



TANALIAN
Bible Camp

This Changes Everything

Winter 2018 Newsletter



Read the story behind the picture on the back page.

What is the impact of a gift?

I was in one of our small villages a few weeks ago, visiting the nightly open gym where villagers of all ages come to play or watch basketball. I introduced myself to a grandma and she exclaimed, "Nate Davis? I remember you from Tanalian Bible Camp in the '70s when we were both in junior high camp!" It turns out that this dear lady believed in the resurrection of Jesus at TBC forty years ago. She is a strong leader in her village to this day.

Back in the '70s, only 20-30 children a year came to camp at TBC. Now, hundreds of village children come face to face with the living Jesus every summer at TBC. But, we need your help. In remote Alaska it costs \$300 to \$1000 in airfare alone for children to make it to camp. We

have a wonderful scholarship fund that makes it possible for more than 100 campers each year to be able to afford camp.

It is the resurrection of Jesus that changes everything! Now the Resurrection of Jesus brings good news to the afflicted! He heals the brokenhearted! Jesus Christ proclaims liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners! Because Jesus lives again, everyone who is in Jesus is a new creature! Everyone who believes in the One who first conquered the grave, has hope that he or she will also conquer the grave! Jesus rose again and this changes everything!

Jesus is the River of Life and wherever He flows through the deserts of human society, life follows. Most of our villages have very few who believe in the River of Life, so many villagers struggle in life. But where Jesus is, there is life and life abundantly. Jesus is at Tanalian Bible

Camp and more than 450 campers drank from the River of Life this summer, taking a bit more life back to their villages and beyond.

Please pray for these children to grow in the Lord and to become leaders in their schools and villages, like the grandma I met a few weeks ago. Please come serve with us next summer to share God's love for these children. Please give generously as the Lord has blessed you. Each gift helps another camper afford the airfare or the camp registration or supports a full-time missionary who can minister year-round in your stead. THANK YOU for your steadfast prayers and for advancing the Kingdom of Jesus as He leads you! Jesus is living and active... and THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Nate Davis | TBC Board President

Yes, It Was Worth It. And There's More...



Last year we asked the question, “Is it worth it?” Was it worth it to send a plane to a distant village for one child to have a week at camp? For that one girl, it undoubtedly was, but this year the story continued to unfold. Sending a young camper who has just accepted Christ at camp back to some of the most difficult and unsupportive environments back home can be gut wrenching. Will they be able to follow the Lord? Will they grow? What are the people in the village going to say? Will we get to see them again?

When this camper went home she wanted the other kids in her village to have the same experience, but

she was the only believer in the village except for one full time ministry couple. Her excitement for the Lord, combined with some amazing circumstances in the village, resulted in not just one student from the village coming to camp this year, but ten!

Among the kids who came, several gave their lives to Christ and wanted to know if there was anyone back home who believed the same thing. It was so great to be able to help them identify and connect to the ministry couple who lives with them year round. Villages can be difficult and spiritually dark places where change often happens slowly, so to see the growth from one camper to

TBC partners with Dena’ina Air Taxi, FLAPS, Iliamna Air Taxi, Lake and Pen Air, Lake Clark Air, MARC, and SEND to fly all our campers and volunteers hundreds of miles to camp.

ten in just a year, is amazing.

All of this started because one little girl was able to come to camp, received love like never before, accepted the Lord, and faithfully shared back home. This changes everything.

Christy Zimmerman | SEND North Missionary serving with TBC



A House Built on a

You may remember that in last year's giving guide we asked for your help to renovate and improve the Carlson House. Through generous donations and the help of dozens of volunteers and camp staff, the project is nearly completed! During the demolition and inspection it was discovered that the project would require even more work than expected, but God has been faithful to provide the funds and the workers each step of the way.

Among the many projects completed are a much more efficient heating

“He intricately directs our steps to accomplish His purposes.”



One of the many things I love about being the Program Director here at Tanalian Bible Camp is watching how God draws over 200 volunteers each summer to come and serve at camp. Proverbs 16:9 says, “In his heart man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.” It’s too easy for me to get so focused on my plan, that I can easily miss the bigger picture. I am learning to take

a step back on occasion, and focus my attention on what God has done.

For example, the summer of 2017 did not go as my family originally planned. Due to some unforeseen circumstances we ended up spending extended time in South Carolina, where my wife grew up. After it was all said and done, our family spent 4 months down there during the busiest time of year at camp. I traveled back and forth, twice to still be a part of summer camp when I could. It was a tough season, but God had a plan.

During this time we had opportunities to share about camp at churches and in small groups. One such opportunity was live-streamed and it just so happened that a young man was watching our presentation and ended up deciding he wanted to come and serve at camp during the summer of 2018. The Lord provided the means for him to come and long story short, he ended up moving here.



2018 Camp Season By the Numbers

- 9 Weeks of Camp
- 31 Villages Reached
- 457 Campers
- 2932 Camper Nights
- 227 Volunteers
- 125 Scholarships
- Dozens of Flights
- Over 21,000 Plates of Food Served
- More than 20 salvations!
- 6 baptisms
- Countless Lives Changed in Southwest Alaska
- 1 God Making It All Happen

The coolest thing that I am fascinated by is that this young man had the opportunity to lead a high school camper to Jesus while he was counseling this past summer. What an amazing testimony to God’s sovereignty. I take away from this brief story the reality that God always has a plan. He intricately directs our steps to accomplish His purposes. We may not always understand our circumstances in the moment, but here is one of many experiences that testify to the faithfulness of God. We can truly trust in Him with all of our hearts and lean not on our own understanding.

Willie Nickols | Program Director

a Firm Foundation

system, a completely new foundation and lower structure, and a complete rebuild of almost all living spaces.

The McGee family is eager to move back into the Carlson House soon. They are full of gratitude for the abundant blessing of a beautiful home they can continue to enjoy and share with others for God’s glory.

Psalms 127:1 “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.”

GIVE TODAY

tanalianbiblecamp.org
tanalianleadershipcenter.org
907-781-2226
tbc@tanalianbiblecamp.org
PO Box 176 Port Alsworth, AK 99653



"I want to learn to put on armor."

I was blessed to sit down with Charles Kvasnikoff the other day and hear a bit of his story, from his first time at camp to where God has brought him now in the TLC program.

Aaron: Charles, why did you want to go to TBC?

Charles: My mom and others in my village encouraged me to go. Dena'ina Air Taxi pays for everyone in my village to go, so I was able to. All we needed to do was bring money for the snack shop!

A: Do you remember anything from your first year as a camper?

C: Andrew Rowland was my counselor! He was awesome and made it fun when it needed to be but was also good about making it serious. He was easy to talk to and explain stuff. I could tell this place was different because everyone loved God and He set this place aside.

A: We met at Spring Family Conference last year and you were already excited about coming to TLC. What was going on then and now?

C: Yeah, that was one of the first steps in me giving my whole self to the Lord. I started to accept and open my eyes and heart to Him even more. I'm really happy to be back here at the TLC program. It's made me have a better relationship with God. I've learned believing in Christ just takes your heart, soul, giving yourself up to him and following Him and loving Him and believing.

A: That's awesome, and you just got baptized here?

C: It was the most amazing feeling, getting baptized. When I went into the water and came back up it's like everything just left my whole body, I felt the love for the Lord and giving myself up to Him, and leaving everything behind, and I got to give the glory to Him on that. He's changed my life and I'm so thankful for that. I'm getting a better understanding of the Bible and what God is going to use me for.

A: So what do you think He's going to use you for after TLC?

C: Preaching: I want to be a pilot. I want to be able to fly around and to have a better understanding of the Bible. I want to show them how it feels to be loved. To share what I hold dear for myself.

A: What else are you looking forward to this year at TLC?

C: I want to strengthen my relationship with God and with other people in town. I want to know how to put on the armor before I go into battle for the Lord. I can learn from others' strengths here. It's great to see how God uses people's stories and changes their lives. It gives me the holy bumps, hahaha.

Charles is in the aviation program at TLC and is both actively working towards his private pilot license and being immersed in the Word of God during Bible Class each day.

Aaron Dalton | Interim Development Director



TANALIAN
Leadership Center

Charles first came to TBC in 2008. Now ten years later, he is one of six students at Tanalian Leadership Center where Andrew Rowland, his counselor that first year, is the TLC Bible Teacher.

