



On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of January, 14 young women and one young man from the Catholic Parish of Napier crammed their bulging bags as well as themselves into the two waiting vehicles. These two vehicles transported us to the annual Lifeteen Summer Camp, held at Forrest Lakes, Otaki campsite. I piled myself into that cosy van, possessing the expectation that the next 5 days would be days of mindless praise and rambling teachings about God. Oh how I was wrong. To say the camp was an amazing, unforgettable experience

is a gross understatement in every sense of the word. Mass everyday became an enjoyable experience, unheard of when it comes to 200 teens, but alas it was. There were memorable moments found at every turn whether through uplifting adorations, surprise mud attacks on friends or even at free time, when laughter brought tears to your eyes. Bonds were strengthened with not only people we can now call good friends, but more importantly with God Himself. Lifeteen Summer Camp taught us about God's heart, and especially how it holds an immense love for every single one of us. In a modern world where a Christian teenager is not often surrounded by likeminded teens with similar beliefs, Lifeteen provided a young community of faith, especially for those who often felt alone as a "follower of Christ". I, myself, cannot emphasize enough what a brilliant 5 days this camp was. 10/10 would camp again, for sure! *By Bridget Kelly-Lowe, 2018*

