



# Paradise Post

February 2019

## “TEEN SPOTLIGHT”



The teen we are spotlighting this month is Miss Nadia Handy. Nadia just turned 16 and can hardly wait for the

months to pass to get her driver’s license! Nadia is a sophomore at Warsaw Community High School. Her parents are Philip and Nadine Handy. She has three younger siblings, Sarah, Ian, and Caleb. All of which, along with Nadia, have been participants in the Awana program here at CBC for many years. Her favorite sport is basketball, she has just finished the season with Warsaw High basketball. Her favorite school subject is Math. Nadia has a couple of hidden talents-drawing and running machines. Red is her favorite color and her favorite foods include tacos and burgers. In her spare time Nadia loves to wake surf and draw. She loves to come to Paradise Youth to learn about God and be refreshed through her busy week. 2 Cor. 1:3 -4 is her go to verse, her favorite song is Everything by Toby Mac. In the future Nadia wants to learn how to apply the Word of God to her every day life and to get a driver’s license.

## “PARADISE YOUTH MINISTRY”

Working with teens is one of the most rewarding ministries there is! Is it the easiest ministry? Absolutely Not! But the rewards are great! What are the rewards, you ask?

- The reward of answered prayers, some of which are a long time prayed before they are answered, and the answers are not always the ones that we want! I Thes. 5:17 tells us to “Pray without ceasing..” In other words don’t give up!
- The reward of my life well lived. God called me to work with youth many years ago. (Too many to tell.) When God calls you to do something, you do it! He gives the abilities and the strength to do it and do it well. I have never regretted doing what God has called me to do. “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,” Col. 3:23 In other words, Don’t Give Up!!!
- The reward of watching the struggle a teen is having come to a solution using the principles of God’s Word. Many times teens struggle and we don’t even know it, they are embarrassed to let us know that they are not perfect. As wise and older Christians God lets us see they are struggling either by their actions or their words and we have the opportunity to go to them

and ask them to share how we can help. “But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.” Heb. 5:14 Help them choose good over evil.

- The reward of watching them mature into adults who choose to follow the Lord and put His Word into practice in their everyday lives! It’s not always an easy road for them and sometimes they take a detour, but eventually the detour brings them back to where they should be. Don’t give up on them, they are a work in progress.
- The reward of LOVE! Love for each of the teens. They want to be loved and they want to love back. I have been able to give the love of Christ to them. I pray they have all felt loved even when being disciplined. I have also been the recipient of return love and this overwhelms my heart. I often get calls from teens of the past to come share life and a cup of coffee with them! What a joy and privilege!!!!
- The reward of learning from them. Teens have taught me a lot over the years. How to be humble and loving and nurturing. I learned I don’t have all the answers and the same solution does not always work in every situation. Each teen is different and has different needs, joys, sorrows, and

struggles.

- The reward of seeking answers more deeply from God’s Word. Teens make you get into God’s Word to dig out answers on not only how to help them, but also to help them find the answers they are looking for to what the Bible means, what God is teaching us in a certain passage. To help them find a biblical solution to a worldly problem. What does God want from me?

There are many, many, many more rewards! These are just a few that have touched my life. I love the teens we have in Paradise Youth and I have loved the teens who have graduated into adulthood. Has it been or is it always fun and easy? NO!!!!!!!!!! Sometimes it’s really hard, too hard! Has it always been joyful! Again, NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It is hard to watch someone walk away from what they have been taught. Is there Joy? YES!!!!!!!!!! Thousand fold JOY!! When a teen comes to know the Lord and they want to grow and learn or they get it! That God loves them and wants what is best for them, that is real joy!

From my heart-

~Karen Dubbeld-Paradise Leader

### Upcoming Events:

BABES/DUDES-6-7:30	2/10
BABES/DUDES-6-7:30	2/24
SUPER BOWL PARTY	2/3

