



Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

Psalm 100:4-5

Joel & Baily Easling | October 2021

## Thank you for helping us equip leaders, to reach kids, and see the world changed for Christ.



What a joy to be a part of relational discipleship, to see and equip faithful leaders who share their faith in Jesus Christ with children and families!

Have you ever found yourself in the passing lane? In "High Gear" ... getting things done... "Moving a mile a minute" with hardly a moment to spare and ever so much to do? As I'm sure you could tell, that was us since June. Now we are finally shifting gears... taking a breath... moving back to the bike lane.

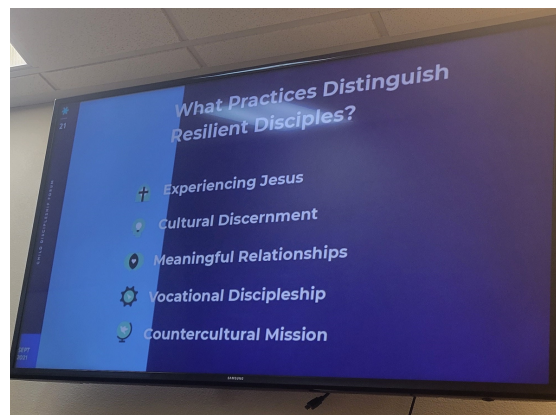
### Field Updates

We've been involved with building the Awana Basics Online (released in late July), 5 Connect meetings in August, planning and helping with Awana Ministry Conferences (Virtual and In-Person), Basic Trainings (3 New clubs starting this year), the Child Discipleship Forum and much more in between.

We've received statements from folks, thankful for a training that helps refocus hearts on the mission of God. Others have felt more prepared for this coming season and many have seen Spiritual growth in their own lives and felt more equipped with tools to reach this ever shifting culture; ready to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ and build Resilient Disciples who will love Him the rest of their lives.

### Outreach & Equipping Highlights

- Multiple clubs are seeing twice as many clubbers coming to club than last year.
- One Ministry director says they have 50% of their clubbers who are not associated with a church. What an opportunity!
- A leader was inspired to be more proactive about discipling and training a younger leader to replace her as director.
- One Highschooler feels better equipped to lead younger clubs because of the investment of her own leaders.





## Family Update

- The kiddos are troopers when they come with me for club & church visits or trainings
- We've finally been winding down from "CRAZY" season. We ALL can feel the relief
- Myla and Charlie are each enjoying school (Kindergarten & Preschool respectively)

## Praise and Prayer Requests

- Thankful for unexpected blessings (like the gift of tickets to the Monster Truck Show from friends... what a nice distraction from the busyness)
- Thankful for what God is doing in the hearts of His people as we continue to reach out to the lost.
- Pray for safe travels while visiting clubs and connecting with leaders
- Pray for increased connection with our local clubs and leaders as they serve their local communities.

## Ministry Goals

- More connections with clubs and leaders as we reach out to them to build relationships
- The growth of a movement that focuses on Radical Outreach and Resilient Child Discipleship in today's post-Christian world

# From the Awana global headquarters

For two full days, leaders from all over the world gathered together to talk about the priority of children's ministry in a post-Christian culture, and that time was filled with thought-provoking challenges, biblical truth, and vision. The children in our ministries will be the leaders in the church of 2050—grounded in the biblical discipleship they experience today. How are we helping them to learn what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in the midst of a shifting landscape of culture?

Psalms 78 gives a beautiful vision for generational discipleship through the Israelites – He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments... (NIV)

The work of Jesus only further clarifies the importance of us passing our faith on to the next generation, and that is what you are doing week after week! Carry on in the strength of a God who has sustained generations past and will continue to show His faithfulness to us and the generations to come!

Melanie Hester | Community Engagement Manager



Awana is a global nonprofit organization, fueled by the generous support of individuals, churches, and organizations as well as resource sales to accomplish our mission of equipping leaders to reach kids with the gospel and engage them in lifelong discipleship.

**Partner with us in reaching more children!**

**[awana.org/missionary/Easling](http://awana.org/missionary/Easling)**

Checks: Awana Clubs International (Write: "Easling #396" in the memo line) - 15877 Collection Center Dr. Chicago, IL 60693

