



December 2009

IGNITING FLAMES OF HOPE

'And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the Lord, "and I will be it's glory within.' -Zechariah 2:5

Southwest Ranches

The newest Firewall Center is growing fast! We began with just two students on October 19th and now with no advertising and just word of mouth to spread the news, we are at ten and growing daily! It never ceases to amaze how teens, who have so many options available to them, want to be at Firewall every day and want all of their friends there too! Although a Firewall center certainly gives them the opportunity to have fun and socialize, the reality is that our center is very structured and the expectations we place on Firewall students academically, spiritually and socially are very high. Their desire to stay is a clear confirmation that establishing God-centered mentoring centers throughout South Florida and beyond is truly the only way to transform this generation.

The nurturing Firewall staff is many times the only thing preventing these youth from making poor choices that can destroy their future. It is a daily battle to win their minds and fill them with positive information and the tools they need to overcome challenges at school, with their friends, and in their neighborhoods. We at Firewall strive to provide the love and attention that teens need in order to empower them to reach their greatest potential. If we as Christians do not take on this task, then there are countless others with a different worldview that will be more than glad to negatively mold the minds of these young people.

Firewall Centers succeed by bringing together the combined efforts of parents, school, church, and community to mentor young lives. At our Southwest Ranches center, parents have taken a proactive role in partnering with us, willingly transporting their youth to and from our center each day. They have even managed to create their own carpooling system! They are thrilled about our program being available in their area and the aid that it is providing for their teens.



F.I.R.E.

Firewall has a well-defined set of core values that we teach and model for our students every day. Their adopting of these values is what will enable them to make better choices in their academic, spiritual, and social lives. Faith, integrity, relationship, and excellence are basic minimum standards. With this in mind, we asked a few of our students to write about how Firewall encourages them to strengthen these four areas of their lives, and here are some of the responses we received:



Faith- “Firewall has made me think of God and His ways more seriously than before I was here.” *Annalyse, 14*



Integrity- “Firewall has guided me to make right choices even when nobody is watching.” *Kathia, 13*



Relationship- “Firewall has helped me understand patience and self-control, which helps me in relationships with family and friends.” *Ashley, 17*



Excellence- “Firewall has given me all the tools that I need to be successful.” *Doraly, 15*

Servant Leader of the Month



Nicholas is a second year Firewall student. He is in the 8th grade and a truly wonderful example of a servant leader. He does all that is asked of him including his homework and more at all times, with a positive attitude. Here are his thoughts:

I believe that I am a servant leader because I am responsible at home and at school. Being at Firewall every day has affected my faith in God, others, and myself by teaching me how great God is and by showing me that he is always someone that I can trust. Being at Firewall has also taught me to do better things when people are not around, like picking up something that isn't mine, like a book left on a table. My relationships with God and my family have also improved. I have learned to respect everyone and understand that they are always there for me. Firewall has taught me to try my best at everything I do, even if I am not that good at it.”

Upcoming Events

We will soon be giving you additional information on how you can participate in one of our new Firewall center tours. These tours will give you an opportunity to meet our staff and volunteers while also providing you with valuable insight into what we do on a daily basis to impact the youth of our community.



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