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The College Life?

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Special points of interest:

- This is to give everyone an idea of what I have done unfortunately I can not cover everything, so I am limited to these few stories. And Prayer Request are included.

THANKS FOR READING!

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The Basic jest of things

Hey everyone in case you haven't noticed and you haven't seen my website I have not been around since mid august, SURPRISE! I'm in a college course called Discover.

This course is based off of intercultural ministries. I spent 2 weeks and a few days at Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills Alberta, sitting in class in a course called the Way this course based off of being able to interpret for ourselves what the Bible says. After those two weeks we left Three Hills Alberta for Wild Horse Plains, Montana.

Currently we are still in Montana. While here in Montana we have done numerous things. Arriving at Camp Bighorn at approximately 5:00 PM our time (4:00 PM BC time) we unpacked ourselves from our transportation vehicles and exhaustively turned in for that night. The next day September 1st we would begin to prepare for a 5 day long rafting trip, that would push us into knowing each other better, on our rafting trip we hit LOADS of wicked rafts and waves I mean AMAZING rapids, we even traveled to the most states in my life time (Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Montana again).

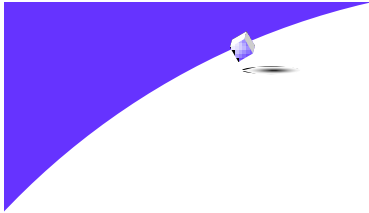
Once the 5 days were up we suddenly found ourselves in the wilderness camping for another 5 days. In these 5 days we found ourselves being taken through a Leadership program by a very intelligent man named



• The cross on the Mountain Above camp Bighorn

Tom Collins, and we also found ourselves in a Wilderness First Aid course, even with all the fun we've been through I think over all we were happy to get back to camp Bighorn and take our first proper shower in 10 days. After a 2 day rest we were thrown into a 2 week training session where we learned about Ministry took a trip over to Missoula, MT where we were able to see all the different areas of Ministry where we, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and

Community Development. After those two weeks were up we were given an opportunity to pick a specialization out of those three fields and we took a trip to Spokane, Washington, for a whole week (sept 28th-oct 3). After our Specialization week we were in for the next week and this week (*GASP* we caught up to current date!) Last week October 5th-9th we were put into a communications class for the first three days doing our midterm for that class on the fourth day of that week. On Sunday the 11th we had our practicum where we ran a church service. Currently this week starting today the 12th we started a course called Spiritual Formations which we will be doing for the next 2 days meaning Tuesday and Wednesday, on Thursday we prepare to leave back for Canada and Prairie Bible Institute, and on Friday morning we get on the buses and we go and that is where the information gets fuzzy for me but I'm sure we'll be faced with more classroom time.



The Three Hills

“You know what those three hills mean Jesse?”

Dad and Jesse

"You know what those three hills mean Jesse?" dad asked while coming into Three Hills along the number 2 hwy about 30 minutes out of Olds. "Um we're in Three Hills?" I replied slightly miffed why he would ask such

an rhetorical question. "No. I mean Yes, but that's not the point I'm getting at." he said while looking through the rear view mirror to look at me sitting in the back seat, with stuff stacked up beside me on either side

(bags, pillows, hat, Lacrosse stick) "those hills mean, that you are now responsible for yourself, you have to think through what you do and when a problem comes up you have to fix it....."

Culture shock

Well I've been in three hills for a little over a month, and then as soon as August 31st hit I was already off to another country, which would be alienated in so many ways to me, and Walmart means OH SO MUCH MORE!

"Walmart we've got toys, food, milk, vegi's, electronics, and more. AND WAIT WE GOT MORE if you want a 12 gage shot gun this is the place to come!"

I mean wow! fire arms and ammo at Walmart?

weird. Then what's with the dollar being paper? And why do they say roof oddly? Jet leg is Jet Lag, they even say tag differently. I am definitely an alien in another country, I don't think like them, I don't own a rifle, or carry a hand gun on my dashboard in broad day light, to them I speak weird, and apparently I'm to polite? the United States of America what an experience!

The first thing I noticed when crossing the Canadian boarder into the US for the first time in my entire life was the atmosphere some how it was different from the Canadian atmosphere? While driving through the first city (the name escapes me) I noticed all the American flags (here's a flag, there's a flag, OH LOOK A FLAG!). The second thing I noticed was these

guys speed compared to us its INCREDIBLE how fast the legal speed limit is over 100 km/h on a regular two lane road, and 80 through a well populated pedestrian town on streets like that in Canada 50 is the max! Oh and here people will not stop for you when your at a cross walk so good luck if you want to beat a car (hopefully your fast, or built of steal).

When we finally arrived in Plains, Montana at Camp Big Horn things seemed mellow, there was a welcoming party from the Explore 2nd year who were there before hand. After wards I was welcomed into the Big Horn Community more formally, and I played "taaag" with a few kids who live here.



Camp Bighorn

Rafting through three states!

September Wednesday the 2nd we left for Idaho (some where close to the Devils canyon) where we would push off into our first set of Rapids, over the next few days, we stopped in many places along the river going from Idaho to Oregon, and from Oregon to Washington. While on the river I learned and relearned a lot of things like how our lives are like a raft being pushed down a rapid, and if we don't know how to handle the rapids it can get fatally dangerous, but with God as our leader we can turn our boat around and make it back up river to the point where we'll be able to correct our mistake and make it through the rapid properly. I also learned a lot about community and when it

might be a good time to shut-up (still working on that one). Anyways on the last day of our rafting trip we were camping down on a beach, and we were in our group devotional time when suddenly the wind picked up, and when we looked down river I determined that a big fog cloud was approaching us, I was wrong on the contrary it was a sand cloud, in a matter of seconds we would find our selves in a thick sand storm, every breath of air we would be inhaling thousands of particles of sand our stuff would begin to blow away or get buried by the sand, so we began to tie stuff down and put rocks on other things. As soon as this was accomplished we had the task of locating our sleeping

bags, with sand stinging our eyes and slowly burying our beds for the night. Upon locating my sleeping bag I shook of the layering sand, and went to the absolute bottom of my bag and folded up the remaining parts of my bags to stop the sand from getting in my bag with me. In the morning I woke up to a layer or two of sand covering me, it was wicked! After our interesting evening, we finished off our trip and landed a few hours out of Spokane, we then had to travel through Spokane to get back to Montana which took A LONG TIME.



Entertaining people on the rafting trip.

"In the morning I woke up to a layer or two of sand covering me, it was wicked!"

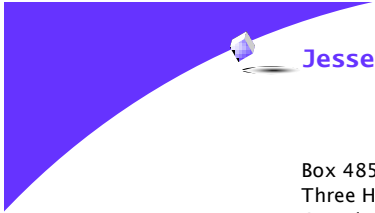
Camping

Once in Montana the drivers dumped us off in the middle of some forest called area 51, there we went over Wilderness First Aid, and a leadership seminar. After a few days of remaining in the cold forest without a sweater or adequate clothing of staying warm I was happy to return to camp, at which we had

to clean up, and then we had the week end off. Discovering the news that I had the weekend off I came to the sad realization that I missed everyone REALL REALLY much, but that's life. This basically brings you up to date on everything that happened, oh besides the fact that I met the people who own

the horses across the road and I'll be able to go out on one of the horses soon!





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The Captain

You can find some updates and other information on my website:

<http://03darbs.weebly.com/college-pbi-and-everything-else.html>

Specialization Week;

After our training we picked a specialization mine was ministry, and we headed off for Spokane. In Spokane the Ministry team slept in a homeless teen drop in center. And we worked for two homeless shelters doing numerous tasks. One of my favorite moments at during this week in Spokane was when I was walking down the street with my intern after buying a meal and a guy who was homeless and skinny to the bone and his stomach growling came up to me, and said "cuse me sir, I was wondering if you had money or food?" I had this sudden feeling of compassion for the man, and I took out my meal and shared it with him. Unfortunately I didn't trust the man enough to give him money because I was afraid of him going and spending it on stuff he shouldn't. At specialization I learned how to look at people a certain way and how to look for God in everything I do, and how to tell the people about God when the moment comes. Part of ministry, however, is not talking, but in fact listening.

My favourite part of Ministry; State Hospital (last story of the day)

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Please remember the people who are homeless. Pray for the people who are working in the shelters and soup kitchens.

Pray for the men and women who are stuck in their mental states of minds and help the ones who have escaped their previous conditions. Pray that they will find peace even in knowing what they have done. Pray for the hospital staff as well.

Pray for the people who are addicted to drugs and other addicting things.

And as for me Pray that I will be able to focus clearly on my studies for the next three months, and that I will be able to work everything out financially. Please pray that God will also show me what I should do, and how I should do it.

For our Ministry training we took a trip to Missoula , MT. Our first day all the guys took a trip over to the state hospital where we would first notice how much of a prison the hospital really was, Razor Barbed wire fences exc exc exc. This hospital was no ordinary hospital, you see, it was actually a mental hospital for patients who have committed unspeakable crimes and/or patients who were declared mentally ill, all patients must be declared mentally unstable to be turned into this hospital. In this hospital we were told about each type of patient and what they did, each type of patient was in a certain ward where they were classified as a different level of risk from HIGH risk to no risk at all. The people who I was mostly exposed to was the people who were high risk where we would help the

chaplain hold the chapel that day. To get into that particular ward we had to cross through three airlock doors as soon as we were through the airlock doors we were in the common room of all the highly dangerous patients who were sex predators or murderers, once in the room we walked a few steps and took a left into a room which would be used as our chapel. In chapel people came to sing because they wanted to hear a song or two, half way through the service the chaplain asked me to stand up and share with the prisoners, so I asked God to take over my thoughts as I stepped onto the stage, and I was able to share some of my story and then I was able to share with them Gods love and what one of the benefits of his love is, as soon as I was done one of the patients (who unfortunately killed his

brother and does not remember doing so) stood up and said we should 'Just a Closer Walk with Thee' it almost brought me to tears to see a man like him broken before God, it was a beautiful thing. We spent a few more hours outside of that ward touring the hospital and talking about patients conditions and relating it to spirituality and then we left with a lot more knowledge than we arrived with.

And also to briefly let you know we also went to a place called teen challenge for girls who have just got of drug addictions and are being reintegrated into society, helped out at 2 homeless shelters, explored churches in Missoula, and visited 2 teen centers in the city.