



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“The camp fire lasted only one day but the flames from its replacement have lasted for over a century spreading around the world.”

Camp Fire

It was the last day for Emig Grove camping season. Emig Grove was a family Christian campground which attracted thousands every year. It was located three miles from my home in Mount Wolf.

The morning worship had been conducted and the breakfast had been served, when suddenly, at 7:30 AM, an alarm of fire was raised. It started at site 98 occupied by Mrs. D. G. Foose. Hot ashes from her camp stove had been scraped aside onto some paper or straw. From this small flame, the building caught on fire and within moments the fire spread to large proportions of the camp and threatened neighboring prosperities. There was much confusion and chaos as people were running for their lives and others were trying to stop the flames. It was fortunate that there were no injuries but the camp was totally destroyed. The board decided to rebuild the camp at a different location near Hanover. That was on August 7, 1896.

The new location was called Penn Grove Camp. The spiritual flames from the new camp were the strongest in the late 1940s through the 1960s. It hosted upward of 10,000 people on any given Sunday when top national gospel figures like Billy Graham and Billy Sunday were present. Many people were saved and became on fire for Christ because of the camp. Dr. Stuart Lease came to faith in Christ in 1939 at the camp. He later became the President of Lancaster Bible College where he inspired thousands to take the burning passion for Christ around the world. .

The flames of the camp spread to our home. In the early 1990's, my wife and I served for a week during three summers at the camp. I was in charge of a cabin of boys and my wife was the nurse. (People wondered if I was sick because I kept going to see the nurse.) It was there my youngest son accepted the Lord.

If you have become discouraged or experienced setbacks in your service for Christ remember this verse: “Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” Phil 1:6 “Then I said, I will not make mention of Him, nor speak any more in His name. But His word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.” Jer. 20:9



Don't let your fire go out. Through you others could be saved from the eternal fire.

*Charles L Stambaugh
Mt Wolf, PA 10/2017*



The camp that has been on fire for over 100 years.



Don't get burned up or out because Jesus is with you.

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