

Program Helps Prepare Youth for Service

Story by Carol Savage

Photos by Alex Lindsay and Kati Fischer



Discipleship Experience student Ben Lawson volunteers in the coffee shop as part of his service at Schloss Heroldeck.

Becky Lindsay came to Schloss Heroldeck, a small castle in the Austrian Alps, in 2004 for the Summer of Service (SOS) program. She was a very shy 16-year-old teen, unsure of her direction in life. While serving there, she grew dramatically in her relationship with God and became more confident in relationships with others. Becky commented, “The Lord really began to stir up my heart in my knowledge of the Scriptures as well as for the ministry at Schloss Heroldeck.” Becky currently serves at the facility as a missionary and full-time staff member.

Schloss Heroldeck, situated by the Millstatter See Lake, was purchased by CC Costa Mesa in 1989 for use as a retreat center for Christian groups. It was the home of CC Bible College Europe for several years before the college was moved to Vajta, Hungary. Calvary Chapel currently uses the castle as a conference center for related ministries as well as a home to discipleship programs for young people. One of these programs is “Discipleship Experience,” which grew out of the SOS program. Both programs have been used to prepare numerous young people to serve effectively in the body of Christ and bring the hope of Jesus to the world. Robin Turner is the director.

Robin stated, “Organizations put a lot of effort into raising up leaders. But we see that Jesus trained His disciples to serve ...

They gave Him their inadequate lives, and He used them to turn the world upside-down. That was the disciples’ experience, and it should be ours too.”

According to Alex Lindsay, coordinator of Discipleship Experience, “SOS is essentially a missions outreach opportunity with discipleship and spiritual support provided by the permanent missionary staff at the castle.” Discipleship Experience an extension of SOS, is a year round program.

Alex elaborated, “The core vision of Discipleship Experience formed around Acts 4:13. People could look at the lives of the disciples and summarize that what defined them was the time they had spent with Jesus. We want our students to have that same experience as the disciples had



Young people from different countries work in the kitchen as part of their training for service.

2,000 years ago—a time set apart to be with Jesus, to experience His teaching, to see His power in action through their lives, and for there to be a transformation that will forever define who they are in Christ.”

Schloss Heroldeck, Austria

www.schlossheroldeck.com

www.discipleshipexperience.com

castle@calvarychapel.com

Phone from US: (714) 955-4739

or (949) 734-4390



The castle looms over students as they clear the walkways of snow.