

August 2011 Rhodes Report

We encourage our campers to write a note about their camp experience. Here’s a sampling of recent “popcorn testimonies”:

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, thank you for having camp. I decided to put my life for the Lord Jesus Christ.”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, I want to thank you for the preaching for all these people. I made a decision this week that I’m going to take the next step to trust and obey the Lord. Your pal...”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, I thank you for me coming to camp, for horses, for me getting saved. I thank you for us staying in a cabin. Also for preaching. Love...”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, I want to thank you for allowing us Juniors to be able to come here to Gila Christian Ranch. I really enjoyed the food, games, activities, but most of all the preaching by Mr. Crow. Thank you for allowing Mr. Crow to come because I have decided to serve the Lord better than I have. I have become more mature.”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, This year I really liked the preaching. I can see you have made improvements to the camp. They’re really coming along. I would have liked it if the water slide had worked this year. The horses were fun and the 22s were fun also. The food was good but if we had more brownies it would be good. Sincerely....”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, thank you for letting me come to your camp. Your camp makes me think more about the Lord. I like the preacher because the messages they said helped me think more about the Lord and where I’m heading. I like the games you have. They are really fun and everything else was fun.”

“Thank you for giving me the opportunity to come to camp this year. I thoroughly enjoyed the time here. I liked the activities and the messages that were spoken. I enjoyed the sermons of Dr. Goetsch and the music directing of Bro. Crow. I wish it to have lasted longer than a week, but I thank you for the time I had.”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, Thank you for inviting me to your camp. It was really great. I had a lot of fun. I liked the games. All the counselors were very cool. The messages were really good, too. The food was great. There is nothing that has to be changed because everything is just fine. I made a decision to trust in the Lord.”

“Dear Mr. Rhodes, thank you for letting me come to camp. I really like the preaching. I like hearing Mr Crow preach. I made a decision of doing what the Lord wants for me. I like going on the horses. I really want to come back next year.”

“Dear Mr Rhodes, Thank you for inviting us to camp. I like the preaching and the activities, especially the 22s. The preaching was very, very good. Thank you for the food, also. The preaching spoke to me. I made a decision to surrender to God. Thank you...”

Ranch Manager’s note: There is strong temptation to use these letters to dwell upon pressing construction and financial needs—like building cabins and a real waterslide. But this snapshot of testimonies reminds us of our core mission. Please pray for us and for the souls we minister to, help as God leads, and don’t forget next month’s youth conference with Jason Gaddis!

Postscript: Our youngest—Justin—was married at camp to Sarah Gilpin two days before junior camp. The nest is empty! Consolation: they live in Silver City and are members of our church, Calvary Baptist, praise the Lord!

Randy Rhodes