

AWANA - WESTERN OREGON



THE BIBLE QUIZ AND
AWANAGAMES CHAMPIONS
IN SALEM

AwanaGames & Bible Quiz 2009

This spring has been full of fun and excitement for the Awana Ministry. 46 teams competed in AwanaGames & Sparks-A-Rama and 120 teams competed in Bible Quiz! We were so encouraged by the biblical knowledge the quizzers demonstrated. It was amazing!

Sharing the Gospel with moms and dads is a central purpose for AwanaGames. This year, we saw many people trust Christ at AwanaGames. One in particular stands out. At one

of the AwanaGames, a dad raised his hand as high as he possibly could to signify, "Yes, it's me! I trusted Christ today!" Praise the Lord for his salvation decision!

We spent a weekend with children's pastors from the Northwest Foursquare churches in February. We presented Awana, and at least 6 are interested in starting in the fall!

Matt is graduating from college in a few weeks. We are so proud of his accomplishments. Heather and Joel are

doing well. It is a joy to see them serving in both worship ministry and as T&T Directors.

Thank you for your prayers for our family and ministry. God has blessed us with a wonderful ministry team and missionary family to serve.

Because of Calvary,

Ed & Kim Gossien

Praises

- ★ First year clubs have seen many come to Christ and are finishing their year with excitement.
- ★ Commander College has been a huge success. Many have re-focussed their ministries to be more effective than ever.
- ★ Our ministry team is a blessing! We are developing a special group of highly skilled trainers for next year.
- ★ Many trusted Christ at AwanaGames.
- ★ Bible Quiz was a blessing. Young people honored God with their scripture memory.

Prayer Requests

- ★ For those who trusted Christ at AwanaGames. Pray that they get "plugged in" at their church for growth.
- ★ Pray for the continued growth of our ministry team.
- ★ Pray for our financial support.
- ★ Pray for the churches that are considering Awana for next year. May God guide their decisions.
- ★ For our new role as Lead Missionaries. Pray that we be an encouragement as we serve the missionaries in the Northwest.

When opportunity knocks....

Have you ever almost missed a flight? Have you ever almost missed a very important meeting? It happened to me a few weeks ago. AwanaGames and Bible Quiz was on Saturday. I planned to go to the church to set up for Bible Quiz Friday evening, but conflicts in the church schedule made it impossible. That same night, our home church was having a special "Bring a Friend" party for T&T. My kids work in T&T and asked if I could come. Since I couldn't prepare for Quiz, I decided to help with set up and any "grunt work" that Joel needed. About half way through the evening, Joel gathered the kids for a time of sharing the Gospel. He asked if

I'd be willing to share my testimony. Before I started, Joel asked how many of the kids had never been to Awana. To my surprise, about half of the 50 or so kids had never been to club. Wow! I had the opportunity to share with kids who may have never heard about Jesus before. What a privilege! After I shared the Gospel, I gave an opportunity for kids to trust Christ. Eleven young people trusted Christ that evening! I had the opportunity to speak with some of them later on. They were so excited about a home in Heaven and hope here on earth.

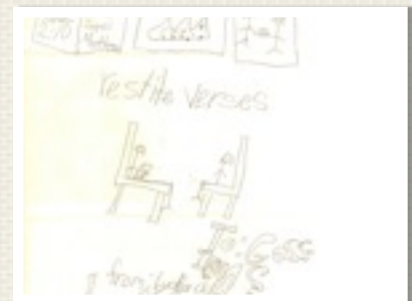
Just think, I almost missed it! Had things worked out differently, I would have been setting up chairs and hooking up buzzers instead of helping kids meet Jesus. Praise God that He was in charge of my schedule that night!

BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS LOVE FOR US IN THIS, THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US. ROMANS 5:8

NOTES FROM SPARKIES



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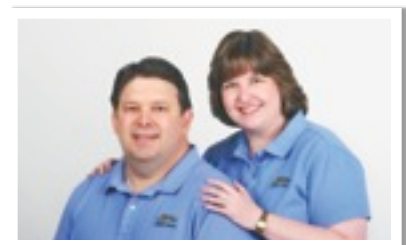
LYDIA



JOEL



SPARKY MADE A SPECIAL APPEARANCE AT THE AWANAGAMES IN EUGENE!



ED & KIM GOSSIEN
AWANA MISSIONARIES