

## Refiner's Fire | Jan 13



by [Rachel](#) on January 14, 2013 in [By Rachel](#), [Reading PA Updates](#)

*“So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.” – 1 Peter 1:6-7*

At 5:44 p.m. Friday night, we turned on to the dark, narrow, bumpy camp road to commence the College & Career Retreat at Camp Iroquoia for which we spent the last few months preparing. We barely had a minute to come in and say hello to the camp staff before they got the call: the chapel barn, where our worship/meetings were supposed to happen, was on fire. It was totally engulfed in flames.

But even in the face of this crisis, there was an amazing sense of peace among the staff. Everyone was counting their blessings, not bemoaning the loss. As the

campers arrived and heard the story, there seemed to be a strange sense of excitement for what God had in store for the weekend that couldn't be altered by sickness, fire or any other snares sent our way. One of our brothers reminded us that even as we go through the refining fire, God is right there with us, shielding us and protecting us just as he did with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Daniel 3.

One of the questions we wrestled with during the discussions was *"Is Christianity Worth Believing? And if so, am I living my everyday life with that conviction? Am I loving from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith?"*

While I may not have all of the answers, I can say that I have found that Christianity is worth believing because God is there with me in the trials and the triumphs, He hears my prayers and He floods me with His peace.

*"And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." – John 14:27b*





