

April 20, 2022

Hello Friends,

This little group of brave souls are living up in the woods on the south side of our campus during what we call "Simple Living". However, as we walked around their campsite we decided "there ain't nothin' simple" about it! 😊 This picture was taken as they waited for the boat to ferry them and the four other teams across the lake to the trailhead. From there they hiked on a narrow trail to the campsite where they will all live for the next 16 days. Their cargo had been carefully weighed and measured to specific limits. The purpose of this time is to simulate a bit of what living "off-grid" is like. NO internet, electricity, cell phones or running water with a small solar panel to charge batteries. Cooking over an open fire, they work as a team, eating their evening meals together. In the mornings they're in classes on teamwork and subjects that are relevant to what they're experiencing.

Their first three days up there it rained and was COLD but yesterday the sun was out, the temperature was in the mid-fifties and things were drying out. There were thankful smiles on their faces and many testimonies of how hard these first few days have been! One mom with two toddlers admitted, with tears in her eyes, how hard it has been! They showed us their tiny plastic-walled houses and makeshift living space replete with bucket showers, which they have built. After a very cold first night they learned how to wrap warm rocks from the fire pit and put them in their beds! 😊

But, quickly following their accounts of difficulties came praise and thankfulness for God's enabling grace. One gal told of how the team is pulling together to help each other and sweet times of fellowship around the fire at night as they admitted their struggles and weaknesses to one another. We're thrilled to see them bonding and working as a team, which is one of the main purposes of this time! We will be visiting them frequently and since we can't live out there with them we will be their cheerleaders!!! 😊

Last week 49 students graduated from their two years here at the Ethos360 Training Center. We celebrated this heart challenging event with over 500 guests --- realizing that they will be scattered across the globe, taking the Gospel of Christ with them! Among those graduating this year was our grandson JJ and his wife Whitney! (They have two little ones that didn't get in the picture.) What a joy they are to our hearts and we're excited to see how God is going to use their lives! Their plans are to go to Mexico and JJ's long-time passion is to do translation --- maybe even among the tribe where he was raised.

So, here we are, two old folks standing on the side, counting it a privilege to be cheering on these amazing young people! How thankful we are to still be able to partner together with you and how thankful we are for you --- for your prayers and financial support! We trust that your hearts are encouraged today! Please pray for these young people during their time in this "Not-so-Simple-Living"!!!

God bless you richly.  
Paul and Faith Wyma

