

Emra Expressions

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I Am The Reason You Came!

We just returned from Florida. We were there to speak at a Camp and we went two weeks early in order to publicize the camp at two Churches. We wanted the young adult age group to grow at the camp and thought this would be a good way to do it.

The first weekend of camp we taught about 50 young adults the concepts of Life Is Full Of Choices - but that is another story.

The first Sunday we were in Florida, after we were done speaking, a lady came up to me gushing about how wonderful the concept of choices was and could she use it where she works. She told us about local chapter of a national organization (RHD) she works with. This group of people who have developmental disabilities spend each day learning, playing and experiencing life together at their 'clubhouse'.

Her job is to coordinate some activities with this group and she wanted to start a 'Choices Class' just for them.

She said, "I didn't even know why I was in Church this morning. I am usually in the nursery - but there were no kids, so instead of just going home I came into church. It was interesting listening to you but when you talked about placing the word 'choices' into Bible verses so they would be emphasized to your kids the light went on in my head - it just made sense."

We went back the next week and did a class with her group, then she started her class the next Sunday afternoon with 13 of her clients.

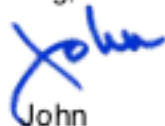
She said to us, "I am the reason you came to Florida, to help me start this class!"

We heard that same sentence from a number of people and will try to share more stories from Florida in the coming months.

We had a great time, lead two seminars, one for the young adults who could only be there for the weekend and one for the regular camp attenders that next week and saw God work in multiple lives!

As you pray for us please remember to pray for RHD in Defuniak Springs. That they would be able to reach into these lives with the truth of Gods love.

IHg,



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Answered Prayer

Your prayers were answered for the Camp. Both our class and the evening services were very successful.

The evening services featured people who had been involved with the camp for years. They called them 'Home Grown' Evangelists.

Our class was a huge success: Great interactions with tough questions about deep issues.

Prayer Request

Our schedule will allow us to be near Dallas Texas for the next few months.

Pray for the work we can accomplish on the manuals and web site as well as the relational ministry we will be doing with local Churches.

Please pray for our government.

The Rest Of The Story

It is not unusual to hear, "I am the reason you came!"

It does seem like we heard it more than normal on this trip to Florida.

- There were three couples who were having trouble with their kids who said it to us over and over again.
- There was one couple who was working with their aged mother and the wife saw how setting the boundaries and taking the emotion out of the equation was going to help.
- There were two pastors who saw these principles as a way to encourage their parishioners. They said this to me so many times I lost count.
- And finally there was a couple who are starting an after school program in Austin, TX who we met with three times. They were just full of questions.

All of these people said the same thing in almost the same words.

They said, "I am the reason you came to Florida!"

I am human - so I enjoy hearing that phrase because it builds me up and I feel like God is using me as part of His plan in these peoples lives - but I am not so self centered to think that none of this would have happened without me.

God is at work in peoples lives and we have been a part of that movement in Florida - but maybe our real impact was with the checker in that store in Louisiana, or the lady who checked use into the RV Park in Mississippi or the couple we talked to in the swimming pool in Louisiana.

Any of these could have been the reason we went to Florida.

This is my point, it is dangerous to think I can know God's intent as He does something in my life. It is enough for me to know He is doing something and maybe - just maybe I will see fruit from my effort.

You can have a part in this effort we are dedicating to Him.

Use the enclosed response card to mail us your check. It will be used to underwrite the cost of this ministry and touch lives for Him.

We appreciate your gift and your prayers for our ministry. We will send you a receipt at the beginning of next month.

