

Las Vegas Family Church Shine City Project at Lake Mead Report

Ken Doo
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On April 3, 2021, Shine City Project returned for a service project at Lake Mead! However, this time, our volunteers had the opportunity to ride a boat as well! Located on the Colorado River, Lake Mead is a man-made reservoir that formed after the completion of the Hoover Dam in 1935. Being in an area that receives only several inches of rain each year, Lake Mead has an important role of supplying water to those living in the Mojave Desert. Not only does Lake Mead provide drinking water and irrigation for land, Lake Mead is also a perfect place for recreational activities including fishing, swimming, water skiing, and boating!

On this Saturday morning, our Shine City Project volunteers made our way to the Las Vegas Boat Harbor at Lake Mead where we met Liz and Bob! Liz and Bob are a married couple of 41 years who are staff members for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. This extraordinary couple would be our guides for the day! For this service project, our group was tasked with cleaning up litter from Hideaway Cove. In order to access the cove, we would need to travel about 45 minutes by boat. After putting on our life vests and receiving safety guidance from Liz and Bob, our boat took off from the marina to the cove!

To help with the cleanup, we had five volunteers representing Shine City Project. After arriving at Hideaway Cove, our volunteers equipped ourselves with tools, and we continued our journey afoot. Walking along the shore, at first it was difficult to locate any litter, but later on, we were able to find an assortment of items including bottles and cans, as well as a variety of balls. At the end, the biggest item that we retrieved was the frame of a leftover pop-up tent! It was massive and unwieldy, but with teamwork, we were able to put it on the boat along with all the things that we collected!



With the cleanup completed, all that was left to do was to return back to the marina and throw away all of our collected items. But not before taking a quick break at the floating restroom, as well as visiting the Hoover Dam! Overall, being out on the lake was a precious opportunity for all our volunteers. Though normally it would be nice just to be alongside the water whenever we volunteer at Lake Mead, it was a different experience being out on the lake. It was cool and refreshing being on the boat while it was moving, and it was calming and peaceful watching the scenery going by. One of the highlights of the service project was being able to work with Liz and Bob and seeing them work together. It was inspiring that they could enjoy doing something together while helping out at Lake Mead. We appreciate Liz and Bob for taking care of our group, and we hope to see them again one day!

