



# Siloam's Ministry of Giving (2 Corinthians 8:6)

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## Dear Siloam friends and investors

As if we needed it, it was the Archbishop of Canterbury himself in his New Year address who suggested that we should all try to be 'more connected.' In fact, during our last year's winter Bible camp on the 'Hel' Peninsula in north Poland, the theme of the camp was 'connected.' And, it helped many young people from dysfunctional families particularly those under care of the local community who take advantage of this opportunity to hear good sound Christian teaching, and to be challenged by many physical and mental pursuits.

For most of these 46 young people, it was an opportunity to come away from the restrictions of living in a dysfunctional family where only negative influences seem to prevail. Siloam has long held the belief that if you can take a young person away from their difficult home situations for a brief time and expose them to the sound Christian teaching provided by the evangelical church we can indeed prevent a young person from embarking upon a life of crime, becoming dependant upon alcohol, tobacco or more harmful substances which are readily available to these youngsters who can be easily exploited.

Teenage girls are also especially at risk from those that would seek to damage them for their own evil pleasures so I believe Siloam has a real responsibility to help the local church with this valuable social ministry of rescuing young people from a lost eternity.

The accommodation offered at the Dolphin Lodge in Jurata is ideal as the youngsters can be accommodated in twin rooms with their own bathrooms. The resort offered a conference room, coffee shop where board games could be played and tasty and varied food enjoyed. The whole complex was warm and although there was not a lot of snow, it was extremely cold.

Because Marek and his wife Iwona have used the Dolphin Centre for a number of years now, the staff at the Dolphin Lodge were extremely co-operative and supportive in every way. The leaders of the camp could bear witness themselves as to how their own lives were changed and turned around in their teens so they were able to share their own personal experiences and individual journeys of their own faith. This had a real positive influence on the youngsters who participated and they were able to witness God's work in many of the camp leaders' lives.

During the morning quiet times, a few of the participants were able to present a short message based on a portion of scripture which they had chosen and why it was important to them in their own lives. This provided a very positive and personal message to each of the teenagers who had been invited to come and enjoy a Christian week away from their homes. ➤



Using scripture as signposts to guide the lives of young people is an important part of bringing them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



Combining physical activities and outside recreation is an important self-worth building factor and helps to gain the confidence of youngsters Siloam is hoping to win for the Kingdom of God.



Iwona (far right) pays special attention to the teenage girls in her care. Sadly, Iwona lost her own father at the end of last summer so we trust the Lord will continue to comfort her in her own personal grief.



### WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?

Accommodation	£ 2,380
Transport	£ 420
Teaching material	£ 50
Prizes	£ 50
Medical	£ 15
Entry tickets for venues	£ 50
Insurance	£ 35
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 3,000</b>

Long walks in the cold but bright fresh air, provide times for individual friendships to develop and fellowship to be enriched.

During the evenings and after another brief quiet time there were also worship meetings for the camp volunteers and about half of the young participants also took part.

After accommodation costs there were sufficient funds to take the group to visit the Sea Aquarium and the Fishing Museum as well as other places of interest.

The 46 young people also enjoyed team competitions and they held a talent show as well as a testimony night when many youngsters could share their feelings and their fears for the future. They also enjoyed a movie 'I can only imagine' which was a highlight but generally speaking the week was well spent as the youngsters entered into the spirit of the camp and learned more about becoming 'connected' with each other and also with God.

Finally, it costs just £65 to send a youngster to enjoy this Christian outreach last January which Siloam believes was a good and sound investment in a youngster's life and one which could help them to turn out to be a Christian lawyer, politician, teacher or youth worker reaching more of their peers for Christ.

Gifts of £5, £10, £20, £50, £100 make it possible for Siloam to sponsor these events in an attempt to try and reach more youngsters for the Kingdom of God. The total budget for this year's 'extra' winter camp will cost Siloam £3,000.

Yours sincerely on behalf of Iwona and Marek and the camp volunteers in Poland

Richard Norton  
Director-Siloam UK



P.S. This is just the first of our Bible camps for 2020, please invest with us in this or our future camps in July or as an alternative, please consider our eye ministry in India where Dr Dev and his team are working tirelessly to help restore the eyesight of the blind for those least able to afford treatment.



Encouraging young people to use their musical talents for praise and worship gives them an opportunity for individual expression of their love for Christ.



Playing 'silly' games also helps youngsters learn to relate to each other and builds understanding with their peers.



Serving is something we should all love to do to enrich the lives of others while at the same time benefitting from the experience that 'Martha's' spirit of service brings.

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Before Siloam's ambitious summer Bible camp programme gets underway in July 2020 – Siloam **'KICKS OFF'** with a **WINTER CAMP** for disadvantaged Polish youth on the scenic 'Hel' Peninsular.

Project: 037



Indeed 'kicking off' this January on 25th in the snow on the 'Hel' Peninsular reaching disadvantaged youth and youngsters from dysfunctional families, with the gospel.

Many of these teenage girls have been greatly affected in a positive way by the Christian teaching delivered by Pastor Marek and his team.



Our host Pastor Marek Ciak one of the most respected and leading evangelical pastors based in Goldap on the northeast border of Poland.

**THIS YEAR'S WINTER BIBLE CAMP WILL COST £3,000**



Teaching sessions took place twice a day and after lunch workshops were held to discuss how young people could identify with their emotions, control and manage anger and how to positively express one's feelings and indeed how to find new friends.



Last year 46 young people aged between 13 and 18 took part in this winter's outreach.



The north coast of Poland provides a cold but dry climate in which to enjoy long coastal walks which many of the youngsters found beneficial for their health.



The long dark nights provided opportunity for indoor activities in which art and drama could be explored.



**Siloam Christian Ministries**

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For many of the youngsters it was an opportunity to visit museums and places of culture including the Seal Aquarium where they listened to a lecture about the purpose and value of the sea station. The fishing museum was also another highlight.



During the teaching sessions participation was encouraged and the youngsters found this time personally challenging as well as learning more about the Word of God.

This winter camp is EXTRA to Siloam's ambitious summer 2020 Bible camp programme.

Poland	£ 4,000
Portugal	£ 3,000
Ukraine	£ 5,000
Bulgaria	£ 5,000
Romania	£ 4,000
Peru	£ 4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£25,000</b>

Board games always seem to be a favourite and it was noticeable that no one seemed to be distracted by the use of a mobile phone!



The facilities offered at the Dolphin Lodge Centre were ideal for young people and at this time of the year it costs less than £52 per young person to be accommodated.



Not everyone attended the worship meetings but a good 50% did and received a real spiritual uplift by taking part. We are grateful for our sponsors who last year made this camp possible in Jurata on the 'Hel' Peninsula.

Drama and acting out spiritual themes help to retain memorable lessons as well as scripture verses which can later be recalled in later life.

