

Summer Camp Surprise

By Emma Fogle

“We’re here!” Mom called. “Finally!!” Isabella unbuckled her seatbelt and flung the car door open as soon as the engine stopped growling. When she stepped out, the air around her was stuffy, and she debated getting back into the car. Instead, she walked and started unloading her suitcases. Her parents helped her get settled into her cabin and left. *This is going to be SO boring* she thought. She heard a trumpet, and a man yelled, “ALL CAMPERS, PLEASE REPORT TO THE FRONT OF THE MESS HALL!” “MY NAME IS BILL!” he bellowed “I AM THE DIRECTOR OF CAMP SONSHINE! THAT’S A PLAY ON WORDS, BECAUSE THIS IS A CHRISTIAN CAMP!! I’LL PLAY MY TRUMPET IN THE MORNINGS TO ANNOUNCE WHEN TO COME TO THE MESS HALL AND AT NIGHT WHEN EVERYBODY HAS TO BE IN THEIR CABINS. PLEASE GO BACK TO YOUR ACTIVITIES, AND REMEMBER TO LISTEN FOR THE TRUMPET!” Isabella finished unpacking right when the trumpet blared and went in for dinner with her cabinmates. She met her counselor, Hope, and asked her, “So, what are we going to do here other than swat mosquitos and read Bible verses?” “I love you already!” Hope laughed. That night they had a campfire, and everyone sang songs and roasted marshmallows.

The next day, Isabella and her new friends went horseback riding and swimming. The following day they went to the archery range and canoeing. Summer camp wasn’t quite as boring as she thought it would be. The third day it rained, and they went into the game room to play foosball, air hockey, and carpetball. The fourth day they enjoyed swimming and rock climbing. Their last night at camp, Isabella suggested that she and her friends keep in touch throughout the year. They happily agreed!

The last day they had camp games: swimming, canoeing, archery, and rock climbing. In the first event Isabella was last to swim on her team. The horn blared, and the race began! Her first teammate burst off the diving board paddling furiously. The next person did the same, but when her third teammate was almost to her, she realized that her team was behind. She leaped off the board and began furiously churning the water. She deftly turned and started back toward the diving board, came up for a breath, and saw that she only had one person ahead of her! With a burst of speed, she splashed to the diving board...and won! After the events were finished and the scores were tallied, Isabella's team was declared the winner of the camp games! That evening, during the closing ceremony, the counselors asked if anybody wanted to accept Jesus into their heart. Isabella raised her hand, prayed, and asked God to forgive her for her sins. When her parents picked her up, they asked if she wanted to come back next year. "Definitely!" Isabella said. She couldn't wait to come back!