

Jennifer in North Macedonia

September 20, 2023



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Praying before lunch – Macedonia district teen camp 2023

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.”

~ Colossians 4:2

“What is Jesus doing right now in heaven?”

This is just one of the questions the teenagers at our summer teen camp were asked to think about in their small groups. From August 23 to 26 fifteen teenagers and eight adults gathered in Gevgelija, Macedonia for four days and three nights of fun, Biblical teaching, relationship building and more. The theme for the camp was “Молитва има сила” (“Prayer has power”). Pastor Lazo Tanchev gave three inspiring messages explaining what prayer is,

challenging us to go deeper in our prayers, and warning us about things that can hinder our prayers.



Worshipping together in the main hall. Click here to worship with us!

On the first day, we learned that God wants us to seek Him and to bring Him our needs in prayer. He loves us and promises that if we seek Him, we will find Him; however, He wants us to seek Him with a spirit of gratitude. If we only ask without thankfulness, we can become like an annoying beggar! The second day, we learned that our prayer life is a sign of how close we are to God. We learned



Pastor Lazo meeting with his small group

that God wants us to pray regularly for ourselves and for others and that as His children, we can pray to Him anywhere at any time. On the last day, we learned that praising God in our prayers is very important. When Jesus prayed, the first thing He did was praise God. When we follow Jesus' example and pray with praise, gratitude, and faith in our hearts our prayers have power!



Above: Playing pass the token. Click the photo to watch us play the conga line version of rock, paper, scissors!

After each teaching time, the teens got into their small groups to discuss the lesson and their thoughts about prayer. We had team Fuji, team Vesuvius and team Krakatoa since volcanoes, like prayer, have a lot of power and you never know when a prayer will be answered, or a volcano will erupt! I am extremely thankful for our volunteers who engaged these teens in deep conversations and connected with them on a personal level.



Above: For our craft times, we made prayer card holders and decorated personal prayer cards.

The remaining activities of the camp we mostly did all together - morning calisthenics and devotions, worship, crafts, meals, outdoor games, indoor games, swimming, stargazing, and even roasting marshmallows! The teens got along really well and said that they didn't want to wait until next summer to get together again!

So, what is Jesus doing in heaven right now? According to Romans 8:34, He is interceding for His followers. He is praying for us! He is praying for each one of the teenagers and volunteers that came to the camp. He's praying for me and He's praying for you. We cannot thank Him or praise Him enough for what He does for us, but we can try! Let us pray for our youth, for Macedonia, and for our church locally and globally with praise and thanksgiving that God may hear us and our prayers may have power!

In Him,

Jennifer Moore

A Prayerful Experience

In addition to the lessons and group activities, we offered a prayer walk where participants could travel on a unique journey with just themselves and God. The path to seven stations was laid out on the floor with tape and classical music played for anyone who accepted the invitation. Several teenagers and adult volunteers shared that the time they spent in the prayer walk room was very meaningful to them. I encourage you to click the image below and take the journey as well.

