

**Jo Blaine**

Camp Director
Strong Tower Ranch

I've always had a calling in my heart to work with children. When I was 17, I started working at a faith-based children's camp called Falcon Camps, where social services would place children in our residential summer camp. During my five years co-leading these camps, I saw children come to Christ and lives forever changed. This was the beginning of my journey in ministry.

I attended the University of Exeter where I received a Masters Degree in Education. Upon graduation from university I went on a short-term mission trip to Romania which is where much of my life's journey began. It was on that trip that I met my future son, Alex. He was 18 months old, and I knew that he was why God had placed me in Romania. It took me almost eight years to adopt Alex, and it was one of the hardest and most amazing experiences of my life. But to see God's hand over us and in the whole process was a truly faith-deepening experience.

During my eight years in Romania I was privileged to work with several non-profit organizations, where my heart for ministry really grew. During a trip to the States in 2013, I met my husband, and after the birth of our second child, I felt God stir in me the desire to be back in ministry. After hearing a presentation about Strong Tower Ranch, I knew that God had a place for me here, and I joined the team. It has been a blessing to me and my whole family to be part of this ministry, and to walk our journey alongside others with such a heart and hunger for the Lord.

Jeremy and I have been married for six years and have four children: Alex, Tessa, Charlotte, and Hunter. I am excited to see what the Lord has in store for Strong Tower Ranch and for us as I serve as Camp Director.