

“Love Your Neighbor (’s Dog)”

Luke 10:25-37

July 11, 2010

By Rebecca Enney

When there are problems, we usually expect the grown-ups to figure out what is important. But that was not the case yesterday.

Uncle Floyd drove to Camp Nawakwa to pick up Barabas, who, by the way had an excellent time last week! Here is a photo of him with all his new friends!!!



And here is a photo of one of their camp outs!



Also, Pastor Ed drove down to meet with the Camp Director to talk about Bible Study during Family Camp.

Also, yesterday morning, a neighbor near the camp forgot to latch the back screen door tightly and their big beautiful dog pushed the screen door open and went for a wonderful romp in the woods. And then he chased a squirrel and then he followed a scent that seemed very intriguing.

And then, when the dog looked around, he wasn't sure of the way back home! That's when the dog found his way into Camp Nawakwa. Most of the campers had already left, so the camp was rather deserted. When Uncle Floyd and Pastor Ed saw the big dog, they checked his tags and found a phone number to call.



Pastor Ed and Uncle Floyd went into the camp office to use the phone. After they called the owner to say their dog was here at camp, they kind of STAYED in the camp office because it was 100+ degrees out and the air conditioning was feeling really good inside.

So that left Barabas outside with a hot, nervous dog that was panting and pacing around and wagging his tail. Sometimes the dog would raise his eyebrows and tip his head and look right at Barabas as if asking "What's going to happen to me." The dog did not know that Uncle Floyd and Pastor Ed made a phone call, so the dog was still very afraid.

"Here dog, I'll get you some water." And Barabas filled a dish from the fountain and put it on the ground for the dog.

The dog drank some water and then he paced around some more and panted some more. He looked at Barabas, raised his eyebrows and tipped his head again.

Barabas has two dogs at home and he knows what makes a dog feel better. Barabas led the dog to a nice shady spot under the pavilion near the Craft Hall and he brought the pan of water too. And then Barabas sat down beside the dog and scratched behind his ears and around that place on a dog's neck where his collar always rubs and scratches feel good.

The big dog finally felt like someone cared for him and he relaxed. He stopped panting so much and he stopped pacing around. He looked at Barabas and gave him a big juicy kiss on the face!

Sometimes, the person who offers the most help is the person we least expect. In this case, it was the child who knew what the big dog needed more than a phone call. The dog needed to be loved.

THE END