



S'more Stories

Adventures from LOMIK Camps & Retreat Centers



Grounded

Phil had been wrestling with God's call since he was 12. He didn't see ministry as a gift, it felt like a burden. He feared that if he became a pastor, people wouldn't be real with him anymore. Ministry seemed isolating, even lonely.

Still unsure what God wanted for his life, Phil was invited to a LOMIK Camp as a high schooler. On his very first night, a tornado swept through camp. No one was hurt, but the storm left significant damage, and the camp had to shut down for a week. Phil was invited to stay and help with the clean-up. That unexpected invitation turned into a summer that would change everything.

Grounded continued...

Phil returned the following year to serve on the maintenance team. It was during those long days and deeper conversations that something shifted. Camp wasn't just a place - it was a community of real, faithful people who loved Jesus and weren't afraid to show it. The staff didn't act perfect. They were honest, joyful, grounded in grace. For the first time, Phil saw ministry not as a curse, but as a calling worth embracing.

Phil had a place where faith was lived out in every moment. Camp gave him the space to listen, to serve, and to believe that ministry could be both sacred and shared. Today, Phil leads and loves others as a pastor - joyfully and wholeheartedly. And it all began with one storm and a community that showed him what real ministry looks like.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry we love and share.

