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## Joy Camp for Children (March)

1 message

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# Schicks to Poland

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## Joy Camp for Children (March)

April 18th



**Q1 - Why would a ministry leader schedule a children's camp on Easter weekend?** Shouldn't children be with their families? We know that leaders are dedicated, but would they also miss opportunities with their families even to witness to them? When our ministry partner and director of the camps, Henryk told us about the schedule, we thought he had gone overboard on the idea of using holiday weekends for children's camps because both the children workers were off of school and work. However, Easter weekend seemed like a bridge too far. But after further details were disclosed, we further understood that most of the children would be Ukrainian. In fact, seven of the eight teams were Ukrainian with two of them were coming directly from Ukraine. In Ukraine, Easter is celebrated on a different weekend freeing the children to come. Henryk's compassionate heart longed especially toward outreach to the poor Ukrainian children who have seen their country decimated by war. His food runs into Ukraine had made a deep connection with many of the pastors and community people in Ukraine. Some of these children were coming in connection with an after school Bible club that was

sponsored by this local church these last two years. We had unseasonably warm and dry weather for late March which allowed us two beautiful walks in the nearby forest. Some of the 8 workshops were held outdoors.

**Q2** - *How many children came to the camp and were in the workshops?* 109.

**Q3** - *How many of them were at joy camp for the first time?* 80%

**Q4** - *How many of the children were familiar with the gospel ball or wordless book?* Very few.

**Q5** - *How many of them learned all about the Gospel Ball in the five sessions of our workshop?* All of them! Plus the leaders.

**Q6** - *Why do we care so much about the leaders learning about the Gospel Ball?*  
Because the best of them ask for and receive additional materials and training so that they can use it in their local church ministries and outreach.

**Q7** - *How many children responded to the Gospel invitation on the last day of the camp?*  
Many. We are not sure how many of these were sincere decisions with sufficient understanding of crucial gospel principles. Their willingness to stand up in front showed us that they knew how important it was to be open to God's working in their spiritual lives. If their decision was sincere, their knowledge of the Gospel on the depth of their faith will increase over time. This is how Leslie grow in our faith when we were their age. This camp had some older children who were actually teenagers. Some of them asked critical questions but they were also up in front when it came time for the invitation.

**Q8** - *When is the next camp?* The last weekend in May.

**Q9** - *How can our partners in the US help this ministry?* Pray for Henryk, Ed, Leslie, the foreign missionary team (usually from Ireland), local Polish workers including the kitchen crew, local church pastors, parents and of course, the children who will be coming. If any of you would like to write a letter to them, we will read it in one of the main sessions or possibly in our workshop. We tell them that you are praying, but direct communication from you really can help them understand your ministry even when you're not physically present.

We'd like to say once again thanks to all those who have faithfully supported us financially. We have reserves that not only pay for the workshop, our stay at the camp

but also to provide an additional gift that helps with the expenses of the camp since the campers only pay 20% of the full cost (\$25 out of \$125). If you would like to contribute directly to this ministry please mark your donation for "Joy Children's Ministry."

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