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to do. We found a place called Love, INC (which stands for "Love In the Name of Christ"), a ministry that works to network all the churches in Craig for community-wide service projects. The lady we talked to at Love, INC said she loved the idea of our trip but had nothing for us to do. She suggested we contact a local business that was working on a Habitat for Humanity house and might need helpers. We tried contacting the business, but it was closed.

Then one of our teenagers, Trevor, remembered that his cousins lived in the next town and suggested that we call to see if they knew of anything in their town that needed to be done. So we got in touch with Trevor's aunt, and she told us that her church was working with (get this) Habitat for Humanity to build a house for a young family. So we drove 15 minutes to the next town and got the address for the house. When we pulled up, some of our group went inside to find the person in charge. He said that the group that was supposed to show up that morning hadn't, so he was just packing his stuff up. But if we were willing to work, he explained, he had things for us to do. Amazing!

As we worked on the house, the leader asked me where we were staying for the night. We told him "nowhere," so he called his church in Steamboat Springs (only 20

minutes away) to ask permission for us to stay there. That night we enjoyed our sixth free night of lodging and showers out of seven nights.

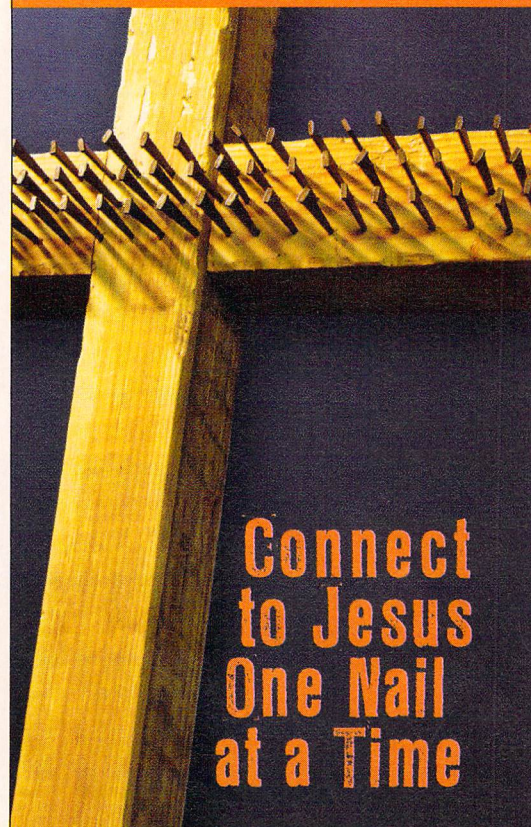
Saturday morning we drove home to Denver. After we pulled into the church parking lot, but before we unloaded the van and trailer, we gathered inside the church for a short time of worship, thanking God for the way he'd provided for us and moved through us to meet needs throughout the week. And we prayed that the things we had done that week would bring lasting impact—that our "neverending mission" mind-set would spill into our everyday lives as we listened and responded to the Spirit.

We realized that every single thing we'd done on the road could've been done right in our own neighborhoods, at our schools, and in our church. In our debriefing we quickly understood that it hadn't mattered what direction we'd headed each time we decided to go somewhere—wherever we went, God had already gone before us. It truly was an amazing week. I think our teenagers got a real sense of God's provision in their lives, what it means to have their eyes open to others' needs, and how to follow the Spirit's guiding in their lives. ●

*Josh is a longtime youth pastor in Colorado.*

**EXTRAS** 

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