

Sick Of Being Sick

The past week and a half in our house has been awful. It all came to a head last Friday when our two-year-old got sick in the car. Last weekend, when she wasn't sleeping, she was throwing up or in the words of Chandler, played by Matthew Perry on the tv show Friends, "visiting a town a little south of throwing up...". Later in the weekend, her baby brother was afflicted with the same illness, and now we had huge messes x2. Big sister Sammie got it later in the week, but luckily, the little ones started feeling better. Add in a snow day and a couple of weather delays, and our house was chaos for what seemed like forever. On top of everything, I had some sort of extreme fatigue. I was so worried about it that I even made a doctor's appointment and went in, where the doctor ran some blood tests and even gave me a neck xray since I had a strange achiness accompanying the fatigue. I guess it didn't occur to me that I could have the same virus that struck down the kids, mainly because I didn't have the same (disgusting) symptoms they had, but I did look up some stuff on the internet in an attempt to scare diagnose myself. The good news is, my xrays and blood tests came back normal (well, I'm actually still waiting on one of the tests, but it's Friday and the nurses are out to lunch and won't be back until Monday afternoon – what is that? Can I have a job like that?), but the tests that did come back show that there is nothing wrong with my thyroid or my iron levels, both of which I thought were possibilities. So that's good... I guess. If there was something wrong with my body chemically, we'd be able to fix it, and then I'd have the energy I need to keep up with my 4 little kids. Now that most things came back normal, I don't know where to start to feel better... Although I do feel much better today, but still no where near normal, and that makes me think it might be the illness my kids had after all. But it was a bizarrely lengthy version of the stomach flu, and it will take us weeks (at least!) to catch up on all the work

that didn't get done in the week and a half of illness, sigh.

My husband had to take off from some of his work so he could watch the kids while I rested, and especially with all the laundry we've had to do around here, Mt. Washmore is once again threatening to take over the second floor of our house. All this catching up, and I'm still exhausted... My husband seems to think I have sleep apnea, mostly because I snore often and loudly and I'm always needing more sleep. I forgot to bring this up to the doctor, but if I ever get ahold of her and that last test comes back normal, maybe we can go from there... I do seem to need an awful lot of sleep to function. Well, anyway, that's my story – sorry if I grossed anyone out (especially body-function-joke-hater Derek), but I thought people should know where I've been for the last two weeks. At least the kids are feeling better – it was beyond sad to see them crabby, lethargic and not able to keep anything down... Is it time for summer yet?!?

Back and caught up

Well, mostly. Anyway, I have returned and ~~apparently the site I thought would link to my HPX page never did so~~ (EDIT: there was a post there- I just missed it and so apparently did everyone else!), so there are no comments there. In the last couple of days I have caught up on much of the internet news I read, though I still have several days of newspapers to read. I really should give those up completely and just go to the paper's website for the local news, and comics.com for the comics. I was a little disappointed B.C. finally ended a few weeks ago and was replaced with a pretty bad comic about a sheep and a dog- Deflocked I believe is the title. Of course B.C. had to go since its writer passed on a few months ago. I

will meet him once I go home myself, along with other figures like C.S. Lewis and of course the many faithful in the Bible. Not for a long time though, God willing.

The cabin I had was quite young and in some cases difficult. There were two who were prone to distraction and I feel the small group time I had with them following lessons was not where it could have been. Mine was the only cabin in fact who did not even make it to the final flag raising on Saturday morning, still cleaning the cabin. We took over an hour to get ready, and even then I still had to go back and finish following breakfast. But enough of the bad. No one likes to read about that.

Every year there is something new at the camp. The first year I was there they were finishing up the lodge where we have meals and lessons. They had a big tent set up outside instead that year. The second year the lodge was finished and they had a new instructional- rock climbing. There is a small room on the bottom floor of the lodge with a rock climbing wall that extends to the roof two floors up. That replaced disc golf as an instructional. More importantly, the lodge was air conditioned, and so were the cabins! Ahh... The third year I was there they added a zip line. It is fun to go down it, but unfortunately after one got to the bottom there was a long hike around a lake to get back to the top. They also added an amphitheater for outdoor worship. This year's addition was small, but it aided the zip line immensely. A bridge over that lake. No more long hike around the lake to get back. Next year, who knows for sure, but there are plans for a baseball field and zip line improvements in the future.

The zip line was the general favorite part of camp for the kids in my cabin, but canteen time (where they could buy food and drinks, as well as have (guided) free time came in a close second. The day was quite organized and there was much to do, including lessons, worship, small group, games, instructionals, meals, etc. This could also be somewhat

stressful as getting the kids to where they needed to be in a timely fashion when they all had needs like going to the bathroom (constantly!) and changing clothes wasn't easy.

In the end it was nice to hear their thoughts on what they learned and enjoyed when handing out their dog tags at the end of the week. My team was air force, so I "promoted" them from cadets to airmen. Too bad I didn't have wings to give them, but I did use some of my stimulus check (which I will receive soon) on t-shirts for my cabin. I still have one left too. Maybe I'll take a picture of it and post it. In fact, I will have to post some of the pictures I took at camp. It should be relatively safe as I will not be identifying them, or the name of the camp (or my church for that matter ☐). Besides, too few people actually read this thing anyway. Look for those soon- I have well over 300 pictures and 90 videos to sort through to find some good ones. Well, I have some more catching up to do- like reading my friend's blogs. ☐