

A Note from the Leadership Quest Director...

September 2011

Dear Friends in Christ,

Of all the trips and camps to choose from, why Leadership Quest? Leadership Quest is for students and youth groups that want to be more intentional and deep in their approach to discipleship and leadership. We have found that there is not enough time during the school year to go deep enough in the areas of leadership and discipleship. We have found that more can be accomplished in a week of camp than in addressing these areas once a month during the school year. Without development of these areas students are less likely to develop the “root system” that will sustain and grow their faith for a lifetime. A root system that will bear kingdom fruit. A root system that will help them weather the seasons of life. The prophet Jeremiah writes of the man who trusts the Lord, “He will be like a tree planed by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes, its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.” (Jeremiah 17:8)

At Leadership Quest we give students incarnational leadership and discipleship training, rather than informational leadership training. We provide skills-based, confidence building leadership training. We give them tangible tools to learn how to daily invest in their relationship with Jesus, to learn how to spiritually “feed themselves.”

During Leadership Quest, God births compassion for others. Many leave with the skills and motivation to be more others centered in their homes, in their schools, at church, in their sports teams. At Leadership Quest, students identify things that keep them from growing in their faith. They learn how to listen to God through His still small voice, through scripture. through people.

Leadership Quest is held in a wilderness setting, giving participants the opportunity to encounter God in the beauty of his creation. The wilderness is also a place to “unplug,” to be quiet, to gain a new perspective - God’s perspective - on life back at home. The wilderness bonds the group as we work together and live in community. The vanity of American culture is minimized to help us see each other and ourselves in a different light.

Leadership Quest is lead by a team of Tentmakers staff, alumni of our Joshua Leadership Institute (youth pastor’s course), alumni of our Nehemiah Leadership Institute (our pastor’s course), leaders from each group and myself. I have been on staff with Tentmakers for the bulk of the last 16 years. I have taken time away to do a Discipleship Training School with Youth with a Mission and to have my children. Prior to my time at Tentmakers I have also served on a church staff as a youth director and during my time at Tentmakers I have volunteered at three churches in youth ministry. I am a graduate of Bethel Seminary with a Masters in Theological Studies and am a graduate of Luther College with a BA in Management..

If you have further questions or comments, please contact me at 763-535-6484 or laura@tentm.org. I look forward to getting to know you.

Serving Jesus with you,

Laura Praske
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