



## Phillip and Phoebe

*In the last issue of the Mighty Angels we left Phillip and Phoebe excitedly making plans to attend the Southern Diocese upcoming Kids Kamp . . .*

**W**hat a nice surprise! Phoebe has just learned that her mother is going to be a servant at Kids Kamp.



Before getting on the bus, Abouna Mark prayed the Lords' Prayer and wished them all a safe and spiritually **"happy"** trip. While on the bus traveling toward Kamp all the children recited Phoebe's very favorite Psalm, **The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm:**

***"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still water. He restores my soul. He leads me in the path of righteousness for His Name sake. Yeah though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff may comfort me. Thou anointed my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy may follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever."***



Phillip remembered how quickly he had learned this favorite Psalm although in the beginning it took some determination. Now in addition to the **23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm**, he realized he could recite many of the Psalms by heart. **"Hail to Mary"** and **"My Coptic**



**Church**” were among the songs the children jubilantly sang while on the bus.

When the bus arrived at Kids Kamp Phoebe saw other buses had arrived ahead of theirs. She was so excited to meet other children who attended the same church from within the Southern Diocese. She hoped she would make many new friends!

Abouna Isaac greeted all those who anxiously hopped off her bus with a great big smile, and as they respectfully kissed the cross he was holding, directed them to the meeting room where all the other children awaited!

When everyone had arrived the schedule was announced. Each camp day started with the Divine Liturgy and ended with the Midnight Praises. In between they would learn about being **happy**. Phillip and his friends soon found a basketball and begin to play basketball, but Abouna Issac requested they only do this during free time.



The first lesson had begun. The memory

verse for the Kids’ Kamp this year was ***“Happy are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.” (Luke 11:28)*** Phillip and Phoebe always read one Holy Bible chapter each night before dinner together with their family. Phoebe always thought Phillip read the Holy Bible with great joy and pride and that the words within it filled Phillip full of wisdom. She would be so



**"Happy are those who hear the  
Word of God and Keep It."  
(Luke 11:28)**



happy when she could read all the words correctly within the Holy Bible and understand it more like her older brother.

The Kids Kamp taught that the words within the Holy Bible were the Light which should guide all the children's way. What the Holy Bible taught one should obey. Following the reading of the Holy Bible one should, with



great respect, pray from your heart. With the Lord Jesus Christ in your heart, you will **be happy**.

The first morning, Phillip woke-up to a loud knocking on his door. "Deacons, wake-up, rise and shine! It's time to begin getting ready to attend the Divine Liturgy." One of the boys told the others, let's sleep just 15 more minutes, it will not matter if we are late the first day."

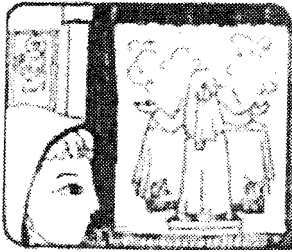
Phillip slipped out of the top bunk in the bunk bed and said "I did not come to Kids Kamp to sleep through it!" As he dressed himself everyone decided they did not want to be a minute late and perhaps tomorrow they would be at the hall for Divine Liturgy before abouna!

One of the boys, Joseph, in Phillip's room brought only blue jeans, t-shirts, and tennis shoes without any socks with him to Kamp. As he put them on, he looked around and noticed all of the other boys had on gray slacks and white shirts. "What's going on here?" Joseph asked. "Is everyone going to a wedding?" "No" Phillip said. "We always dress like this for the Divine Liturgy. I brought an extra pair of slacks and Abraam brought an extra shirt. Would





you like to wear these?” “Ok...” said Joseph.



The Divine Liturgy with all the children’s voices sounded like the praises of mighty angels thought Phoebe. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy she always tried to see if she could see the Angel of Sacrifice being dismissed. It was all such a Mystery to her.

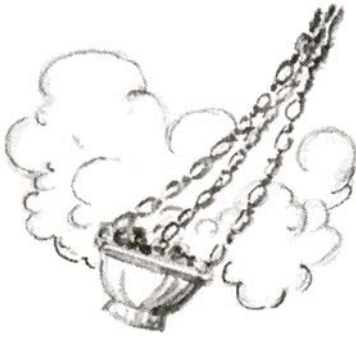
Phoebe and Phillip learned a new game at Kamp, The Coptic Saints Game. A clue was given about a particular Coptic saint and the saint picture representation was shown on a flash card and then the children had to raise their hand correctly identifying the saint within one minute. The child with the most Coptic saint cards won. It was such a fun game and the prizes were great! Sometimes during the first game a boy or two would loudly shout out the answer while another boy or girl would raise their hand with the answer. The boy or girl who followed the rules and raised his or her hand always received the card.



New Coptic songs were learned and sung each night around a big crackling bonfire. There was even horseback riding and canoeing. Many new friendships were made and promises to attend again next year were given to new friends.

Going home on the bus, Phoebe felt like camp had been a new and wonderfully unending Sunday School lesson.

Phoebe’s mother looked extremely tired on the way home as she had worked in the kitchen preparing meals for the



campers. Yet, when the bus arrived at their church Saturday evening it was just in time for Vespers. Phoebe's mother, brother, and herself entered into the church for Vespers without hesitation as the camp had spiritually benefited them so much, they did not even consider missing Vespers due to the camp and long trip.

Following Vespers, Phillip and Phoebe went straight to the car to go home and see their kitten, "Spotty." On the way home, they told their father all the details of camp, while their mother fell soundly asleep in the car...

Phoebe thought to herself the next time she saw Abouna she would ask him why they could not have Kids Kamp two times a year instead of only one....

## **The Watermelon**

*Written by Paul Ghaly  
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A watermelon is full of water which stands for baptism. The red part stands for the martyrs. The outside stands for the protection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The seeds are black, which stands for the devil trying to tempt us, but no one is stronger than God. He'll always win. Now if you know this you'll know the TRUE meaning of the Christian faith.