

Chapel-Dustin Michel July 5, 2015

Mind, Body and Spirit. Three simple words that when combined form the entirety of a human being. At camp we spend a great deal of times on our bodies, from bell push ups to meal time pull ups. from drawing bows to rowing canoes, from morning runs to instructional swim we strengthen and shape our bodies.

Spirit, this one is a bit trickier, it goes by many names, Honor, Dedication, Discipline. I have always liked to think of it a heart. something more than beat beneath your chest and a pulse under your wrist. spirit lies justly at the top of our triangle because it connects the mind and body. I could talk for hours about spirit.

Today however I would like to talk to you about the most often overlooked aspect of the three times three, your mind. I know what some of you are thinking "I have my summer reading list" No. No. stop it. School has very little in the long run to do with your mind, Remember well tests come to an end the trials that help us know ourselves are continual. they do not end and they will give you a better picture of who you are than a hundred tests.

Song 1 The weight-The band

" I often wonder if I will finish all that I have started and the answer I have found is No. No. why? because life is not about the results it is about the doing. Doing is an extremely powerful tool, It can teach us faster and more thoroughly than a dozen lectures and assigned readings.

Camp Timanous gives you the gift of doing, it allows us to learn through the glory of action and see the bliss of growth. We do not sit in classrooms, we take them with us. Lessons range from the physics behind the stored energy of a drawn bow, The result of rapidly expanding gasses in an inclosed rifled barrel, The exact angle of approach in order to overtake a rival boat before the tack. We learn by doing.

As many of you may know I teach 6th -8th grade during the winters in Minnesota. Allow me to say it for those who cannot, I'm Sorry. What am I sorry about? I am sorry because we have done you a great disservice. we have taught you that the strength of your mind is based on scantrons, SAT Vocab and grades. We have taught you that there is a right and wrong answer to everything in life and shame on you for getting it wrong. This is not how life works.

Why do I have such an intense dislike for taking tests? Because I firmly believe that if we vilify and demonize being wrong or not knowing then we will stifle the creativity that makes you, you. no one else thinks like you, know one else approaches problems like you and if we take that

originality away all we as a society will be left with is doctrine, standardized answers for standardized questions. To quote USMC General Mattis "Doctrine Gentleman, is the last bastion of the unimaginative and the tool of cowards." Meaning that it takes courage to be the first, to be willing to be wrong. Do not fear failure, embrace and learn from it. Failure gentleman is simply a lesson waiting to be revealed.

Song 2- Let it be

Finally I would like to wrap up today's chapel with some information you can take home with you.

"Never let school interfere with your education"- Ben Franklin

Did you know that the last recorded use of a catapult in war was during WWI? Did you know that the greek philosopher Pythagoras discovered the earth was round nearly 2,000 years before christopher columbus set sail for india? Did you know that remote control was invented by Nikola Tesla as a quick attempt to make some money to fund his dream of Wi Fi...in 1898?

These facts well mindblowing and random share one major trait, they were not taught to me during a lecture, I did not find them in an assigned reading or on a piece of homework. This information is the result of an inquisitive mind that has an unrelenting thirst for knowledge. Never stop learning. Never be ashamed of not knowing for it is in the admission that we know nothing that we are free to learn all that the world has to teach.

"I often wonder if I will ever finish all that I have started and the answer I have found is No. no I will never finish all that I have started, Because life is about the process and not the results, my life is a constant work in progress and I would not have it any other way."

Song 3-Wagon Wheel

Look to this Day Look to this day For it is life, the very life of life.
In its brief course lie all the verities and realities of your existence:
The bliss of growth; the glory of action; the splendor of beauty.
For yesterday is already a dream and tomorrow is only a vision.
But every today well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well therefore to this day!
Such is the salutation of the dawn!