



Transparent Communication: A Goal for our Students



It is always a difficult thing to send our students back home for two weeks for Christmas break. We know that, in many ways, they simply are not yet ready to submit to the authority of the parents. If they were, there would be no need for them to return for the spring semester.

Although the students may not be ready to return to their normal life at Christmas, we do desire to see growth in key areas of their life. One of these goals is to see a change in their communication. Each student has a unique personality, so this change will be different in every case. We encourage the parents to evaluate transparency, honesty, and respect in their son's communication. Although manifested in various ways, these are spiritual fruit that should be evident in the life of every growing Christian. However, not all of our students are professing believers; our approach with these students is to always go back to the gospel. Unsaved individuals can pragmatically find ways to co-exist with conflict for selfish reasons, but they will ultimately fail. True heart change only happens through the power of Christ.

It is encouraging to hear reports from the parents during break. Not all of these reports are positive, but they reveal the parent's heart. We are broken people working to encourage broken people. These parents make mistakes and watch the relational consequences happen in real-time. They have their moments of pure ecstasy, as they watch their children walk in truth. Such is the roller-coaster of family life! By the grace of God, these families are seeing change. They are having open conversations about life, theology, the gospel, and family. In many ways, the battle for their son's heart is just beginning. Once a Christian starts to show an interest in the things of God and works to remedy broken relationships, Satan gets busy. Be in prayer for these families, as they continue to seek growth and change to the glory of God!

Volunteer Projects: A Bottomless Well

There is much to be done here at Victory! Andy Morrison does a fantastic job in taking care of the maintenance and upkeep of our buildings and grounds and we can't keep Mark Massey away from his tools. Still, we find ourselves with unfinished projects or ones we haven't even started. Our task list is the proverbial bottomless well!

We are excited to have Bay City Baptist join us this weekend for another work day! It is always a blessing to have these sweet people with us. We heavily rely upon churches and individuals that will volunteer their time and talent to help accomplish important projects. Below is a list of projects for which we are actively looking for help:

- HVAC (install heaters for several different areas)
- Vehicle and Heavy Equipment Mechanic (electrical and brake repair for old payload)
- Burning/Mulching/Cleaning up in Logged Areas of Forest
- Remodel of Main Shop (exterior siding, interior walls and ceiling, and shelving)
- Work for Licensed Electrician

If you are interested in coming up and serving for a day, please contact Ben Barrick at ben.barrick@vafb.org. If you have a particular trade skill or hobby, let us know. Several of our projects need an experienced hand. We also have several projects that just need a faithful worker, skilled or not.

We are humbled to see God move the hearts of our supporters to sacrificially give. It is the prayers and gifts of our prayer warriors that allow us to continue reaching at-risk families with the Gospel of Christ.

Check out the funding goal updates on our donation page: www.vafb.org/donate

Faithfully Serving,

