

Camp Copass Boys Camp 2008

CABIN DEVOTIONAL - Thursday, July 24, 2008

Wild to Tell

Tanzania is not Texas! After traveling for 37 hours Eddie finally arrived in Kasulu, Tanzania where he would be stationed for the next 24 months. It was hot and dusty and there was no one there to meet him. The missionary that was supposed to meet him had left him a note on the windshield of a jeep. The missionary was going back to the United States. He added that Matias would teach Eddie to speak Swahili as soon as Eddie taught Matias to speak English. Day one of the Great Adventure.

The following days were filled with confusion and terror. Africans kept stopping by to say hello, but no one spoke English. There was no electricity, no food he could identify and then the drums started. Eddie was ready to go home, but God sent someone to help.

Issaka arrived early one morning and began to set things right. With a yell of 'Hodi' Issaka greeted Eddie and through hand motions and a very interesting game of charades they soon became friends. Things were hard for a long time. It took Eddie six months to learn the language. He survived malaria, bug bites, and wild animal stand offs. Eddie confronted an angry witch doctor and constantly battled long held traditions and beliefs that barred the way to telling about Jesus.

But Eddie did tell about Jesus. He told the pastors that came to visit and the small churches he drove miles to encourage. He told farmers as he doctored their cows and he told women as they worked together in the fields. He told children and old men, he told friends and he even told the witch doctor.

Many times Eddie prayed to go home, but God kept him in Africa and at the end of two years he had many friends, much love and the peace of knowing that he had done what God wanted. Are you willing to face hardship for Jesus? Are you Wild to Tell?