

# SALT AND LIGHT JESS & LINDS

August 29, 2011



Hello from scorching Snyder, Texas! It has been a fast and furious three months since Jess and I left South Africa and arrived in Snyder. God has been doing some amazing things as He always does and it has been such a blast to be part of it! When we arrived in Snyder, we had been praying and discussing the way that we wanted to approach our time here. We determined that we would focus on the teens becoming a more

cohesive group through their understanding of being part of the promised family of God. As you will read, we believe God has blessed our efforts. We also wanted to do what we could to encourage an active and thriving college ministry. I, Lindsay was hugely impacted by the East Side Church of Christ as a college student, and it is something that I am passionate about continuing and being part of. Please take a

moment and read some of the "good news" coming from a small town in West Texas that God is shaking up for His glory!

## LOCK-IN KICK OFF

We started the summer with a Lock-In. We invited the teens to spend the night at the church with the hopes of building relationships and challenging them to "do hard things" based on a book written by teen boys Alex and Brett Harris. It was a great 18 hours together! We started the evening with a scavenger hunt, played loads of games, had a few devos mixed in, and some even got a few minutes of sleep. One highlight of the event was a 3 am trip to Wal-Mart and the park for ice cream and our last devo, and eating homemade donuts while watching the sunrise. We felt like it was a successful event. The kids grew in their relationships with each other and we got to know them so much better.

## MISSION TRIP TO PASADENA, TEXAS

### DO WORK!

We were able to take 8 teens to Pasadena, Texas for a mission trip this summer. We teamed up with Guy and Nancy Stover and the youth from the Watters Road Church of Christ. About 30 teenagers linked up to serve the members of the Pasadena community during "Work Camp 2011". Work Camp is a time for the teenagers to serve in various ways all around the community. They were split up into groups each day and encouraged to "DO WORK", the theme of WC 2011. Each day began and ended with a devo, based on this theme of DOING WORK, Colossians 3:23, they then spent the first part of each day working and concluded with an evening of fun. Through the devos, we were challenged to Do Work when the task is tough, when nobody else wants to, when the task is lame, when things are good, etc.. As leaders, we were blown away by the serving hearts that were uncovered in the teens from Snyder. Whenever there was a volunteer needed, our kids were always among those raising their hands. When there was a menial task to be done, 9 times out of 10 it was one of the East Side youth who chose to dig in and get it done.

Work Camp revealed such incredible potential in our kids and we were so proud of them! Friendships were strengthened among them, and new ones were forged between them and the teens from Watters Road. We came home tired, but on a high AND with a brand new ping pong table! This was a gift from the teens in Pasadena to the teens in Snyder. What a great week!

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THE GANG BEFORE WE HIT THE ROAD TO PASADENA!

DANIEL MILLER



This summer has been one of many miles on the US roads! We have taken four major trips, three of which have been with the teenagers. The first trip was to Dallas, Texas, where we attended a Texas Rangers Baseball game and the following day was spent at Hurricane Harbor, an enormous water park. This trip was great as it kicked off the summer with some great memories and bonding. Bus trips have a way of doing that! The next trip was to Pasadena, Texas for Work Camp. Again, there is just something about being trapped on a bus together that stimulates relationship between people. The older gang, made up of Katie, a college student, and Jerry, a high school senior who has now begun the ADM program, Ryan, a college student, and Jerry, a great young man from Snyder especially got close to one another on this trip. They spent the majority of the bus time with their bibles cracked discussing topics they were contemplating in their hearts. We are so thankful that this momentum has continued since the trip. The guys now spend regular time together and are growing a stunning spiritual relationship!



Jess and I then took a trip to Estes Park, Colorado at the end of July to attend an incredible college ministry conference. The conference was geared for college students and college ministry leaders alike. While there we split up, along with our great friend Lisa Streng, and attended various classes. We would then discuss what we had each learned at the end of the day. It was refreshing and so beneficial for each of us!

Finally, we have just returned from an amazing youth rally in Denver City, Texas. Seven teens joined us on this trip. The theme of the rally was "Motion", challenging us to not be content with just "going through the motions" of our faith. There were 4 incredible speakers, 620 in attendance and more singing than one can imagine! We were all challenged and encouraged by this day spent at the feet of great men of God, and our peers.



"We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy". 1 John 1:4

### BACK TO SCHOOL!

With the beginning of the 2011 school year this August, our schedules have shifted a bit. We are still meeting with the teens on Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings and Sunday evenings for "Huddle". However, we have added a weekly activity called "Coke Day". For coke day, we are picking up the kids from the jr. high and high schools after school lets out and taking them to

a local restaurant for about an hour. We then grab a coke or ice cream and spend some great time together touching base. We are also planning to throw out a current event topic to discuss among us and see how we can approach it from a spiritual perspective. It's a great time to discuss ways that we are able to really let our faith take action in our lives.



## CHRIST ON CAMPUS

Jess and I are really fired up about the potential of the Western Texas College campus! This is my alma matter, as I spent the first two years of my college career here; this makes it especially close to my heart. We spent several afternoons out on the campus before classes began this August scouting out opportunities to serve and striking up relationships where we could. The college gave us an opportunity as churches in the community to attend 3 separate student orientations. Parents and students attended the orientation, familiarizing themselves with the campus and what it has to offer. Students were also able to register for this semester's classes during this time. Jess and I set up a table sharing information about East Side and the opportunities available to students for involvement. It was a fruitful effort! We met and took contact information from about 20 students. We also decided to focus on the international students as we feel that we share common ground. We were introduced to the director of the International Students, who introduced us to Renan and Judy.

Renan is a Brazilian, who is playing soccer for WTC and Judy is a golfer from SOUTH AFRICA! This has opened up multiple doors of opportunity. Renan has introduced us to the rest of the soccer teams and has been so helpful in sharing with us opportunities to serve. We have been able to make trips to the airport to pick up students, share with the international students about culture shock, and help students move into their dorms. We were also invited to dinner with all 70+ soccer players - both men and women - and have attended their games. We feel like it is a great way to show them the unconditional love of Christ, by investing in their lives during their time here in Snyder. We, along with Steve Barrett, the minister at East Side, will begin a bible talk on campus during lunch this week and pray that it too, will be a way to serve students and help them get to know the God who so desperately wants a relationship with them. Please continue to pray for this work as we attempt to be a light on the WTC campus.

Thank you so much for your interest in our adventures in ministry! We are so thankful to be serving God in this way at this stage in our lives. He has been better to us than we could ever have imagined and are enjoying the opportunity to share that with others. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we are constantly learning, and constantly growing not only in our faith but in our wisdom as we attempt to serve those around us.

All because of Him,  
Lindsay White and Jess Trollip