



Craft creativeness



Toddlers play



Gladiator games



Soaped up sliding



YOUTH CAMP –

Yeppoon Recreation Centre

6th - 11th April 2010

Tuesday

A large contingent of Mackay Youth met up with other Youth in Rockhampton for lunch and then conveyed on to Yeppoon Recreation Camp arriving at around 3.00pm. This is the second time we have had the Youth Camp at this location and it certainly is a great location with excellent facilities, as well as being close to the beach. Many others also began to arrive and all settled into their dorms, this time we had security codes for each dorm and

inadvertently someone set off the alarm. This year we were able to use half of the basketball stadium for our meeting and singing area, so all gathered here for introductions and the giving out of name tags and programs and a run-down of team duties, no washing up - you beauty!!

After dinner Apostle Cliff welcomed everyone to the camp and gave the opening address and theme of the camp which was "Seeking Wisdom". He spoke about the difference between knowledge and wisdom: we learn in the church what the wisdom of God is. Jesus Christ was crucified and sacrificed to save us all. We should follow Christ and His

life and try to adopt His ways in our life. The Apostle James wrote that everyone should seek after wisdom daily. We are taught about some of the situations Christ had in His life and what choices He made. The Apostle encouraged the youth to learn from these, so that when they came across similar circumstances they could try to do what Jesus would do.

Many questions came forward from the youth. One question addressed the predictions of scientists who have said that in 2012 the whole world will end or be under water. Many predictions have come down through the ages. God only knows what will happen. According to the Bible, there are many things that will happen before Christ returns. We know that in the past scientists have been wrong in their predictions, for example, in the year 2000 the millennium bug was forecast and never came to pass. In the last few years, the theory of Global Warming has caused controversy worldwide. Then recently in the news there has been the bursting of the atom in Europe to show how the world started, all to prove that God didn't create the earth. The Bible says that when Christ returns every eye shall see in an instant; people will come out of graves. At this time we have to be ready to go, as we can't go back to get anything. As Christians, we can't stop believing. After devotions and a cuppa, a

movie called A Walk to Remember was played and then the majority went to bed after a very long day.

Wednesday

Up at 6am and off for a morning walk along the beach. There were a lot of dead fish on the beach, possibly caused by the oil from the coal carrier Shen Neng 1 which ran aground on nearby Douglas Shoal, off Rockhampton, a few days earlier.

After breakfast Priest Wayne Schneider gave a presentation on 'Bullying'. The youth firstly defined bullying. They were taught that bringing it out in the open and actually addressing it was a good way to start decreasing the amount of bullying going on. Priest Wayne mentioned examples in the Bible of bullying: Noah in his day would have been bullied as he was mocked for building the ark; Joseph was bullied by his brothers. Anyone and everyone does bully or has the potential to be a bully. School was identified as the prime breeding ground for bullying, but it can occur at work, with friends, even with family. In the end, everyone just wants to belong and be accepted. The youth were made aware of how teasing others can be dangerous. They participated in a discussion about what bullying looks like, sounds like and feels like. In situations of bullying there are three potential roles a person can play: the bully, the victim, or the bystander. An

activity was given to the youth to think of a situation where they had been one of the above, and the youth one by one privately indicated which role they had played – each of these categories scored quite high. The responses / approaches to bullying were to firstly, walk away. Secondly, there is the



Mornings on the beach

option of stepping in to the situation. Lastly, the youth were taught that they could report it.

With regard to society today, and the prevalence of bullying, it was brought to everyone's attention that a few things have changed. Firstly people are now more individual. In the past, grandparents and extended family would look after children. Now this only really occurs in the immediate family. Also networking with other people was thought to have decreased. The youth were encouraged to make connections with others, to come to youth camps, rallies, and activities and bring other people with. Secondly, violence is becoming more prevalent in society. Examples of this can be found everywhere, even in cartoons. The youth were advised to become involved in extra-curricular activities such as sport and music, and not those other things that can involve violence.

In the media recently they have been shining the spotlight on bullying and drawing it to the public's attention. Schools will take a position on bullying; however we also should take a leadership role as Christians and stand up against bullying. Priest Wayne ended his talk on bullying with a message to the youth about drawing on the Morning Salute from last year: "Lord, by Thy Grace, allow me to follow thy teaching to only do and say unto others as I would like done unto me".

After lunch all went down to the beach and enjoyed beach relays and beach cricket. Most had a swim to cool off.

A spiritual discussion was held with Bible referencing and Bible history in the afternoon. Each of the deacons gave a presentation:

Uncle Warren spoke of where the Bible came from, what the word 'Bible' actually means, and how many books are in the Bible. All present were told that we should not be ashamed to admit we go to church or read the Bible. What is in the Bible is the word of God. Read it to be wise. Practice it to be safe. Revelation Chapter 22 verses 18 & 19.

Uncle Bobby gave some guidance on reading the Bible: The Bible is for all people of all ages. He advised that we should take time out in a quiet place and read it, covering a whole section or chapter. Sometimes it doesn't make sense, but read the whole section. Read it simply, read it deeply, and be more inquisitive. Put the effort in and put yourself in the right frame of mind. Lastly, if you read a text and don't understand, you can ask questions to find out.

Uncle Eric spoke of what the Bible means to you. The Bible has survived down through the ages. It has been preserved, and its contents contain a message that is not only timeless but timely. The words contained therein can have influence on every area of our life. We should all use it properly. The Bible can help you throughout your life. Jesus Christ is there on every page. It is the most accurate book we could ever read.

Uncle Neville told everyone of his first Bible, the Gideons Bible given to him in high school. He spoke of the deeper understanding that comes with age. We can read a passage and not get anything out of it, and then re-read it and have it make sense. He advised that we should read the Bible, and we should seek wisdom as King Solomon did.

Apostle Cliff talked about the beginning of creation, when men didn't know how to write. Up to the time of Noah and the flood, communication was by talking and stories were handed down through the generations.



Bible study