



# “The Del-Haven Vision”

“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

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Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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*“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” 1Cor.15:57-58*

The context of 15:57 naturally includes the subject of victory that we obtain strictly by the grace of God through Christ our Lord. This victory is that which is referred to in verses 54 and 55> “So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, ‘Death is swallowed up in victory’; ‘O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?’”. These quotes refer to the victory that Christ has already won over sin and death via His resurrection. Praise His Name!

Sin and death are the governing principles of the whole age in which we all now dwell. 15:56-57, therefore, is another deliberation of the Biblical contrast between law and grace. Verse 56 tells us that “The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law”. God’s law promotes the foreboding truth that we are all hopelessly condemned sinners. God’s grace promotes the gospel truth that the Lord Jesus Christ is the all victorious Savior! The blessed truth of God’s grace is in the fact that He gives us this victory in Jesus! This just makes you want to sing that great hymn, “Victory in Jesus” doesn’t it?

Understanding this grace truth also serves to motivate the members of God’s family to fulfill the exhortation of verse 58. The true believer is encouraged to be “steadfast and immovable” i.e. to be confident and fixed. To be steadfast in the faith that is fostered and founded upon the Word of God, and fixed in one’s focus upon fulfilling whatever tasks in which the Lord has ordained for us to walk (see Eph.2:10).

This understanding is substantiated by what is communicated with the rest of the verse. Next it declares: “always abounding in the work of the Lord”. This refers to the grace of faith. Jn.6:29 is where our Lord taught that it “is the work of God that men believe in Him whom He has sent”. And, Col.2:12 appropriately refers specifically to “the faith of the operation of God, who has raised Him from the dead”.

And, last but not least, verse 58 says: “knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord”. We have “abounding in the work of the Lord” and now, “your labor” that is not in vain “in the Lord”. God’s work in giving us the steadfast confidence of true and genuine faith in Christ Jesus becomes the divine catalyst for us to engage ourselves in those labors that are in no wise empty endeavors because they are labors that are completely immersed in Him whom we lovingly and faithfully serve. It is, in fact, this reality that is also referenced in 1Th.1:3> “Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father”. To Him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.

*For Christ's glory only!*  
*A. Carpenter*

## **Many Volunteers are Ready to “Dive” in and Help With the Swimming Pool Restoration**

Dear ones, we are looking forward to this weekend with a concentrated focus upon beginning the much need repairs and renovation of our swimming pool. The Lord has once again proven to be directly involved in the maintenance and upkeep of that which facilitates this ministry.

Divine providence has orchestrated the coming together of those skilled individuals that are able and willing to provide the necessary tools and equipment, as well as the manpower, in order to get the ball rolling to effectively get the job done. We are giving praise and thanks to the Lord that a crew from Red Bridge Baptist Church is planning on being available to help us out. The Lord has also caused others to call me and get directions out here so that they, too, can be here to help. When this sort of rallying around the cause takes place there is along with it an accompanying sense of divine purpose and great encouragement.

In addition, one of our board members, Don Lee, sent out a letter (as he does every year) that is designed to inform people and churches and businesses of the many tasks that we are faced with in order to prepare the campgrounds for the summer. As the Lord has led, one of his letters was sent to Whistle Concrete, who has helped us numerous times over the past years. They not only graciously gave Del-Haven a nice donation, but when they heard from Jerry Hall that we need to replace the sidewalks around the pool, they have also agreed to provide the concrete. My friends, that constitutes a very substantial contribution. Isn't the Lord wonderful!

Ultimately, the repair of the pool is planned to be accomplished in two, or maybe three, different stages. The first one is hopefully going to prove to be successful in removing the old sidewalks and repairing the walls and preparing the terrain for stage two when the concrete will be delivered and poured. Then, if there is anything left to do after that, it will be to set back up the slide and the diving board and putting up the new fence around the pool area.

Dear family in Christ, please be in much prayer with us regarding this project. It is not just the fixing up of the pool that is the reason for our great joy, but it is the reason why the pool is needed and being used in the first place. It is an integral part of the camp schedule of activities that our campers go through while hearing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every event of our camp schedule is set apart for a purpose of sowing the seeds of true and genuine Biblical evangelism. This is why we are always so elated to witness the work of the Lord like we are seeing here. This serves to really enhance our faith in God as we, by His grace, continue to focus on our labors here for the cause of Christ.

### **Thank You For Your Faithfulness**

It is your Spirit led faithfulness to continue to pray for the children that we have ministered to -- are yet ministering to -- and will be ministering to that is being used of our great God and Savior in accomplishing His will and purpose. Thank you all for continuing to stand with us steadfast and immovable in this work of faith and labor of love for the eternal Kingdom of Christ.

*“Oh sing to the Lord a new song! For He has done marvelous things. His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.” Ps.98:1*