

Jennifer Little

Change. I think that is one of the scariest words I know. I don't like change and I have never been comfortable with it in my life. Along with change comes new experiences and new situations that I may not be able to control what the outcome may be. I like to be in control and it makes me uncomfortable just thinking about it. Yet at BreakAway it seemed like the idea of CHANGE and specifically changing my life was continually brought into focus. The speaker John made a statement that was very meaningful in my mind, when he said, "The time to Change is now". This idea stuck with me throughout the rest of the week and continued to be on my mind even after I returned home. It was like a flashing neon sign from God. In my life I often ask God what steps I should take to follow what God wants me to do. While at Breakaway, I realized that the next step in growing my faith needed to be committing to make a change in my own life, in my attitude, and in the way I act towards others.

In the past month I had been feeling like I was missing something in my life. I would feel so close to God while at church and youth group but then go to school and lose that feeling, probably because I never really let my "school friends" see that other part of my life. But I don't want my life to be this way, not at all. I want to be a Christian first and foremost. Wherever I go and whatever I am doing, I want the people around me to see Christ through my actions.

This past week, I made a commitment to change my life in such a way that I give everything to God, all the time, because I know that the plans and goals I have for my life are small in comparison to the extraordinary things He could achieve, if I let Him work through me. This commitment to change was also shaped by our theme for the Vacation Bible School program we led at the Whispering Woods Apartments. Our theme was heroes; not superheroes, but simply everyday heroes. While I was the one telling a room full of kids that God could use each of them to be a hero and that God could do amazing things through their lives, it felt like God was trying to tell me the same thing.

In my life I strive to be great at everything I do because I am terrified of failing or being inadequate in any way, but our VBS stories made me rethink my

attitude. In the Bible stories that we share with the kids about Moses, Gideon and Peter, God didn't use people who were perfect, He used normal people who simply listened to God. I went into BreakAway planning on having a lot of fun, playing with some cute little kids and bonding with our team, but I got so much more than that. I made a change in my life that I have already felt working in my heart in just a few days since I made the commitment. During spring break, I felt God's presence working through our team as a whole and personally in my own heart and I am so glad I was blessed to be a part of the Breakaway experience. I know that I'm younger than most of you and I still have much growing and maturing to do, but if I could leave you with a word of challenge, it would be this. I know that God has a plan for your life. I know that God can use you to do great (even heroic) things. Will you let God take the lead in your life? Will you let God use you? My name is Jennifer and I'm working to give control of my life over to God and I'm really excited to see what will happen. God bless you and thanks for letting me share.