


TECUMSEH
GOD | OTHERS | ME

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Silva,

Greetings from Camp Tecumseh, where the stars shine bright, the leaves are green, and we don't mess with the best 'cause the best don't mess! We had a fantastic week that was full of incredible people and adventures, and your son Hugo was without a doubt one of the main reasons we had so much fun. His sense of humor, his willingness to make and learn from mistakes, and his kindness towards others all set the stage for him and all of us in his cabin to really enjoy camp!

The past seven days were packed with tons of fun activities for the men of the Iroquois cabin. Whether it was taking a ride on the Giant's Swing, making hobo dinners over a campfire with our friends in the Cheyenne cabin, or exploring God's creation as we hiked to Ghost Cabin, there was never a time when we weren't enjoying ourselves. The sun was out in full force this week, so we also made sure to cool off in the water every day. Sometimes this would be at the lake, jumping around on the water trampolines (lovingly dubbed "the blobs"), playing beach volleyball, or cruising out on the canoes. Other days we traveled to the pool and played water polo or did tricks off the high dives. Hugo already knew a few of his cabinmates, but I was encouraged by how intentional he was in building new friendships during these cabin times with the guys he met on Sunday.

At the beginning of the week, Hugo also chose three areas he wanted to explore and grow in (we call them clinics) throughout his time here: beach volleyball, creative writing, and pen lathing, which was his favorite. Pen

lathing can be tricky sometimes, so I was proud of Hugo when I heard that, after making a few mistakes, he continued to work hard even though he was discouraged. He told me later that he had thought about giving up, but instead took his clinic teacher's advice to use what he had learned from his mistakes to make a better pen. And he did! I hope you get to see the final product, because it's pretty impressive!

That was just one of the reasons I'm so thankful that Hugo was in the Iroquois cabin with us. He set such a cool example for his peers, both in his attitude and in the way he interacted with everyone. As I mentioned before, Hugo made sure to welcome campers who were new this year in his cabin, which helped to create a warm and inviting atmosphere for the Iroquois men. It can be easy for some who have been coming to Camp T for many years to be only focused on themselves and their experience, but Hugo's kindness demonstrated that he truly understands what it means to put others before himself. In our final devotion, Hugo shared that he wanted to grow in responsibility throughout this next year, especially in helping to care for his younger siblings. I was impressed by how specific his goal was, and if this week is any indication, God is growing him in this area already. Can't wait to see him next summer! Until then, may God bless you all with nights full of bright stars, trees full of green leaves, and a year full of wonderful adventures!

Warmly,
Brad Hough

P.S.: Hey Hugo! Just wanted to write you a quick note and let you know just how thankful I am that I got to have you in my cabin. I really enjoyed getting to know you and watching you bring the Iroquois men together! I'm so proud of you for all the ways you honored God by putting others before yourself this week. Keep it going this year, and hopefully we'll see each other again next summer!