

NOV 11

LEAD

365
threesixtyfive
totara springs

It's kind of a sad moment for me, as this will be the last time I write for the leaders' quarterly. For those who haven't heard, I will be finishing up as discipleship coordinator in February. I'm excited to see what the future holds, both for myself and for Totara Springs.

Thinking back on my time at Totara Springs, it is astonishing how far God has taken me since I first started. I could talk about all the amazing things I've seen God do in the lives of the children I've come across, but I feel like instead, I should talk about the change God has made in me.

Three years ago, I was extremely shy and not particularly confident. I came to Totara Springs as summer staff with inflamed nerves in my back and stomach due to anxiety. As an area head, I would get leaders to do all the talking because I hated public speaking. I didn't come looking for a job – I was actually two thirds of the way through a degree – but was offered the discipleship coordinator role, so I put my degree on hold and moved to Totara Springs two weeks later.

The one thing that illustrates my growth the most clearly for me is HM Rage. Typically, at HM Rage, the discipleship coordinator speaks to everyone about the ministry at Totara Springs and takes up an offering. My first year, I was not told about this until the day, when they just expected me to go and do it. I absolutely could not do it. I physically could not get up on that stage and talk in front of so many people. So my friend, Heidi Maunder, did the talk for me, with the goal being that I would do it the next year. The next year rolled around far too quickly, but with a deep breath and a lot of faith in God, I did the talk. And then burst into tears the second I stepped off the stage.

This year, I knew I would have to do the talk again, but wasn't nearly as

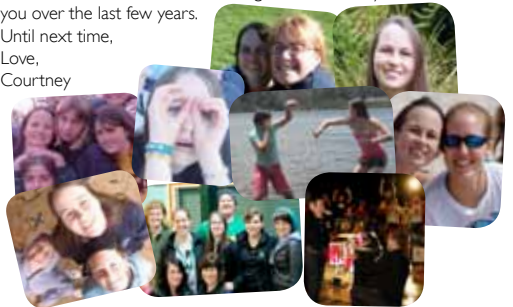
nervous. In fact, I was kind of relaxed and actually kind of enjoyed it. And then Anthony Samuels, the speaker (yes, of "What Now" fame) came up to me and told me a story of a young woman who had spoken last year about follow up and was really nervous but did well. Then he told me a story of a young woman this year, who spoke about follow up with confidence and passion. And then he said "That young woman, both times, was you. It is unbelievable how much you've grown."

See, God does overnight changes, but He also takes us on a journey as well. He lets us stumble and fall, and when we are ready, He lets us fly. I encourage you to look back on your life, and see how far God has taken you. Everyone who is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). I will miss you all so much. You have been a huge part of my life, and I will be forever thankful that I have gotten to know you and work with you over the last few years.

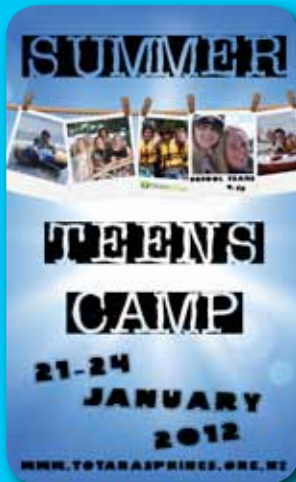
Until next time,

Love,

Courtney



UPcoming Events:



Anneke's Angle

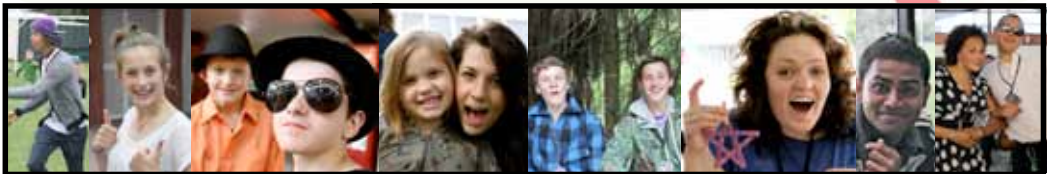
27 million slaves in the world.

If you think about this statistic my first thought is yeah in the last 50 years or something like that. The truth of the matter is that this estimate belongs to our present state of being in the year 2011. 27 million would be the population of Australia and New Zealand combined. Yes, that is a heck of a lot of slaves.

I was going to do a book review but I have since decided I have become a website reviewer. According to www.slaveryfootprint.org I am a technophobe, their classification of a technophobe is someone who can use their Cellphone, TV, Laptop, Mp3 or iPod. So under my qualification of Technophobe I can certainly be a website reviewer! So, what's this site all about? Well, the website aims to show you how many of these 27 million slaves you would actually have working for you to aid the way you live your life at present. You enter the site and go through a survey to enter in the way you live your life. Starting from where you live and getting down to the nitty gritty of how many pairs of shoes you have. I found that even looking at what I own came as a reality check. I thought I lived a fairly non-materialistic life but what was revealed to me later showed otherwise. Throughout the website there are pieces of information that just stump you, for example that there are 200,000 children are forced to work in one carpet company in India. This may not seem like a big deal until you read on to find that big names like Sony, Honda and Boeing each have fewer employees. I think it's a scary website, no one wants to find out that somewhere out there are 30 people (this is me, I did the test twice because the first time I got 35, caution: be specific!) that are working in slavery, mostly forced so that I can live in the way that I do today. These slaves suffer from physical and sexual abuse, the majority of them are younger than I am and the majority of them are also starving, finding it hard to live day to day, have no access to education, have to look after their families and also have no knowledge of a Saviour. No hope. I'm not saying that you should go and sell everything you own, that you need to only have one pair of shoes (although I know some pretty decent people that do) or that you are a terrible, terrible person. But maybe we need to have a look at the way we live, the fact that we are always wanting more. The next time you ask for a new gadget or some money for a new dress, have a think if you really need it. And hey, do the survey! It's always good to be reminded of how blessed we truly are.

(Adding some geeky things) The website looks awesome, is very interactive and easy to use. 10/10.

Anneke's Angle signing off.



And now a word from our leaders...



MELISSA
MANTON

WOW WHERE TO BEGIN! THIS IS MY THIRD TIME LEADING AND IT SEEMS TO GET BETTER AND BETTER! YOU CAN DEFINITELY SEE GOD AT WORK AND HOW HE IS USING US LEADERS TO IMPACT THESE KIDS LIVES AND BRING THEM CLOSER TO HIM! GLEN WAS A FANTASTIC SPEAKER AND I LEARNT SO MUCH FROM HIM AND ABOUT MYSELF. ANYONE CAN LEAD AND YOU WONT REGRET YOUR TIME AT TOTARA SPRINGS! GOD BLESS!

LEADING AT KIDS CAMP HAS NEVER GOT BORING FOR ME, IT ALWAYS GETS BETTER AND BETTER. SEEING GOD MOVE THROUGH THESE KID'S LIVES MAKES YOUR TIME THERE EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE. TO ALL YOU FIRST TIME LEADERS OUT THERE DON'T BE AFRAID I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I LED AND ABOUT 2 HOURS IN TO CAMP I WAS HAVING THE MOST AMAZING TIME !! IT'S A GREAT WAY TO MEET NEW FRIENDS AND MOST OF ALL SERVE GOD AND TEACH KIDS ABOUT HIM! YOU WILL NEVER FORGET WHAT AN EXPERIENCE YOU HAD AT TOTARA SPRINGS. SO I'LL SEE YOU THERE. GOD BLESS :)



MORGAN
WILLS

I ABSOLUTELY LOOOVVVEEE COMING ON CAMPS! IT IS SUCH AN INCREDIBLY AMAZING EXPERIENCE TO MEET A BUNCH OF KIDS AND BE A PART OF THEIR LIVES FOR A FEW DAYS. I LOVE THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE GET TO SHARE WITH KIDS THROUGHOUT THE CAMP THAT THEY ARE VALUED AND CARED FOR, BY TAKING THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THEM AND SHARING JESUS WITH THEM. EVEN THOUGH LIFE CAN GET CRAZILY BUSY I KNOW THAT COMING ON CAMPS DURING THOSE MOMENTS IS SO WORTH IT, YOU GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE A BLESSING AND IMPACT OTHERS LIFE AND DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT TAKING A BREAK FROM WHATEVER ELSE IS GOING ON AT HOME. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SET ASIDE THAT TIME AND COME AND BE A PART OF SOME CHILDREN'S LIVES'. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL CERTAINLY BE BLESSED FOR IT JUST LIKE I HAVE TIME AND TIME AGAIN.



ALICE
ROBINSON

UPcoming camp Info:

Summer 2012

Kids Camp

Theme:

Treasure Seekers

Date:

Kids// 16th-20th January

Leaders// 15th-20th January

Times:

Leaders & LITs //

1:00-1:30pm on the 15th

Leaders & LITs please eat lunch before coming.

Plan to stay behind until after midday at the end of camp, as we are going to have a **celebration brunch** on the last day for you all.

Please bring a costume for the last night dinner.

Teens Camp

Date:

Teens// 21st-24th January

Leaders// 21st-24th January

Times:

Teens// 10:30am on the 21st

Leaders// 8.30am on the 21st

Do you want to relax in the sun and work on that tan? Well at Summer Teens Camp we aim to provide none of the above. Come and join us for three days of divine food, all the water you can handle and some epic times.

Yeah that's right Summer Teens Camp is back and it is going to be off the hook so bring all your mates.

Junior Kids Camp

Theme:

Summer Explorers

Date:

Kids// 23rd-25th January

Leaders// 22nd-25th January

Times:

Leaders & Activity crew//

7:00-7:30pm on the 22nd

Leaders & activity crew please eat dinner before coming. Supper provided.

There is a dress up dinner on the last night.



check out these awesome teens camps for the summer!

YOUTH SPORTS CAMP 2011

WHO?

All our awesome leaders from years 8 (in 2011)+ and your friends!

WHAT?

Sports, sports, and more sports!

WHEN?

2nd-4th December

PRICE?

\$90

CONTACT:

ray.lee@totarasprings.org.nz

totarasprings
a great place to grow

9-11 DECEMBER 2011

MOTORBIKE CAMP

7-13

FOR MORE INFO
07 888 4700

\$145

MOTO X · CLAYBIRDS · PAINBAIL

WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

14-17 DECEMBER
SCHOOL YEARS 9-13

**WILDERNESS
ADVENTURE
CAMP**

WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ