

Kids Korner

Children Harvest Seeds Of Truth, Hope Planted On The Farm

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NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — Gregory Donough sees a farm as the best place for scriptural truth to take root and yield fruit in the hearts of homeless children and adults.

Donough, a welder for Case New Holland said the Bible is replete with references to agriculture — vineyards, shepherds and sheep, good or rocky soil, sowing and reaping, and the fruit of the

Spirit....

With this in mind, for the past several years Donough has been gathering volunteers, funding, and advisors for the "Spiritual Fruit Farm."

Since June 2002, Donough and three farm family volunteers invite two inner city children to a farm for monthly visits.

At the farm, the children not only come into contact with agriculture but also meet and build

relationships with caring adults. The children play games, read, milk cows, ride horses, muck out stalls and barns, or go fishing during the weekend.

On the farm, Donough teaches object lessons in a unique way. For instance the children help with sowing and harvesting, preparing the meal in the kitchen, and tending the animals.

"The kids get to see how a healthy family functions," Donough said. This contrasts sharply with the harsh environment experienced by many homeless children.

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Even the compost heap yields object lessons. Here Donough explains how "mistakes" can become the most fertile soil for future growth.



Gary learns to ride a horse with Mary Stoltzfoos' help.



The Stoltzfoos family sits down to dinner with Spiritual Fruit Farm volunteers and students.



Jared, left, and Robert discuss becoming "fishers of men" with Donough.

When I was riding on a horse that
was with the most fun
The horse was not a horse
The way to have a horse
is not just like a horse. It needs a
brother. We had to pick the horse's
foot so no work. Not be
encouraged so we can run. We
must be free from sin so we can
run also. When you have a horse
you have to love him or her's
stool. Thank you for taking
me.
K. A. Nelson

Donough has many letters from the children who have enjoyed their weekend of learning at the farm.



Robert enjoys reeling in his first fish.



After milking a cow, students discuss principles from Hebrews 5 about growing from "milk" to "solid food" in gaining discernment.