

"Excited Anticipation!"

What a day! Today, the campers arrived right on time just before lunch. It was so great to see many returning campers but it was even more exciting to see the looks on the faces of the new campers as they got off the bus.

We had lunch, a little rest time and then camp got started. We had activity centers and swimming in the afternoon followed by Chapel right before dinner. We got to sing some great songs with Kristi and even got a visit from Louie, our favorite Bible story time puppet.

Tomorrow is one of the longest feeling days at camp. It's a full day so be praying for these kids (and the counselors) get a good night's sleep so they can be ready to take on Tuesday.

Here's a great perspective from our scribe...

The word for today is actually two words; "excited anticipation". Which is fitting as the theme memory verse for the week is Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord," plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans

to give you hope and a future."

As the kids got off the buses you could see the "excited anticipation" in their eyes. Some showed a little fear, as they stepped into an unfamiliar and unknown place. Even so it was hard to hold back the excitement about what the week would bring. A hopeful expectation hung in the air. Some might claim it was the Holy Spirit or even the presence of God. Yes and amen to both.

So how to put into words the "excited anticipation" of day one at camp? There will be first times for some, and memories of camp's past will come to mind for others. Today will be about taking the swim test, chapel before dinner and the first night away from home. New experiences designed to show and affirm the affection of God for some of His dearest children.

May the words of the prophet be true today as they were when Jeremiah spoke them. Our prayer is that our kids come to realize, ABBA knows them and wants them to know that there is hope and a future ahead of them.

Blessings everyone!

Darren Edwards,

OFC Director

p.s. Please pray for a couple of our volunteers who haven't been feeling well tonight. Praying it's something quick and nothing that causes any escalation.