

Nature Rebels

Nature rebelled at our Living Waters Training in Malibu Canyon last week. Charred by the Woolsey Fire just months earlier, the land struggled to absorb five days of driving rain. A stream on the property became a flood as the 20 member team prepped for the arrival of 35 participants. Upon arriving late, I called Dean Greer who calmly informed me that the team had been ordered to evacuate; as he (and Wayne, bless you man!) led the caravan out through the emergency exit, mud slid from the hills and rocks crashed down around them.

On the home front, the rebellion of human nature escalated. A 'gay married' actress on television railed against 'conversion therapy' as the reason why a young black actor (also 'gay-identified') was roughed up by thugs in Chicago a few days earlier. Her theatrical charms overrode any semblance of logic and the audience blew out the studio with cheers and applause. Desert Stream Ministries was pelted by requests from various media sources to weigh in on 'conversion therapy' as I awaited Dean's next phone call.

I was struck by the insanity of demonizing any person who seeks to be reconciled to one's gendered self and become fruitful. I reread an excellent article by a doctor who pointed out how supporting another's effort to 'change' gender is nothing short of abuse, rendering the person infertile, mutilated, and severely depressed. I responded to one newscaster inquiring about the dangers of 'conversion therapy' with this paragraph:

'As 'conversion therapy' has no actual meaning except to scapegoat persons who choose to grow beyond 'gay' and 'trans' identification, we at Desert Stream Ministries advocate for any person who in light of same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria seeks to become an integrated member of his or her own gender and a good gift to the opposite gender. One should be free to secure clinical and spiritual support for these goals.'

Meanwhile, Dean and team arrived safely at a nearby church and kicked into high gear to ensure a warm welcome for the participants, including delegates from England, New Zealand, Kenya, China and Columbia. Through it all, we waited, unsure where the sixty of us might go the next day. 16 hours later we received the go-ahead to return to the conference site. Nature's whiplash was no match for heaven's intervention.

Where rebellion abounds, grace prevails for those who look to the Lamb. We followed Him more nearly due to the trials at hand. In weakness, Jesus became stronger, clearer, closer than before. We were ready for His touch. He dwelled with us throughout the week, full of grace and truth. The nations marveled as we welcomed the Creator and Redeemer as the very foundation of our selves—our freedom to offer ourselves undividedly.

'Conversion therapy'? Yes, Jesus converts us as we humble ourselves before Him and each other, awaiting His healing presence. He's the only therapist worthy of our complete surrender. At

ANDREW COMISKEY

A Christian Voice In A Changing Culture

<http://andrewcomiskey.com>

the beginning of the week, I received a picture of a sword hanging over us—the threat of weather, slander, even legal action for daring to profess that Jesus transforms lives. By the week's end I could see the sword had become a gleaming Cross, shining and spinning over us and the whole of creation. As nature rebels, God prevails.

Please take time to watch our new video and become '[Chaste Together.](#)'