

July 6, 2009

Hi everyone,

Today we are meeting our mission kids and all of us seem pretty excited to what we'll get into. Me, Carrie, and Todd have to drive to go pick up kids, and for me it was my first exposure to how poor some of these people are with not so nice living conditions. All the kids seem really nice from all ages. Our first day started off on a really good foot. Our team studied very well for their lessons and led the kids to a good day. I am very impressed and proud of their good job. I see forward for a smooth week since I know how good our team is. We did have a good dinner today since I cooked; yummy, yummy! So don't worry the kids are not starving.

Love and prayers for everyone at home,

Maik

PS: I really hope I or one of us catch a fish tonight!!!!!!!!!!!!

July 5, 2009

Hi everyone,

Our journey yesterday was to Copper Center to meet up with Todd to settle down and go over our mission work. Our drive seemed endless and we made many stops to capture an enjoying, wonderful scenery. The church is a lot smaller than I expected, and it seems all so casual and a little unorganized for what we are used to at home. Our meeting with Todd and Kim was very brief and easy (laid back) so I was happy with that. As soon as we got unpacked and a little organized we had for sure nothing was more important to us at the time to run behind the church to check out the river. Now we are even more excited to go fishing. Todd told us to go get fishing licenses which was easy because they sell them everywhere, and he didn't want us to get in trouble. This was our first fishing evening, and we didn't catch anything even when me, Jake, Robert, Mel, Jennarrrrr (inside joke), and Wibbs stayed up till almost three in the morning (still not dark). Sunday morning was hard to get up because we had to organize the church from our bedrooms to church service which was like a battle field because of all of our stuff in this little room, but we can handle anything, and Todd provided a really nice service. We met a lot of new friends from his congregation. We had down time after the church cleared out. Liz came up with cool games to get us closer together which was not hard to do because it seems like we know each other forever. Day ended with going fishing!

Love and prayers,

Maik

July 4, 2009

Hi everyone,

First I want to thank the church for giving me this great opportunity to go on this mission trip. It is unbelievable what God has created here. I hope our videos and pictures have captured how beautiful this land is so we can show you all when we come back. I know how groups grow close because of my last mission trip to North Carolina and it is surprising how close this group has grown so close in two days. Our site seeing yesterday

was just beautiful, and even when I come from a different country, and I am still amazed with the nature and the difference from mile to mile. We checked out of the hotel and now we are on the way to Cooper Center to be with Pastor Roeske, and I am really excited that we were able to be introduced into what we will be doing from Ruth. I guess I'm a bad driver here because I already drove twice the wrong way on a one way street, and people are probably thinking I'm a dumb foreigner, but it is a little confusing here. By the way, no one would believe how clean it is in Anchorage; we walked down town and there was no garbage on the streets (nice to see that some people care about our land). Even though all of our focus is on the mission, we still cannot wait to go fishing; looks like it's what they do best here. Jake and I bought a riffle from Walmart so we plan on bringing back a polar bear for the church souvenir (just kidding we only bought water guns and I think that would just make the bear angry and hungry of us).

To all the parents of the youth, don't worry even though they keep trying to beat me up, I still win against the boys, but only Wibbs is hard to beat because she always fights unfair.

My love and prayers to all of you at home,
Maik

PS: did I tell you that I'm typing this and driving at the same time? Just kidding.