

Kind Gestures Make a Difference

This past weekend, we took our four local grandchildren with us to a church family camp weekend in the North Carolina mountains. The last 20 miles of the trip to the camp were nerve-racking. A detour took us on a series of narrow winding roads, with sharp turns and switchbacks. There was absolutely no shoulder, and the two-way traffic was heavy. Darkness began to set in as we arrived at camp. Simultaneously, our arrival at camp coincided with a terrific downpour. What a way to start a weekend!

We were one of the first to arrive at camp, so the camp was practically deserted. Our first task was to unload two vehicles. Our car and truck were packed with four bicycles, skateboards, camping gear, clothing, and a grill to cook our Friday night supper meal. The kids were happy to explore the bunk beds, and my role was to unload both vehicles in the pouring rain, and then light the grill. The weather was miserable. No sooner had I started to bring things into the cabin than three members of our church, ignoring the torrential rain, helped me unload the vehicles. What a game-changer. Their act of kindness transformed what was a difficult start into the start of a wonderful weekend.



It is often said that people won't remember *what* you did for them, but they will remember *how it made you feel*. I felt the love and compassion from my fellow members of the church. They could have stayed dry in their own cabin, but instead, they endured physical discomfort to help us. It was an outpouring of Jesus' love in the pouring rain.

Look for ways to show kindness to others. One simple gesture can make a big difference in their lives. It did in mine.

The Bible Says:

- *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. (Colossians 3:12)*
- *So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. (Galatians 6:10).*
- *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (Galatians 5:22)*

Closing Prayer: Dear Lord. We are grateful for people who go out of their way to help others. We experienced that this past weekend. We hope to see opportunities where we can be helpful to others in their time of need.