

12:00 A.M.(Friday, June 19)—Spring Mill State Park, Mitchell, Indiana.

Hello friends, family and fans. Sorry we were not able to upload Friday night's update seeing as how we were not able to find a "wifi hot spot" to connect to the internet with. With out any further complications I bring you Fridays update.

We left you on Thursday night where we stayed the night in Georgetown, Kentucky in the local college's empty summer dorms that were very spacious and cushy compared to Wednesday nights stay in the van on the drive to Georgetown. In the dorms we had a shower, ac and power. Everybody got to sleep in there own room in the dorms. Friday morning we ate breakfast on campus in the cafeteria with at least 150 first through fifth grade boys and girls that were also visiting the college for various other camps such as football, lacrosse and CentriKid (a church camp aimed for younger children).

After we ate breakfast we briefly returned to the dorms to brush our teeth and to gather our luggage to load up because our next stop was St. Meinrad, a Catholic monastery a few miles into Illinois. The drive from Georgetown should have taken no longer than 2 and ½ hours but by taking the scenic route we arrived about 30 minutes late. We were scheduled to have a complete tour of the monastery by Brother Morris. Since we were late, another group had come in and he had mistaken the other group for us, so they got an early tour while it took the secretary a little while to figure out that they had the wrong group and contact Brother Morris. Before lunch we had a tour of the immense Cathedral. While we were touring the cathedral we had an opportunity to look at eight stain glass windows which told a story on each of how the monks portray a Christ-like life. Each of these windows portrayed a memorable monk and what they did to be memorable. When all the windows were read, a story emerged covering the Beatitudes. Since the monks pray five times a day, we were privileged to attend noon prayer. For some of us in the group it was a first for attending a catholic service, needless to say it was very different compared to what we were used to or what we had even seen before.

After noon prayer we went to lunch and since it was Friday we had fish sandwiches for lunch. When we finished eating we went to the gift shop, then we left for the Marengo Caves. On the way, there was an accident on the interstate which delayed us an hour. Ironically, we were on the same highway that caused us to be late to St. Meinrad's. Some times you just have to love life because some times all you can do is just grin and bear it. When we arrived at Marengo we had 10 minutes to change into some clothes that you could get dirty because we were going to take an hour long tour of the cave there. After we finished the tour we left for an unknown destination for the night. After around an hour of driving we wound up at Spring Mill State Park in Mitchell, Indiana. We had obviously pulled into a camp ground, but we didn't know we had any tents for the night or any food. However, the cleverness and sharp planning of Matt once more prevailed again because in the front of the trailer there were two 6 person tents and stashed away in the coolers were hot dogs and Smores for the night. To our surprise, raccoons decided to inhabit our area of the park. A few girls had left some bags of snacks on a picnic table behind one of the tents. Briefly after super, we were visited by the park's masked robin hood of rodents and vermin and the girls bags were broken into.

Over the last 24 hour time span I felt sad that the trip was going to be over and anxious to return home to my family and friends to recap the wonderful time spent with my new family and friends of this week. Besides that, waiting in traffic for an hour and only moving 5 miles was

ridiculously boring. We don't know where we are heading next but my guess is that we are going back to St. Louis. If we were not going back there, I would honestly have not even the most remote idea as to where we would be going and what we would be doing. To our dismay, Matt, Josh, nor Alissa are letting any clue slip.

Over the last week I have learned to accept the fact that some times you just have to trust God and give Him total control over your life so He can use you in His greater plan. You may not enjoy a task at hand that could last you the afternoon because at the time it may seem frustrating or just over whelming. However, the reward you get is far greater than the temporary discomfort of the afternoon.

-Jared Wisner and the rest of us on Missions Explosion

