



SUMMER RE-CAP

Be Thankful for Everything

Thirteen year old Emma* expressed her frustration and anger early on, yelling at the guides and the other participants.

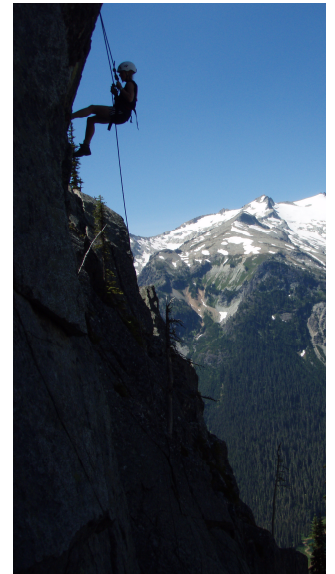
Emma is diagnosed as bi-polar and her counselor recommended she go on one of our Ascent trips. As the trip went on and became more difficult, her outbursts became more frequent. At one point she stopped dead in her tracks and started screaming that she hated the rock she had to step over and that she wanted a helicopter to come take her home. She was furious and said she was not strong enough and could not do it.

Katie (our lead guide on the trip) took her aside and opened the Bible to Psalm 139. They read how God created Emily just as she is and He has given her the strength to accomplish hard things. She calmed down immediately and they prayed

that God would keep giving her the strength to reach the goal. Emma had a chance during the trip to be alone with God and her Bible. When our staff went to check on her, she had a glow on her face, said she was just sitting there thinking when Ephesians 5:20 came into her mind over and over. She read it to her guide and said "it totally makes sense now". Emma was asked what it meant for her and she responded "to be thankful for everything". The next moment, she turned around and started screaming at a mountain goat that she hated it (there are lots of goats in the area). Katie asked "Emma, what did you just read to me? Be thankful for all things." It resonated more within her and she said she was sorry right away. From that point on, whenever she had an outburst, staff quoted Ephesians 5:20 to her and it had great impact on her attitude and softened her heart. Her outbreaks dwindled as she conquered the mountain, and more.

MEMORABLE QUOTE

"Thank you for taking me to the top of the mountain. This was the most fun that I have ever had before."
- Alexian Lane



God Begins to Heal the Broken in an Amazing Way

Charley* came on a trip with Peak 7 through a local YMCA. He was there serving over 2000 hours of community service. He is 15 years old and grew up with foster parents in the south side of Chicago. He



began smoking and drinking alcohol with his foster parents when he was 9. By the time he was 11 he was injecting drugs and doing meth with them as well. He can not read and was involved in gang activity. Charley introduced himself to us by asking if we had heard about a police chase down the wrong side of the freeway a few months ago in Post Falls, ID. Then he said "that was me". He was placed in a detention center on the west side shortly after this. His mom and sister were visiting him and on the way back home they were killed in a car wreck. A few days later his brother was stabbed to death (gang related) by his cousin.

Charley's tough exterior changed quickly in the wilderness. He was gripped by an intense fear as we scrambled to higher elevations. With lots of encouragement and confirmation that we were going to take care of him, we were able to conquer that fear. Outside his regular environment and comfort zone, Peak 7 staff was able to speak through his pain and show him that he is loved. On the last day Charley accepted Christ. Later, back in Spokane, Peak 7 staff took him to church. He went on a second trip and says that he hopes to be a part of our Leadership Training Program in the future. *Names Changed

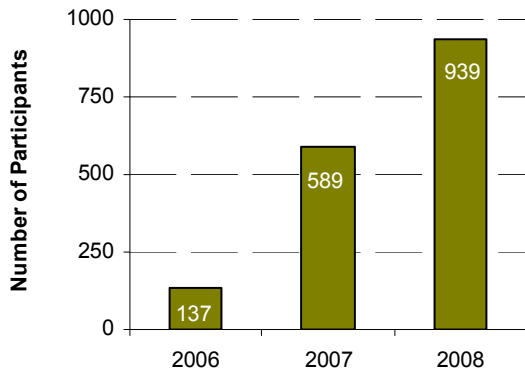
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GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

- God's provided \$89,000 of the \$100,000 needed by Dec. 31st for the matching grant.
- Through God's grace, Peak 7 almost doubled in size this year.
- God kept all of our participants, guides and volunteers safe during the backpacking season.
- God provided through generous donations over \$75,000 worth of outdoor equipment.
- God provided office space, 2 vans and a bus for us.
- Provided incredible staff like Ryan McCrary, Mills Snell, Chapman Fairey, Ethan Graey, Katie Kimball, Catalina Andaluz, Jordan Killgore, Russ Estes and last but not least Trey Nichols.



I am excited to become more involved with Peak 7 and to see what God has in store for the youth we are trying to reach. I am originally from Manchester, NH. I served in the U.S Air Force which brought me to Lompoc, CA where I met my amazing bride, Kristen. Right after I proposed to my wife, I was shipped off to Korea for a year. Through God's great planning I was able to be transferred here to Spokane where I finished out my enlistment and married my wife, who at the time was attending Whitworth College. I love the outdoors and



feel incredibly blessed to live in such a beautiful part of the country. In November 2007, I took a leap of faith and resigned my position as Local Operations Manager for a moving company, so I could attend school full time working towards an accounting degree. We were "graced" with our beautiful daughter Grace in April of this year. Even though my official duties with Peak 7 will be behind the scenes working on the administrative side of things, I'm still glad I can be a part of such an amazing organization. My hope this year is to be out on the water and in the mountains as much as possible to see what the Lord has in store for the youth. I feel this new chapter in my life will give me an opportunity to grow in the Lord, and I'm excited to see what God has in store for me.

- Phil Labrie

Meet our new Program Coordinator



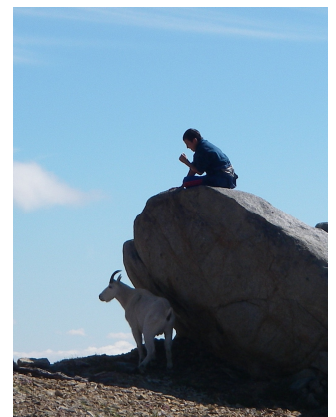
My name is Jon Cramer and I'm the new guy at Peak 7. Ever since I was knee high to a grasshopper I remember spending time outside experiencing some part of God's amazing creation. God has given me a passion to serve youth in an outdoor setting. Peak 7 is the best place I see that I can use my talents and abilities to live out my passion and my faith. It's so awesome to watch God work in a kid's life

when they are secluded from most of the distractions they face back home. Since leaving home I've graduated from Eastern Washington University with a BA in Outdoor Recreation. I've spent the last year and a half as the Adventure Camp Director at Camp Gilead where, earlier, I met my lovely wife, got married and spent 6 summers working on staff. Philippians 3:14 says "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." That is what I try to live out each day, and have the attitude that no matter what comes my way I need to be striving towards the one day when I will meet my Father in heaven. I'm excited to watch God work in and through me at Peak 7.

- Jon Cramer

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Administrator Phil Labrie



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