

Camp Copass Boys Camp 2007

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CABIN DEVOTIONAL – Thursday, July 26, 2007

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:14-16

For years Pastor Larry Blackmon and his church, First Baptist Church of Hearne, Texas, had given to the Mary Hill Davis State Missions Offering. Then there came a time for them to be on the receiving end of sacrificial giving. One stormy night their entire neighborhood was flooded. Water was a foot deep in their house within an hour. With two small grandchildren in the house Larry and Dianne Blackmon were very concerned. Just then a neighbor with a tractor stopped and picked them up and carried them to safety.

Almost as soon as the storm had passed, Texas Baptist Men were on the scene to help out. The men came and cleaned the Blackmon's house of mud and debris. They said, "Pastor, you just step aside and let us work. This is our job." When they had finished cleaning the pastor's home, the men asked, "Is there someone else we can help?"

Pastor Blackmon referred them to his neighbor who was also a member of the church. In all they cleaned seventeen other homes. Texas Baptist Men also sent a child-care unit to provide care for children while their parents were involved with the clean-up work in their homes.

Mattie McCoslin was one of the members whose home they cleaned. She said, "They were not here for a profit. Their reward will come from God."

[Source: "Together We Can Do More," BGCT Mission Stories. Vol. 1, Number 1, DVD #1. Baptist General Convention of Texas]

Questions for Discussion:

1. Were the Texas Baptist men expecting to get paid for what they did? If not, why do you think they did it?
2. How do you think these volunteers might be rewarded for their service?
3. Has there been a time when you or your family needed help because of some disaster?
4. Would you be willing to help others in a time of need? Is there anyone in your neighborhood who especially needs help? What can you do? Consider asking your RA group or the Baptist Men's group of your church to lend a hand.