if they are not online. They have found a strategy to help their kids overcome the potential isolation.

“We encourage and support them in activities they do in-person,” Josh says, “activities where they interact (face-to-face) with other kids.” Those activities include scouting, youth group, and inviting friends to hang out... or going to camp.



Marmon Valley Ministries is happy to provide a place for young people to unplug from distractions and build authentic relationships with other believers and the Lord.

We want to thank the Funds & Foundations that provided funding for the 2018 Summer Camps. They support camp so kids can have fun and focus on God.

Beck Foundation

Berry Family Foundation

Aiden Carter Memorial Fund

Christian Camp & Conference Association (CCCA)

Finley Smile Foundation

Harry C Moores Foundation

New Hope Church Foundation



50 FUN SCREEN-FREE ACTIVITIES

Outdoor Activities

1. Climb a tree
2. Go for a bike ride
3. Go rollerblading
4. Make a kite and fly it
5. Go horseback riding
6. Play soccer, softball, or volleyball
7. Visit a park for the first time
8. Play hopscotch, four square, hide & seek, or freeze-tag
9. Take an early morning walk
10. Learn to use a compass
11. Go camping under the stars
12. Watch a sunset or sunrise
13. Tell stories around a campfire
14. Walk the dog and give it a bath
15. Visit the zoo
16. Go fishing
17. Shoot hoops with others. Play a round of H.O.R.S.E.
18. Use a hula hoop or jump rope
19. Have a picnic in a new place
20. Attend a live sports event

Indoor Activities

21. Build a fort from pillows & blankets
22. Blow bubbles
23. Make homemade ice cream
24. Build something with legos

25. Make a delicious treat and invite people over for dessert
26. Visit the library and borrow books
27. Do a puzzle or play Sudoku
28. Cook dinner with friends or family
29. Read a book
30. Wake up early and make pancakes
31. Have a slumber party
32. Do a good deed for a stranger
33. Listen to the radio
34. Make homemade pizza
35. Play charades
36. Learn to play a musical instrument
37. Make a craft to give as a gift
38. Play chess, bridge, or checkers
39. Make a friendship bracelet
40. Learn how to make money origami
41. Go to a museum
42. Volunteer at a shelter
43. Go roller skating or ice skating
44. Draw family portraits
45. Set up a tent in the living room
46. Play cards
47. Paint a picture, a mural, or a room
48. Write a letter to a camp counselor or cabin mate
49. Play board games with your family
50. Start a diary/journal



I WISH YOU KNEW...

INSIGHT FROM MVM SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS

CAMP HAS IMPACT

“I wish parents could see how much of an impact camp has on their kids. The amount of joy I see in these kids while they are here is something I wish all parents could see.”

ENCOURAGE KIDS' FAITH

I wish all parents would encourage their kids' faith outside of camp.

KIDS NEED JESUS

“What campers need is Jesus, boundaries, discipline, and their parents' love.”

LOVINGLY DISCIPLINE

Don't be afraid to discipline your child. Some of the behavior issues are the result of lack of loving discipline.

KIDS LEARN SO MUCH

“I wish parents knew how much the kids truly learn in just a week.”

STAFF WORK HARD

“I wish that parents knew how hard the counselors work to make sure their kids are staying safe while having fun. My advice would be to take it seriously by truly praying for the summer staff. It's a fun job, but also a real one.”

MAIL HAS POWER

Getting camper mail is fun, but your child doesn't need a million emails or packages to have a good week. Be mindful of what you write. Constantly mentioning how much you miss your camper can make them homesick.

KNOW YOUR IMPACT

“I wish parents knew how much they impact the kids with their words and their actions. Also, I wish they knew how truly special their children are. But most of all, I wish parents knew that they actually need to be a parent to their kids.”

BE UP FRONT

I wish ALL parents would tell us ahead of time if their child has a learning delay, medical diagnosis, or behavioral issue so we can prepare and better care for their child.

STAFF PRAY FOR CAMPERS

“I wish parents knew that staff pray for their child by name.”

CAMP IS MESSY

Your child will get dirty, so don't let them pack their best stuff!

GIVE YOUR CHILD SPACE

Visiting your full week camper at frybread dinner can make your child homesick. I think it's best to give them space so you can both learn how to be independent.

WE VALUE SAFETY

I wish I knew that we value safety above everything and that the staff are trained and equipped to protect, care for, and look after campers.

GOOD QUALITIES ARE TAUGHT

Teach your child the importance of respecting authority, listening, and having patience. These qualities are not natural, so they must be taught.

DO NOT GIVE UP!

Don't grow weary in doing the good work of bringing up your child in the right way!

If you're a camper or camper parent, what do you wish staff knew?
You can let them know by emailing camp@marmonvalleyministries.org!



THE IMPACT OF CAMP

God uses camp to grow young people's faith.



Andrew started a neighborhood job to help pay his own way to camp.

At camp he liked how the challenge course instructor tied the obstacle course in with their relationship with God.

He said the worship night was unlike anything he had experienced before.

Camp helped him to accept God into his heart. He has also found faith and courage in Jesus.



This was Kaylee's first year at camp. She was still dealing with the death of her mom in May after a four year battle with cancer.

Kaylee didn't seem to understand salvation until this summer when she prayed to receive salvation at camp

and now she is looking forward to being in heaven someday.

Kaylee was thankful to the counselor for telling her that all she had to do was ask forgiveness and believe and she would be saved.

Her counselor encouraged her to pray, read the Bible, and tell others about Jesus. Kaylee wants to commit to a regular quiet time with God.



Brandon was already a believer before camp, however, this summer his counselor helped him truly understand and get closer to Jesus.

Brandon made his relationship with God personal through the influence of his camp counselor.

He wants to commit to a regular quiet time, attending church regularly, praying, reading the Bible, and he now wants to spread Christianity.

Want to help kids like these attend summer camp? Donate online to the camper scholarship fund! Visit www.marmonvalleyministries.org



REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2019!

Marmon Valley Ministries is the place for Faith, Farm, & Fun! We offer 8 weeks of Original Horse Camp along with 5 other specialty Camps: Critter Camp, Equestrian, Horsin' Around, Horsin' Around PRO, & Pure Country!

Pricing and availability vary by camp. Space is limited so register online at www.marmonvalleyministries.org.



Did You Know...

Marmon Valley Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. This past summer, 107 boys and girls from economically challenged families were able to come to camp with assistance from the MVM Summer Camp Scholarship Fund. If you would like to help kids saddle up next summer, you can make a secure on-line donation by clicking on the Donate Now button below.



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