

## We're Changing Lives

A while ago, Vivian and I were serving as houseparents while Dave and Kendra got away for the weekend. Along with houseparenting, we spent our time working in the pantry and enjoying the company of a large number of guests. A good friend, who observed us taking time from our usual administrative duties, said, with a twinkle in his eye, "So, you're babysitting, huh?"

Now, I'd already thought about that and I guess it all depends on how you look at it.

Was the time I spent putting models together with the boys only an exercise in keeping glue off the table or was I spending quality time with boys who need the attention of a Dad?

Was the time Vivian spent with the girls organizing food in the pantry only a chore that had to be done or was she teaching these young women how to manage... a household or a career?

Was the time spent in the van only "taxi service" or did we use the time to share our thoughts and faith and values with a captive audience?

Was the time spent around the dinner table just crowd control or were we teaching social skills necessary to personal interaction?

Am I just watching a bunch of kids or am I shaping and challenging young hearts and minds to follow Jesus?

I had an instant answer to my friend's teasing question. "Nope, we're not babysitting. We're changing lives."