

Family Camp August 18– 20, 2008-09-01

On Monday 18th August 2008 the eager campers met on the car park of the local church in Northfield. We joined hands and offered up prayers before setting off for the Pioneer Centre in Kidderminster. On the way we stopped off at Morrison's in Rubery to pick up a few necessities such as "pot noodles" and "biscuits." Well you have to get your priorities right!

On arriving at the centre Bro. Philip sorted out the rooming lists, placed us in teams and allowed everyone to settle into their dorms before our first meal. We had a number of first time campers who were given a special welcome. After our meal the more sensible ones amongst us decided to spend the evening relaxing and watching the Olympic games on the television whilst the more foolhardy embarked on our night walk, which turned out to be more than we had bargained for. It was hard and dirty work as the ground was muddy and sodden from days of rain. White training shoes were now brown, socks were wet and uncomfortable and the novelty soon wore off as people's shoes were getting stuck in the mud, but to our credit everyone managed to finish the walk.

The following day we started off with our morning devotional, which was directed by Bro. Patrick Clarke and based on the theme "spiritual warfare". Various speakers emphasised the need for us to be clothed with the Whole armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-18) and highlighted incidents in the bible where God delivered his people miraculously. During the day we participated in various physical activities including: climbing, abseiling, rounders, basketball and table tennis. After all the activities and our evening meal we gathered for worship. As we began it was apparent that people had come with one intention, and that was to worship. Our Overseer moderated the meeting, which included time for testimonies, praise, singing and talks to encourage the youth from Pastor Beverley Anderson and Sis. Julie Clarke.

On Wednesday we again started the day with our devotional service led by Pastor Beverley Anderson. Members were given the opportunity to share their testimonies and their experiences from the camp. This was really uplifting especially to hear the positive testimonies of those who were not members of the Church. We pray that their experiences at camp will help them to one day become a member of the Body of Christ. Our final activities were the "big bounce" and "obstacle course" which was really enjoyable especially by the younger ones among us.

The three days were a great time of fun, fellowship and worship and went so quickly. People are already asking for the dates of the next camp and wanting to know if we can have it for a complete week.

We thank God for the love and unity that prevailed among the campers but most of all for the presence of God with us.