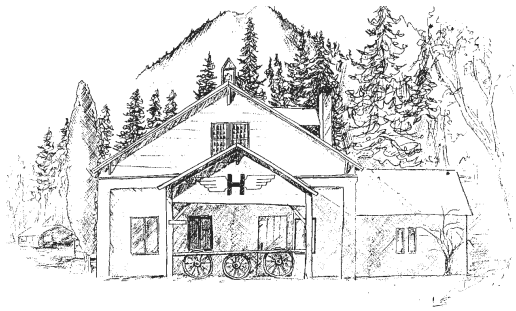


Flying H Youth Ranch

370 Flying H Loop
Naches, WA 98937



"...turning the hearts..." Malachi 4:6 since

September 2007

Dear Partners,

Oswald Chamber's *My Utmost for His Highest* has several applicable devotions. One in particular stands out as being right on point. Let me quote part of the September 5th lesson based on Matthew 26:40:

"Watch with Me." -with no private point of view of your own at all, but watch entirely with me. In the early stages we do not watch with Jesus, we watch for Him. We do not watch with Him through the revelation of the Bible; in the circumstances of our lives. Our Lord is trying to introduce us to identification with Himself in a particular Gethsemane, and we will not go; we say- "No, Lord, I cannot see the meaning of this, it is bitter." How can we possibly watch with Someone Who is inscrutable? How are we going to understand Jesus sufficiently to watch Him in His Gethsemane, when we do not know even what He is suffering for? We do not know how to watch with Him; we are only used to the idea of Jesus watching with us.

In our work here at the Ranch, we can easily get caught up in the needs of the boys and their families at the expense of our devotion to Jesus Christ. We could start to believe that we are in charge of a boy changing. Or we might think if we were just better counselors, a mom or dad would finally get the point of the training we are giving them. We might begin to depend on the program for real change instead of depending on God. In short, we could become more devoted to the program and the boys than we are to Christ. Our own perspective could come to rule what we do here. ***We might ask the Lord to come and watch with us, instead of us watching with Him.***

Jesus will suffer no competitors for our affection. His perspective is based on His own attributes. He is the way, the truth, and the life. Is my affection turned to anything besides Him? Do I see the boys as a cause unto themselves? Or do I see a boy and his family as Jesus sees them?

If we are watching with Him, we start to see the boys in a different light. We see that God is always at work around us, (John 5:17) and that we are invited to join God in His work. When a boy doesn't want to do his work in school, God is at work; is disrespectful, God is at work; or shows contempt for his peers or authorities, God is at work. He may be challenging the boy's laziness, self-

centeredness, or contempt for himself. If we are watching with Jesus, we begin to want to work with Jesus, instead of asking for His blessing on our own work. We start to watch with Jesus. Please pray for us that we would *a/ways* be watching *with* Jesus.

God bless,

Bob

Bob Hostetler
Executive Director

Our praises are:

- Daniel graduated from the program last Friday. This is what we are here for.
- Our Eight Day Hike went well. God protected the boys and staff, and turned several of the boys to Himself. Praise God!
- The RV park has its first visitors! Several SOWER families are using it as I write this.
- Nick and Janelle Marks are joining us as interns on the 17th. Yeah!

Our prayer requests are:

- The boys are quite cooperative, but some may be "faking" it. (Their compliance is based on superficial change.) We want to work with God toward heart change.
- The fall Parents Resolve is October 19-21.
- The boys will be going home for a week of Home Assignment at the end of Resolve. This will be a test to see if they can transfer what they are learning from the Ranch to their homes and their parents.
- We (the staff) will be having a 3 day retreat while the boys are home. Please pray that we will be protected from the enemy's influence. We plan on talking about purity of focus, and he would enjoy getting us off on tangents.
- Aaron and Tricia Hunting have sent out their support letter. We desire a very short time until they can raise their support, but, of course, defer to God.
- Chris and Amber Rodriguez, who are from Astoria, Oregon, have been approved as missionaries!

Our needs

- We need to add some finishing touches to the RV park service building: a microwave, a small refrigerator, and mini-blinds.
- We could use a part-time, volunteer mechanic.

