

Summer 2017

Bear Fruit—A Call to Live Differently

Bear Fruit—For Indian Creek, Bear Fruit was much more than just a theme for the summer of 2017. We think that Bear Fruit was a call to live differently from this point on.

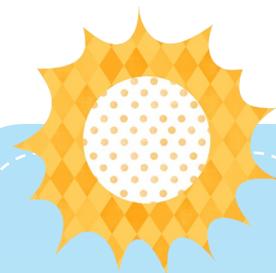
It was a message to our campers, cabin leaders, staff, and volunteers of every kind, to live a life in the character of Jesus and God the Father. To live a life guided by the Holy Spirit, and live in the Fruit that only He can give.

We hope that your camper or volunteer came home this summer with a better understanding of the Holy Spirit, and the Fruit of the Spirit that we should Bear each day in our lives.

Measuring Success

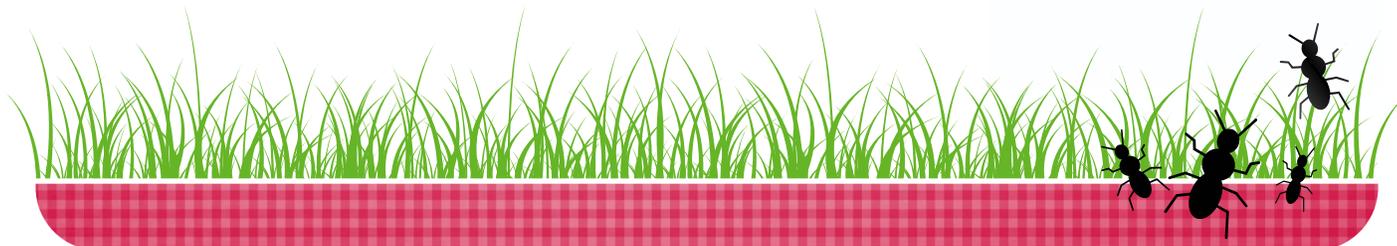
Measuring success in Christian Camping can be difficult. We constantly have to consider what metrics to use, and software to analyze, reports to give and receive, what numbers to prioritize. Some camps measure strictly by finances, while others look closer at the number of guests served, and a few even look at projects completed. At Indian Creek, we strive to find ourselves successful in a few key areas, and are proud to share with you our accomplishments and positive outcomes from the summer of 2017.

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"I am the Vine and you are the branches, remain in Me and I in you and you will **bear much Fruit**, because apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5



Measuring Success cont.

By the Numbers

Summer attendance increased by 20 campers over 2016, as we saw a continued upward trend. This is an increase of nearly 200 campers in the last 4 summers! When the world of camping ministry is trending down, losing more and more students to year round sports and summer vacations, we're blessed to have such astronomical increase.

Decisions Made

Another metric we analyze is decisions made. While this number is difficult to assess after the week ends, we're so honored to be part of a camper's decision to follow Jesus. Our pastors and cabin leaders encourage campers in these decisions, and we strive to follow up with the church family involved. While we're still receiving information from our camp pastors, and campers, we're proud to

announce more decisions for Jesus this year. We saw first time decisions (more than 20), and even more commitments to stay dedicated to Christ. We were also blessed to work with a few campers on a decision to work in ministry.

Grounds and Facilities

When parents and volunteers usually get a 1 day snapshot of the grounds, it's sometimes difficult to gauge our success in this area. Our surveys and conversations continue to say things like "This is the best the camp has looked in a long time". Our staff worked hard to ensure a safe and beautiful grounds all summer, and we've got lots of improvements to show off too. We're thankful for the donations and support of so many to make these improvements possible. Be on the lookout for pictures and videos about these updates, and more to come in the future.

"You can't just come to camp once and not come back. You make family here!"

- Emily B. 13 -

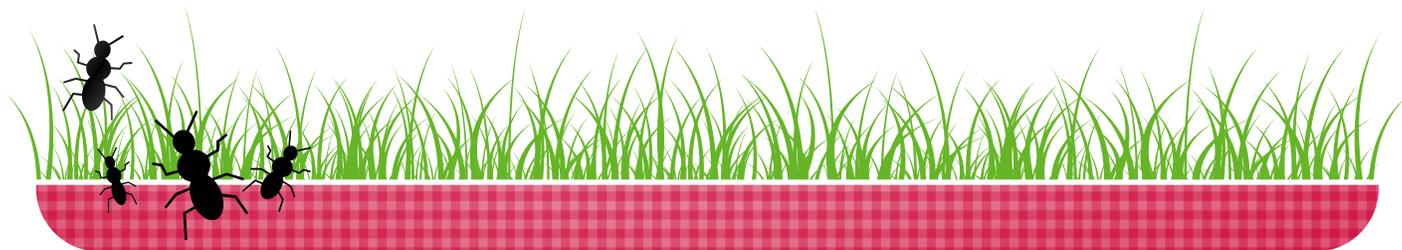
Being Successful

Overall it's not easy to measure the success of a camping ministry. At Indian Creek we care most about the 3 pillars of our Mission. "That every person Connect—Refresh—Grow, with Jesus and with others. The more information we receive from surveys, and "Share My Story" submissions, the more we see how great God has been to us this year.

We know we're successful when we see

decisions made for Christ. We know we're successful when ministry is extended and amplified back at home, school, work, and life. We know we're successful when the food was good, the connections were powerful, the atmosphere was Spirit-filled, and lives were changed.

What a successful summer it was at Indian Creek!!



Big Changes

Every season we strive to make improvements to our camp. This summer we made some drastic changes. Those changes had a big impact on the daily life of campers, and we are grateful for every one that made it happen.

Cool Additions

One major improvement this summer was the addition of a new HVAC system in the Chapel. While we're still fundraising to pay it off, the impact was already realized. The system installed, allows us to control the temperature in the chapel within just a few minutes. We were able to make it cool and comfortable whenever we needed to. Most importantly, it removed the distraction of heat and humidity, so our campers could focus on the worship and sermons during chapel time. This system also allows us to dehumidify or heat the chapel, so we can use the chapel more year round for retreats and family reunions.

At school sometimes I don't feel like I can be myself. Here (at camp) I can!

- Jenna, 14



Daily Use

Probably the most used activity at Indian Creek is the Gaga pit. Every day, all summer long, rain or shine, you can find anywhere from 2 to 102 campers in there (pictured above). We made the decision this off season to move the Gaga to a shaded area that could be used more during the day. Our campers were grateful to play in a shaded area all day long. One volunteer even raised the funds and donated turf to be placed in the Gaga pit for a safer and cleaner environment. Next to the Gaga area, we designed and built a new playset for our younger campers. Complete with climbing wall, slides, Gaga overlook, swings, and more to come, it was a huge hit. We happy to have these new things in a shaded area of camp to help keep your campers safe, and happy while enjoying all that Indian Creek has to offer.

More to come

Many of our cabins received new doors this summer, and we're planning some awesome improvements for next season. You can visit our website to learn more about our needs list, and to donate towards the camp operation.

Check out our next newsletter for more information about future improvements.

You can help us improve

Feedback

You can help us improve every year by completing our surveys and feedback forms. Complete a survey today by visiting

Campindiancreek.com/feedback

Give

You can give towards the projects listed, or leave your donation undesignated.

Tell us Your Story

Do you have a great story from your history at Indian Creek? Or maybe a great experience from a camper this summer?

Tell us your Story allows you to share with us the great impact that Indian Creek has had on you so that we can have a greater impact on others.

To tell us your story visit

Campindiancreek.com/feedback

