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**August 2017 Summer Camp Update**

1 message

**Lynch Family Mission** <lynchfaith@gmail.com@mail.benchmarkapps.com>

Sat, Aug 26, 2017 at 8:41 AM

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## Hello from Hungary!!!

We thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve Him in Hungary and this region, for you serving alongside us, and sending us with your prayers and support. We recently wrapped up our summer camp ministry and are now preparing for the fall. We are praying through many decisions and asking for your prayers that the Lord would give us wisdom and guidance. Thanking the Lord for the opportunities to serve alongside our friends at WOL Czech during their summer camp season. It was a beautiful summer, one in which we saw many young people trust in the Lord and others grow in their faith. Praise God!

During the camps (which were nearly all full this summer!) Bridget served in English while I served in sports. I had the opportunity to preach and also lead a few devotions each week with the counselors as well. We were especially encouraged in how the Lord used Daniel and Cori this summer. They've grown so much, physically and spiritually. Now being older and with much camp experience, they took on more independent responsibilities with their own roles while still helping us. It was sad to see camp end... We say that every summer, haha... Every week it was go go go, serving the Lord, loving people,

and pointing them to Christ... and then, just like that, it's just over... ugghhh.. While changing pace makes for a difficult transition, it also gives us a good opportunity to reflect.



**[Click HERE to watch a video from Week 4 Camp!](#)**

### **Two campers... Two stories... Two directions...**

We had a young man, I'll call him "John" (14 and entering high school) come to camp for the first time. He is a volleyball player and was in my group. Every day during the school year he goes to school two hours early for practice and stays for more practice after school with his team. This goes on most of the year with only a brief shutdown in the summer. He came to camp for volleyball during this shutdown with a few friends from his team. He learned about the camp through a school visit. In Czech, the camp is allowed to visit public schools (can you believe that?!) to lead English learning activities while also promoting the camp. This is a fantastic way to build relationships and reach young people who have never heard the Gospel. He was very friendly and encouraging. I noticed right away, while some of his friends were distracted with each other at times during our evangelism meetings, he was attentive and engaged. A few days later, as the Gospel invitation was shared, a couple of campers came forward. One of them was John. He stepped out, and without hesitation, went up by himself. I was so excited for him.

The next day in between volleyball sessions, we spoke. We discussed his background, homelife... how he learned of the camp. I talked with him about the decision he made the night before and following Jesus. His eyes lit up... He said he couldn't believe he was willing to take that step and go forward. He said with a laugh that this was so out of character for him. He was so amazed he did it! He said he had never been to church in his life, never talked about God with his family... In school with his personality, although outgoing in sports, would never go forward even to speak in front of the class, let alone make this life changing decision in front of others. He wanted to follow Jesus and was willing to take that step. He told me as he was listening to the message, he felt God working in his heart, and he knew that when he consciously made the decision he didn't even consider staying in his seat. He wanted to go forward. Wow! Praise God! We talked some more about next steps. There is no church in his

town, from what I understand from others, however the camp team hopes to connect him with a church and youth group nearby.

Pray for John. Pray because it's so hard for them to take steps, especially new Christian teens, when they don't have a fellowship of believers around them and one in which they can be discipled. This is the reason the camp is so important in reaching teens for Jesus and then connecting them with youth groups and churches after. This can be very challenging.



## **Two campers... Two stories... Two directions...** **CONTINUED**

Which leads me to our other camper story... I'll call her "Faith" because we are praying for her faith. Faith has been to the camp for about 5 summers in a row,



she is around 14-15 years old. She even made a decision to trust in Christ a few summers ago. Going back to her town as a believer, where she hasn't connected with any other believers her age, has been very, very difficult for her. She feels alone and also struggles with identity issues. I don't know much about her family or their faith background, but I know Faith was struggling deeply with following Jesus. This past year, while searching to fit in, to connect somewhere, she became involved with young people who had much different beliefs than her own. She found someone on Facebook who identified with her loneliness and led her to experiment with satanic beliefs and the occult. It's heartbreaking to hear. This summer at camp, she didn't want to go to meetings, claiming she no longer believed and became a distraction to others at times. She is hurting, needs loved, she needs to be around other believers who will invest in her and where she will be accepted, and she desperately needs to find her identity in Christ.

As the ministry is growing and growing, they do a such a good job of reaching out to the unchurched. At the end of summer, they even do a city tour to connect campers with local churches and youth groups. It really brings to mind the importance of the ministry and continuing to build these relationships once they leave. Praise God she came back!

Our family talked about and prayed for Faith, asking God that we might be a light to her and the other campers. Daniel and Cori were in volleyball with her, they saw the pain and reached out to her and several others to build friendships. I believe the Lord used this in our kid's lives this summer to really grow them. While hanging out, having camp fun, it gave them opportunities to share their faith and be great encouragers.





## **DANIEL'S TESTIMONY**

On the last day, Daniel, knowing many of his friends might not be back next year, might not ever hear about Jesus again, was really moved and burdened. It was testimony night and he felt led to share his testimony to the campers before they left the following morning. This was all impromptu... We had no idea... He leaned over and whispered to me... and before I knew it he raised his hand to go forward to speak. What really burdened his heart, as he built relationships and shared his faith that week, so many good friends told him they were atheists, agnostic, or had alternative beliefs. He wanted them to know Jesus and His love. So he shared his story that night... about himself.... He shared about Heaven...about Hell... about God's love... about Jesus... about His death and resurrection... He lives... He talked about Salvation and placing their trust in Him, all in ways that only Daniel could... He encouraged them to make a decision, as he had done, one that would change their life forever. He told them it didn't necessarily make his life easier, far from it... but he has peace knowing the Lord is with him always. Deep stuff for a 14 year old. So proud of him. We trust the Lord will use it. To God be the Glory.



So many more stories we could share, but we wanted to share these two with you. In today's world, whether across the world or in our own neighborhoods, all we have to do is turn on the tv, read the news. People desperately need Jesus. Pray that the Lord would open our hearts, our eyes to those in need. Pray

for those we ministered to this summer, for those who made decisions to follow Jesus, for those who grew in their faith, for those campers, like Faith, who are struggling, looking to find their identity and acceptance, and for those who didn't make a decision but heard about Jesus, many for the first time.

We are so so very thankful to God for you, for you to send us out and to serve with us here in Hungary and this region. Thank you for your prayers, your encouragement, and your support to make all this possible. God bless you.

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We love you and are praying for you. God bless.

Serving HIM together

Matthew

Bridget, Daniel, and Corinne Lynch

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