

DOVE TALES



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MESSAGE FROM MISSY

Hello, Hollymont friends and family!

Hopefully everyone is well and healthy and enjoying some beautiful fall weather. I don't know about you, but the days really seem to be flying by. It's hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner! Although this year has been unlike any other, we all have blessings for which to be thankful. Just like the song we sing in chapel, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning, new every morning. Great is your faithfulness." - Lamentations 3:22-23

We're BEYOND excited to see everyone at Hollymont next summer. The 2021 camp season will be here before we know it, and the reunion will be SO SWEET! I can almost hear the squeals and see all of the running, jumping into your arms hugs that will take place on each opening day.

We look forward to seeing all of our friends and to welcoming our new campers at our beautiful Rabun Gap location. Have you registered? Be sure to bring a friend and come along!

Hollymont Love,
Missy McKibbens Roper



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: A SEASON OF CHANGE

BY: EMILY LEVY, CAMP DIRECTOR



While summer may be my favorite time of the year, I love seeing the ways people choose to embrace the feelings of fall. Scrolling through social media posts, I see Autumn visions of a favorite cozy sweater, an oversized mug filled with steaming apple cider, and snapshots of leaves changing from bright green to vibrant gold. My friends start planning Halloween costumes and post weekly updates of their favorite football team's current ranking. Weekend trips to the beach are replaced with an evening around the bonfire. These yearly traditions got me thinking: While we are quick to appreciate the changing of seasons in nature, we are sometimes frightened with the changing of seasons in life. Why?

I admit, change can be difficult and can sometimes leave us feeling tired and unmotivated. In December 2019, I found myself in the middle of both spiritual and personal changes. God was clearly telling me that my time in the classroom as a 5th grade teacher was coming to a close...a lot sooner than I had originally anticipated. I was not ready for this new season to begin, and I found myself trying to cling to the season I was comfortable with. I was unfocused and started losing sight of the race I was supposed to be running. After a lot of prayer and giving complete control to the Lord, I was reminded of the fact that while change can be uncomfortable and sometimes unexpected, it's not so difficult if we learn to go through these seasons with God. God has a purpose and a season for everything under heaven and right now each of us is in one of His seasons. It's not as scary to go into a new season when we know the author and creator of our lives already has our entire journey planned out...and it's a journey that we never have to walk alone!

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9 ESV)

This verse has been on my heart and in my mind a lot lately. Paul, after receiving a report that the churches he had started in Galatia had fallen into hard times, writes a letter to the people to remind them that this season of hardship has a purpose.

The word "weary" means to be spiritless, exhausted, lose heart, despair. This verse cautions us about the fact that Christians can lose their motivation to do "good" when we feel like we are in a season that causes us to feel discouraged.

Paul tells us to never give up. No matter how long, strenuous, and painstaking the road or trials are in our lives, there is always a new season ahead, a season of new beginnings.

I was reading a devotion written by Nina Keegan* and she reminds readers that we need to be incessantly grateful and thank God continually even when our future seems unclear. We can still stay firmly planted in faith so we will never wither but always prosper and produce good fruit.

All glory comes then from daring to begin, daring to change, ushering in each new season, and forever trusting God with each unpredictable new step. Never stop believing and growing. We can never fully know what God's intentions are for us, but we can always do our absolute best with where He has placed us right now. Only then, when we have learned all there is to learn and are truly grateful in this place, this season, will God move us to a new, more bountiful, and blessed season.

*Full devotion can be found at: <https://www1.cbn.com/Devotions/a-new-season>

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV)

FAITHFUL FALL

BY: MARY MORRISON, COUNSELOR



There is no doubt we all have gone through serious change in these past several months. Not one of us expected this unprecedented time; it's quite clear that God wanted to remind us none of us are in control! We have all made sacrifices and changed our lifestyle, coming to see things in a different light and a new perspective. At the start of the spring when the quarantine began, my Peleton instructor Robin Arzon said, "We can voluntarily accept change or we can involuntarily endure it". As I was vigorously sweating during my workout on the bike, those words from Robin stuck with me. It immediately made me think of God and how we can approach accepting His plan for us. We can see it as an opportunity to live life to the fullest; accepting His plan with a childlike curiosity. Or we can suit up our armor, pretending like we are in control and fight the change God's plan entails for us. We can live a fantasy, and fight the inevitable. I think we can all admit though, this is exhausting to do. Although we all have the tendency to believe we control it all, it's quite clear we don't.

As I finished up my fall semester at Elon in 2019, I realized how unhappy I was at the school. It was not my fit, and it was hard to listen to the voice in my head telling me change was what needed to happen. I wished to suit up my armor and endure. It took some serious faith to recognize that maybe this was what God was calling me to do. I trusted in Him as I made the choice to transfer schools in the midst of the pandemic. My unhappiness drained my energy and allowed me to fully give it up to God, knowing He would not lead me astray. I took the spring of 2020 off from school since this next step of my life would require a pause from academics. I needed to focus my time and energy on the next steps of my life, and what all this change was going to mean for me. I decided to transfer to Furman, which was not easy since after a hard experience at Elon, it was natural for me to expect Furman would be just the same. I realized I had to take a step back and let God handle this transition as well. I decided to accept this next change, and had to have faith that this would be good.

All the faith and acknowledgement of God's plan did not lead me astray, I am currently at Furman loving the school to the full potential. I have joined a sorority, and found people who are my kind of people. My life has taken a turn for the better, but it took serious faith and acceptance to get to this point. I have learned that we often have to trust in God's goodness even when it feels like we should be the ones in control. We have to learn it's okay to set down that heavy armor and let God lead the way down the path that will be uniquely our own. The virus has reminded us change happens all the time, and we don't always see it coming. God throws us curveballs but with faith, we will hit the homerun.

"I decided to accept this next change, and had to have faith that this would be good."

CAMPER CORNER

BY: EMILY GARCIA



Camp Hollymont changed my life in more ways that you can count. But the biggest impact was through my friends. I made so many new friends who helped me realize so many new great things. I was taught by my friends and helped to see so many different experiences that influenced my home life. My friends have taught me to be faithful, kind, inclusive, compassionate, selfless, proud, and to have fun!! My life would be so much different today without Camp Hollymont and all the wonderful loving girls there with me.

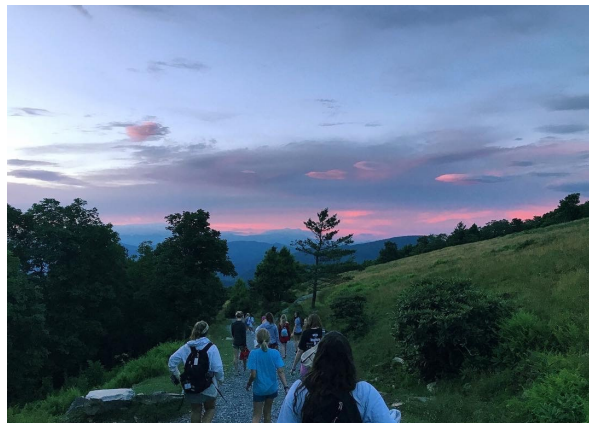
"My camp friends have taught me to be faithful, kind, inclusive, compassionate, selfless, proud, and to have fun! "

SKILLS ARE WHERE YOU HAVE FUN!

With over 20 skills to choose from, Camp Hollymont is always looking to provide opportunities for campers to try something new! This summer will be monumental as we kick off our first summer at our new home in Rabun Gap, Georgia. With our new campus comes a chance for us to provide campers with more skill choices! We are looking forward to expanding our creative arts options by offering both Ceramics and Walk 'N Talk to the skill list for 2021.



Within a dedicated studio space, campers have the opportunity to gather and learn techniques on hand-building ceramic art. A qualified arts teacher will lead campers in the creation of several ceramic pieces and campers will be able to complete their pieces with paint and the use of a kiln.



We couldn't be more excited about our new campus and the outdoor features it has to offer! The Rabun Gap grounds have several hiking trails that will allow us to incorporate another brand new skill offering: Walk 'N Talk! Walk 'N Talk will be a skill that allows groups of girls to enjoy being outside without a strict agenda...a time to enjoy and embrace the beauty of God's creation. Girls will be grouped by age and will have the opportunity to engage in conversation topics led by our counselors. This skill provides a chance for campers to get to know one another, ask questions, learn more about God's creations, and create lifelong memories!

Both of these skill offerings are open to ages 7-15!



Bring a Friend and Come Along!

CAMP HOLLYMONT 2021

KIDS NEED CAMP NOW MORE THAN EVER!

Meet our Camp Director and join us for an online gathering of camp friends, both new and returning! Learn about all we have to offer your daughter this summer!



*Interested in hosting an in-person or virtual camp show?
Please email
emily@hollymont.com to
schedule! We need YOU to
help us make this summer the
BEST!*

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD BY HOSTING A VIRTUAL CAMP SHOW!

WE CREATE AN INVITE FOR YOU TO SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS, AND THAT'S IT!



New & Returning Camp Families:

REGISTER FOR AN UPCOMING ZOOM GATHERING!

REGISTER USING THE LINK BELOW:
<https://forms.gle/TPyAPhnYCx3ptrjG7>



Who: YOU!
Date & Time: You pick!
Where: Your home!

REGISTER USING THE LINK ABOVE AND YOU WILL RECEIVE DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO JOIN THE SHOW!

