

## ***A Time of Challenge, Reflection and Growth***

What use should be made of situations or events which provide the items in our title? Are such opportunities to be passed by? Certainly not! We realize the significance of each of these areas in our lives as children of God. We understand that spiritual growth will never take place unless there are challenges from God's word which are reflected upon and allowed to mold our hearts and lives.

What provides a time of **challenge, reflection, and growth** for our children in spiritual matters? Included in such a list would be: family devotions, regular attendance in Bible classes and worship, individual Bible study, etc. **What about summer camp?** What else is available that combines a week of spiritual food with an atmosphere so conducive to **challenge, reflection, and growth?** The opportunity to feast upon God's word, to grow and mature as a "unique" part of God's creation, to discover hidden talents, and to be with others who share the same interest in spiritual things. These are golden opportunities indeed. How important can summer Bible camp be? Ask the parent whose child was baptized into Christ either during or immediately following summer Bible camp. Ask the brother or sister in Christ who was first introduced to the Lord's church by a friend who took them to Bible camp. Ask the counselor who has seen children test their skills in a multitude of areas only to find hidden talents or to develop interests which have later been used to bring friends or even family members to a knowledge of the gospel of Christ.

Throughout the nation there are camp facilities directed and cared for by brethren who see the need of providing such an environment for our children. Don't let this time of **challenge, reflection, and growth** pass you by.....make use of it now!

Jim Mitchell