Haley McManis

Faith Statement

Last year, I volunteered to help out with the annual Vacation Bible School program we have at church in the summer. I had helped out with VBS ever since I was 11, and I was never nervous about it until last year. I was nervous because it was the first time I was asked to be the leader of a group. I didn’t know how it was going to turn out, but I had faith in God and knew that he would help me along the way. A few days later, it was the first day of VBS and all of the kids had arrived. We began our day with singing and dancing to some fun songs to get everyone excited for the day. We went to many different stations throughout the day that were filled with games, crafts, and bible stories about God. The day was going pretty well, and I could tell that the kids in my group were starting to open up. They were having conversations with me and just having fun with everybody. Throughout the rest of the week, we had so much fun that I didn’t want it to end. God had given me the gift of that amazing week with all of the spectacular volunteers, kids, and activities. Seeing God’s grace through this experience strengthened my faith in Him because I saw the wonderful things that he had done for everyone who took part in VBS.

During my time at VBS, I saw God in these little twin sisters that were in my group. They made me smile when they asked to hold my hand, or when they asked if they could give me a hug. On the last day of VBS, they gave me a picture, and it was a home-made drawing of us together. I felt so blessed to have had them in my group and knew that anyone who met them would feel the same. I believe that God had shown them how to be helpful and light up the world with their kindness. He taught them to be gracious and honest just like Himself. I know that God will continue to teach me and others to follow in his footsteps and spread His good word with the rest of the world.