



Flying H Youth Ranch

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To our Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

What a privilege it is to partner with you in the work of our risen Lord and Savior.

One of the most common questions I am asked when I travel to churches is, "What is your success rate?" I respond by telling them that our success rate is 100%! This usually causes one of a couple of responses, either I am given a quizzical look, or am scoffed at. I am convinced, however, that my response to the question is correct. How can this be? How can our rate of success really be 100%?

Well if our young men are in the program for even one evening, they hear the gospel. If they eat just one breakfast at our table, they hear the gospel. 100% of the young men that have ever spent time at the Flying H Youth Ranch have heard the gospel; that number is now rising above 2,000. That is 2,035 young men since 1962, who thanks to your giving of time and finances along with your support through prayer, have heard the wonderful news of the gospel.

Now someone who may read this may be asking, what is so great about this gospel I keep reading about? I am glad you asked, I hope to answer that question with the space I have left in this small letter. Psalm 19:7-9, is one of my favorite passages found in scripture, (well actually the whole chapter is, but I only have so much space.) This is what it says, "The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether."

According to this passage the Bible, God's Word, the Gospel (which by the way, literally means "good news,") does many things; it makes us wise, it brings us joy and most importantly it *lasts forever*. No 12 step program I know of can make that claim! No behavioral modification program can make the lasting changes that come from the Word of God.

Real genuine change only comes from one source, His Word is that source! And that is the privilege we have in our ministry here at the Flying H Youth Ranch, to expose our young men to His Word. Every morning at breakfast, every evening before bed, all of the young men even have Bible as their first class in school every morning.

Our critics would say that we over expose the young men to the Bible. That we are cramming it down their throats; that we are nothing more than Bible thumping bullies. I respond by saying that I understand where true change comes from, and it comes from a source the world does not recognize.

One might ask themselves how often we see the fruits of our ministry, and if I were honest, I would say at times it feels, not often enough. There are still times when our young men leave our program only to find themselves still fighting the authorities in their lives, so much so that they find themselves incarcerated. It is in these times that we need to remember that God is always sovereign, no matter how we “feel.” All too often when we begin to question our effectiveness in our ministry we receive a phone call or have a visitor, a past ranch student who remembers fondly his time at the ranch and credits his time here and the gospel he was taught into saving his life from drugs, prison and even death.

It is these stories, these reminders that teach us ever so clearly the promise made in Isaiah 55:11, “So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

You see, God’s Word, the Gospel always brings hope. Whenever we have devotions we can hope for change in the young men’s lives. Whenever we teach the gospel we look forward to the day when we can hear from these young men, that the ranch and what we teach and stand for was what brought about salvation.

That is why we do what we do. I know too, that is why you give so generously and why you pray so diligently. May the hope and grace of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ be upon you!

Coram Deo,

**Chris Carlile
Youth Services**

Please Pray for: Family Resolve, Home Leave assignment, all ranch boy fishing trip, two families on ranch expecting children shortly & one young man getting pulled early from the program.

Join us in Praising God for: A very successful 8 day survival hike, two graduations shortly, the start of a new full year in our new school building. Sale of donated travel trailer that proceeds will go towards a late model 15 passenger van.