

Leaving a Legacy for Youth

In honour of Doug Spinney

It's been said that "Anybody can count the seeds in an apple, but only God can count the apples in a seed."

Doug and Janet Spinney visited the Moberly Lake area during a 1956 vacation. That visit gave birth to an idea, and his unwavering faith would not allow him to set the idea aside. After several meetings with local pastors, and a lot of work, a camp for boys on a rented site began in 1960. This set in order a number of events that led to what we know today as Camp Sagitawa.

- 1956 – Doug and Janet Spinney vacation in the Moberly Lake area
- 1960 – The first boys' summer camp using a rented site
- 1966 – The first girls' camp is added
- 1967 – The current property is purchased that fall
- 1971 – Merger with Rock of Ages Bible Camp
- 1978 – First full time Director hired



We believe God's blessing is upon this ministry. Camp Sagitawa is well known and respected in the community. It has grown into a year-round operation with a large emphasis on well trained staff and volunteers. Over 200 volunteers assist, and close to 900 attend each year. Many lives are touched and they come back and continue to grow.

One young boy recently said to me while wiping away tears of happiness, "You are the only reason that I am a Christian." It was a heart touching moment that I will never forget. So something I said, or the way I live had inspired this young man. But the planting of the seed began a very long time ago before this boy was born, in 1956, when a man saw a future in the lives of children and would not let it go. The Spirit of God gives the increase.

This young boy is only one of many who have made life changing decisions because of love shown them at Sagitawa. But in fact the ministry of Sagitawa continues to create more legacies in many lives: campers, families, and staff included.

We thank you, Doug Spinney, for listening to the work of God in your own heart so many years ago.

by Gary Pryzner
Director, Camp Sagitawa

