



ALLEGANY BOYS CAMP

inspiring change through relationship

February, 2018

Respect For Authority

Have you ever heard a child defiantly respond to their parent with these words, “No! I don’t want to do that!” Children, at a very early age, exhibit telltale signs that they want to be their own authority. They have tendencies toward being selfish and demanding that the world revolves around their needs and desires. Within the context of parenting which faithfully meets their needs, children need to be taught respect for authority.

Boys come to Allegany Boys Camp with varying problems; however, almost every boy who comes to camp has a problem respecting authority. The fruit of this attitude problem typically surfaces in one or more of the following 3 areas: at home, in school, or with the law. In fact, defiance toward authority is usually the catalyst that motivates parents to enroll their son at camp.

Learning to respect authority is a foundational principle necessary for children’s development in some very important areas. When a child has healthy relationships with his authorities it fosters feelings of security, belongingness, and competence. Unhealthy relationships with authorities brings feelings of insecurity and alienation. The biblical design is for the transfer of wisdom and understanding to occur within the context of healthy relationships. “Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding” Proverbs 4:1. “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” 2 Timothy 2:2. At camp, a boy’s primary authority is his Chief. As a boy learns to trust his Chief and respect him, his heart becomes open and teachable. He begins to develop emotionally, academically, and spiritually. Learning this principle is so important that in Ephesians the Lord makes a direct connection between the quality of our life and how well we respect our parents. “Honor thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may

be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth” Ephesians 6:2:3.

Teaching children to respect authority is no small task. It begins with parents modeling what this looks like in their own lives with their authorities. Parents must also meet the needs of their children. This requires time and lots of patience. Sharing meal times, working and playing together, and being available to talk, all foster a healthy relationship that will help pave the way for talking with children under strained situations. However, children are more than just the sum of what parents and others put into them. They also interact with pressures of life and choose their responses which will, over time, mold their character. Therefore, parents must deal with their child’s selfish bent toward ruling his/her own life by exercising their authority and persistently requiring children to obey. Disobedience must be met with firm correction. Children must learn that the world does not revolve around them. They must be called to contribute to the good of a cause that is larger than themselves. They can learn this in the family setting by helping with chores, sharing toys, and learning to submit their desires for the benefit of the family. At camp, boys learn these things within the group setting. They are called to take responsibility for their actions and to contribute to the greater good of the group, even when it means giving up personal desires.

Parents are called by God to teach their children to respect authority, not primarily for their own comfort, but so that their children will glorify God. If you are a parent, persistently press toward this high calling. Respect is earned over a period of time. As you exercise your parental authority, may it reflect kindness, warmth, firmness, and resolute determination to enforce limits.

Daryl Miller
Family Worker



ADVENTURE LEARNING -

A Few Answers to Freezing Questions

Here at Allegany, we've spent the last several weeks enjoying lots of winter recreation on the frozen surface of our pond. The opportunity has raised a number of questions for us to ponder and research. Ample amounts of conversation revolving around ice resulted, which has proven to be fascinating and educational.

One of the first questions we encountered was an important one. How thick must a slab of ice be before a group of people can safely walk or skate on it? Our conclusion was that it should be at least 3 inches, but better to err on the safe side! New Year's Eve morning arrived, and our pond was covered with a glassy-smooth sheet of ice that measured 4 ½ inches thick. The thermometer didn't venture above the teens that day, and plans were made to spend the last portion of 2017 enjoying activities on the pond. However, a New Year's Eve bash in such frigid weather didn't seem complete without a fire to bring some warmth to the festivities. Would it be possible to build a fire on the ice without it melting through? As you might expect, the hot coals did melt a bit of the surface of the ice. But because heat rises, we were able to keep a nice fire going for the duration of our activities with no negative effects.

As temperatures continued to stay in the single digits to upper teens over the next few days, we began to wonder how much the thickness of the ice was increasing each day. That is when we learned about *Freezing Degree Days*. *Freezing Degree Days* (FDD) are the average number



of degrees below freezing over 24 hours. For example, if the highest temperature yesterday was 22 degrees and the overnight low was 12 degrees, the average temperature for the day

was 17 degrees. Now we subtract 17 degrees from 32 degrees (Fahrenheit freezing point), giving us 15 FDDs for that 24-hour period. In theory, ice should grow roughly 1 inch per 15 FDDs when the sheet is between ½ inch and 3 inches. There are many other factors weighing into this, but we concluded that our ice was currently growing at a rate of almost 1 inch per day.






Why does ice float? If it makes cracking noises does that mean it's unsafe? Unlike most substances, water becomes less dense when it freezes which causes it to float. Because the ice is floating on the water, *stress cracks* occur when it shifts due to temperature fluctuation, changes in water level, or weight shifting on its surface. As long as the ice maintains a safe thickness, a few audible cracking noises while skating or enjoying a winter picnic on the pond are nothing to worry about.

Encountering frozen water can sometimes be frustrating, and certainly hazardous depending on the circumstances. However, it has been supplying those of us here at Camp with lots of fun and memories this winter! It's also a great opportunity to expand our knowledge about this part of God's creation.

Jeff Mowen
Groupwork Supervisor

Camp Kindling ... *small pieces of camp news and needs*



-  Daryl & Kendra Miller and family welcomed Kenosha Grace to their family on December 4, 2017.
-  Welcome to Allan Meier. He will be serving as chief in the Mountaineer group.
-  Antoine Brubaker is returning home after serving as chief in the Mountaineer group for the last two years.
-  Thank you for your support and generous donations for our Chuckwagon project. We achieved the \$60,000 matching goal and plans are being made to start the remodel this summer.
-  Hayloft Creamery remodeling is in progress and construction help is needed. Call Ivan Glick at 717-271-6600 if you are interested in helping with the construction. Also volunteers are needed to work in the Creamery/pretzel bakery call Dave Retelle at 484-789-5348. We ask for your prayers in this project to support Allegany Boys Camp.