



Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide

James C. Hopp

ROYAL RANGERS
Men's Ministries
Assemblies of God

GOSPEL PUBLISHING HOUSE
Springfield, Missouri

02-1052 *With Binder*
02-1049 *Without Binder*



Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide

©1993 by Gospel Publishing House,
Springfield, Missouri 65802-1894.

All rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted
in any form or by any means—electronic,
mechanical, photocopy, recording,
or otherwise—without prior written permission
of the copyright owner, except brief quotations
used in connection with reviews
in magazines or newspapers.

Printed in the United States of America

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments.....	3
Preface.....	4
Introduction.....	4
MEETING THEME	
UNIT 1: NATURE STUDY— BIRDS	
Christian Character Trait: LOVING	
1. What Is a Bird?.....	7
2. Some Strange Things Birds Do.....	11
3. Do You Eat Like a Bird?	15
4. Blackbirds and Other Feathered Friends.....	19
5. Our Backyard Friends.....	23
UNIT 2: PHYSICAL FITNESS	
Christian Character Trait: OBEDIENT	
6. A Day on the Farm.....	29
7. How Our Muscles Work.....	33
8. Strength, Endurance, Flexibility, and Sore Spots	37
9. Our Lungs.....	41
10. Our Heart and Pulse.....	45
UNIT 3: CIVIC PRIDE	
Christian Character Trait: COURTEOUS	
11. Keep America Beautiful.....	51
12. Trash, Trash Everywhere.....	55
13. Why Recycle?	59
UNIT 4: THE RODEO	
Christian Character Trait: LOYAL	
14. Roundups in the Old West	65
15. The Rodeo Events.....	69
16. More Rodeo Events	73
17. The Rodeo Clown	77
UNIT 5: FIRST AID	
Christian Character Trait: ALERT	
18. Our First Night on the Trail.....	83
19. A Day on the Cattle Drive	87
20. The Slithering Surprise.....	91
21. The Long Trail.....	95
22. The End of the Cattle Drive.....	99
UNIT 6: HEALTH OF OUR BODIES	
Christian Character Trait: CLEAN	
23. Taking Care of Your Body.....	105
24. Learning More About Raw Materials (Minerals and Fiber)	109
25. Two Things Your Body Is Made of (Water and Fat)	113
26. More About Vitamins	117
27. Exercise Your Mind	121

UNIT 7: AMERICAN INDIANS

Christian Character Trait: **SPIRITUAL** (Bible Reading and Witnessing)

28. Indian Homes	127
29. Indian Wars.....	131
30. Indian Tools and Weapons.....	135
31. Indian Arts and Crafts.....	139
32. Indian Religion	143

UNIT 8: NATURE STUDY—INSECTS

Christian Character Trait: **HONEST**

33. What Are Insects?	149
34. The Mystery Insect.....	153
35. Where Do Insects Go in the Winter?	157
36. Some Strange Things Insects Do.....	161
37. Ant Farmers.....	165

UNIT 9: COURAGEOUS MISSIONARY

Christian Character Trait: **COURAGEOUS**

38. Dr. Livingstone and the Dark Continent	171
39. The Mysteries of Africa	175
40. The Dangers of Africa	179
41. The Bakwena and Chief Bubi.....	183

UNIT 10: MOVED BY A MISSION

Christian Character Trait: **AN OVERCOMER**

42. The Evils of Slavery	189
43. How Dr. Livingstone Freed the Slaves	193
44. A Savage Attack.....	197
45. Chief Sekomi and Chief Sechele.....	201

UNIT 11: MUSIC FESTIVAL

Christian Character Trait: **SPIRITUAL** (Praying)

46. What Makes Up Music?	207
47. Music Festivals	211
48. Indian Celebrations	215
49. Victory Celebration.....	219

UNIT 12: SPECIAL DAYS

Christian Character Trait: **THANKFUL**

50. Independence Day	225
51. Thanksgiving Day	229
52. Valentine's Day.....	233

Bibliography237

Buckaroo Advancement Award Handouts....237

Acknowledgments

Some of the games for the recreation section are from *The Royal Rangers Leaders Manual* (Springfield, Mo.: Gospel Publishing House, 1993).

Some stories in the devotions and Bible heritage sections are from *Keys for Kids*, copyrighted by Children's Bible Hour. Used by permission. *Keys for Kids*, daily devotionals for children are available without charge from

Children's Bible Hour, P.O. Box 1
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49501

Lesson 1: Vol. 5 No. 3 (May 12)
Lesson 2: Vol. 1 No. 3 (May 9)
Lesson 3: Vol. 5 No. 2 (April 17)
Lesson 4: Vol. 1 No. 3 (May 29)
Lesson 5: Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 12)
Lesson 6: Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 10)
Lesson 7: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 12)
Lesson 8: Vol. 1 No. 3 (June 26)
Lesson 9: Vol. 1 No. 4 (August 29)
Lesson 10: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 22)
Lesson 11: Vol. 2 No. 1 (February 27)
Lesson 12: Vol. 2 No. 1 (January 7)
Lesson 13: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 7)
Lesson 15: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 1)
Lesson 20: Vol. 5 No. 6 (December 6)
Lesson 22: Vol. 5 No. 6 (December 16)
Lesson 23: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 16)
Lesson 24: Vol. 1 No. 3 (May 7)
Lesson 25: Vol. 5 No. 1 (January 14)
Lesson 26: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 17)
Lesson 27: Vol. 5 No. 3 (May 3)
Lesson 28: Vol. 5 No. 6 (December 9)
Lesson 29: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 18)
Lesson 30: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 26)
Lesson 31: Vol. 5 No. 1 (January 25)
Lesson 32: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 3)
Lesson 33: Vol. 5 No. 1 (February 9)
Lesson 34: Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 4)
Lesson 35: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 10)
Lesson 36: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 24)
Lesson 37: Vol. 5 No. 1 (January 21)
Lesson 38: Vol. 5 No. 1 (January 31)
Lesson 39: Vol. 1 No. 3 (May 20)
Lesson 40: Vol. 5 No. 3 (May 23)
Lesson 41: Vol. 1 No. 4 (August 28)
Lesson 42: Vol. 1 No. 5 (September 19)
Lesson 43: Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 8)
Lesson 44: Vol. 5 No. 3 (May 5)
Lesson 45: Vol. 5 No. 1 (January 8)
Lesson 46: Vol. 2 No. 1 (January 31)
Lesson 47: Vol. 2 No. 1 (January 25)
Lesson 48: Vol. 2 No. 1 (February 11)
Lesson 49: Vol. 1 No. 5 (October 1)
Lesson 50: Vol. 1 No. 4 (July 4)
Lesson 51: Vol. 5 No. 6 (November 26)
Lesson 52: Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 17)

Preface

A meeting plans resource for Buckaroos leaders has been an urgent need. All other age-groups in the Royal Rangers program have a variety of material to choose from, but the Buckaroos commander must either develop every section of the meeting himself or use material that is not suitable for this age-group. Few Buckaroos commanders have the time to research and create each part of their meeting every week. The *Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide* is designed to fill this void, giving the Buckaroos commander age-appropriate activities for each part of the weekly meeting for a full year.

The theme for the *Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide* is "Power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12, KJV). It was inspired by the 1990 North Carolina District Field Day for Buckaroos and Straight Arrows, which had the same theme. Boys came forward not only for salvation but also to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Only God knows the impact this has had on their lives and the eternal results it will produce. Don't ever think a Buckaroo boy is too young to have a real experience with Jesus or to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

This book was motivated by the Holy Spirit. I did not have the talents, abilities, or desire to do this work, but God provided what I needed to complete the task He called me to do. I am thankful for the grace of God

that pardons, forgives, and covers my sins, and for Jesus who is able "to present [me and] you holy in his sight, without blemish" (Colossians 1:22).

After teaching my first Buckaroos-Straight Arrow Leadership Training Course, several students asked me, "Why don't you write a Buckaroos leaders guide?" I could not get this out of my mind. The next Sunday our pastor preached the message, "Just do it!" He said, "It's time to stop talking about it and just do it!" The Lord made this real to me, and I resolved to do something about what He had spoken to my heart. That was September 1990, and this *Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide* is the result of that calling.

This material has had an impact on my Buckaroos group meetings. I have been a commander for 10 years and have had some great meetings and some not-so-great meetings. Since I started writing the *Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide*, my meetings have changed. There is an awesome presence of the Holy Spirit. The boys sit still every week and listen to what I have to say. They participate and are making strong commitments to live for Jesus. Only the power of God can make this happen. I tremble in His presence.

James Carl Hopp
A BONDSERVANT OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Introduction

The *Buckaroos Leaders Planning Guide* will give you, the ranch boss, time to "do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15), since you won't be using as much time creating activities each week.

The lessons in this guide are written in such detail that you could literally read them to the boys and have an effective meeting. However, resist the temptation to go to the meeting with just a once-over reading of the lesson.

Spend time in preparation before the meeting, using this guide as one of many tools. Check out books from the library on the theme for the unit. Read and study them so you are knowledgeable on the subject. Read the Bible and devotions sections carefully. Look up

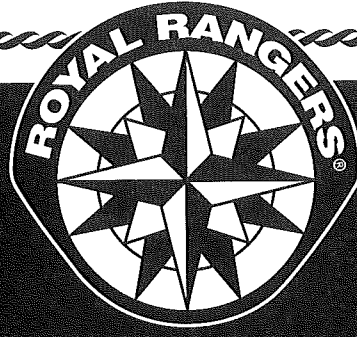
any Bible words the boys may not understand, using Bible handbooks and Bible dictionaries. Then if the boys have any questions, you will be prepared.

Make the craft project ahead of time so you know exactly how to instruct the boys in making it. You can also show what their finished product will look like.

Don't forget to prepare with prayer. Prepare your own heart, and intercede for the boys in your outfit. Remember that you prepare and present the lesson, and God stirs and motivates the heart.

Note that three lessons for special days are combined in one unit at the end. You may insert them in your weekly meetings on the appropriate days if you wish.

May God richly bless and keep you and anoint all that you do for Him.



UNIT ONE

**Nature
Study
BIRDS**

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 1 THEME:

Nature Study—Birds

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loving

LESSON 1:

What Is a Bird?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God loves us more than birds

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT IS A BIRD?

QUESTIONS:

1. What are birds?
2. Name different kinds of birds.
3. What color are birds?
4. How many birds are there in the world?
5. What kind of feet do ducks have?
6. How many toes do most birds have?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

GOD CARES FOR US

TEXT: Luke 12:6,7

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The soul that sins is the one who will die"
(Ezekiel 18:20, NIV).

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PINECONE BIRD FEEDERS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

SIMON SAYS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE ALARM

TEXT: Romans 13:7-14

Western Heritage Time

WHAT IS A BIRD?

This unit of study is about birds. Do you know what a bird is? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) A bird is an animal that has feathers, lays eggs, and has wings. Most birds can fly. There are songbirds, tropical birds, night birds, land birds, birds of prey, water birds, wading birds with long legs, diving birds, small birds, large birds, and climbing birds. Birds come in all colors. There are red birds, blue birds, green birds, yellow birds, black birds, and multicolored birds. There are so many different kinds of birds that it would take years for us to study and learn about them.

There are more birds than there are people. In the United States alone, there are almost 6 billion birds. That is more than 50 birds for each person. With that many birds we should have no problem spotting them. Have you taken the time to look at some of the different birds that live around your home? Have you ever gone to a lake to feed the ducks or geese? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Today we are going to make a bird feeder that you can take home with you. Next week you will have a chance to tell about some of the birds you saw and the different things they did.

Some common birds to look for are the sparrow, blackbird, robin, red cardinal, redheaded woodpecker, blue jay, and the mourning dove. If you get a chance to go to a park or lake, you may see pigeons, ducks, geese, or swans. Be sure to look closely at the birds you see this week so you can tell us what they were like and what they did.

Try to remember the size, shape, and color of the birds you see. Take a close look at the kinds of bills or beaks they have. The beak shape will tell you about the kind of food the birds eat. Look at their feet. Most of the birds you will see have four toes. Three toes point forward and one points backward. The backward toe is about the same length as the middle forward toe. These birds are known as perching birds because they can lock their toes around a tree branch. Chickens are perching birds, having three toes pointing forward and one short toe pointing backward.

Birds like the woodpecker are climbing birds. They also have four toes, but only two of the toes point forward. The other two toes point backward. Climbing birds also have stiff tails that they use to push against the tree to keep from falling.

Ducks and geese are waterbirds. They also have four toes. Three toes point forward and one short toe points backward. Waterbirds have webbed feet. This means their three forward toes are connected by a membrane, or thin skin. They use their webbed feet for swimming.

The ostrich is the largest living bird today, but it has only two strong toes on each foot. One toe is longer than the other and has a large claw. The Australian emu is the second largest bird. It has three strong toes on each foot.

Eagles, hawks, owls, and other birds of prey have long sharp claws, or talons, on their toes. These claws are very strong. They are used to capture the small

animals or fish that birds eat. These birds also have strong sharp beaks that are used to tear apart their food.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

GOD CARES FOR US

TEXT: Luke 12:6,7

There are so many different types and kinds of birds it would take us years to learn about them all. There are many more birds than humans. Most of the time when a bird dies no one even cares, especially if it is a common bird like a sparrow.

Sometimes people do care about a bird though. Once a family found a baby sparrow that had fallen out of its nest. It had almost been killed by their cat. The family nursed the sparrow and fed it until it could take care of itself. One day they set it free. It was so tame it would come back and eat out of their hands. A short time after the bird was freed, it was gone for several weeks. Then one day the sparrow came and ate out of their hands again. The family decided to paint one of its feet so they could tell their sparrow from the other birds. A few days later the sparrow was found dead in the backyard. It had been killed by the cat. The family had a funeral for it and made a small pile of rocks as a grave marker. The family cared about that sparrow.

That family is an exception though. When most birds die, no one even knows or cares—except God. God knows about everything He has made. He knows every time a little bird is hurt or killed. In the Bible, Jesus gave an example of how much God cares for us. He said if God does not forget about the little sparrows that were sold for food (like chickens are today), then God will not forget about us. We are worth more than many sparrows.

“Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows” (Luke 12:6,7).

In fact, God cares so much for us that He sent His Son Jesus to take the punishment for our sin, the wrong things we have done and the good we have left undone. God is holy and nothing sinful can be in His presence. Wrongdoing keeps us from God’s presence. The Bible says, “The soul that sinneth, it shall die,” (Ezekiel 18:20). This Scripture verse is not talking about the death of our physical bodies. It says the soul that sins will die. Our soul is that part of us that will live forever. When the Bible talks about the soul dying, it means the soul will be kept from God’s presence forever. God cares about each of us. He doesn’t want any soul to die. He loves us and wants us to be with Him. That is why He sent His Son Jesus to take the punishment for our sin. Now all we have to do is be sorry for the wrong things we’ve done, and the good things we’ve not done, and ask Jesus to forgive us. We can have eternal life because of His forgiveness. It is a gift. We cannot earn eternal life. Accepting Jesus’ gift makes us holy in God’s presence. Jesus did for us what we could not do for

ourselves: forgives our sin and makes us clean enough to be with God.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you asked Jesus to forgive the wrong things you have done and be your Savior? If not, you can come into God's presence today. Don't let sin keep you from God's presence. Tell God if you have done wrong things and overlooked doing good things and ask Him to forgive you. He will make your heart clean.

CRAFT

PINECONE BIRD FEEDERS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 pinecone (or netting, 4-inch square)
- 1 plastic knife
- 1 large piece of waxed paper
- 1 piece of string 2 feet long

Shared items: Scissors, peanut butter, birdseed, large pan to put birdseed in

DIRECTIONS:

1. Let the boys go outside and collect one pinecone and return to the room. Or give each one a 4-inch square of netting.
2. Help the boys tie the string onto the top of the pinecone. Or put birdseed in the center of the netting. Close the corners over it and tie securely.
3. Instruct the boys to keep their netting or pinecone on the waxed paper during the next step.
4. Have them cover the entire pinecone or the netting with peanut butter.
5. Have the boys roll the pinecones or birdseed packets smeared with peanut butter in the birdseed until it is totally covered by birdseed.
6. Have each boy wrap his pinecone with waxed paper to protect his clothes and the car while carrying it home.
7. Instruct the boys to tie the pinecone or birdseed-packet string to a tree limb or hang the pinecone outside a window and watch as the birds come to eat. If they don't have a place to feed birds, encourage them to give their bird feeders to someone who does. It would be a special gift.

RECREATION

SIMON SAYS

"It" stands in front of and facing the group. He gives directions as he does something by saying, "Simon says to. . ." Sporadically he gives directions without saying "Simon says." The children who obey the directions when "It" does not first say "Simon says" must sit down.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE ALARM

TEXT: Romans 13:7-14

For the second time, Greg fumbled for the snooze button on the alarm clock. As soon as the ringing stopped, he burrowed deeper into his blanket. It seemed to be only a minute later when the jangling sound of the alarm again roused him. Once more he hit the snooze button and nestled back in his bed. Before the alarm could sound again, Mother was at his door. "Get up at once, Greg!" she ordered. "You'll have to hurry or you'll miss your bus."

"Oh!" Greg sat up quickly, then stumbled from his bed. "I'll hurry."

Greg was ready for school just in time to catch the bus.

"My alarm didn't go off this morning," Greg complained at the dinner table that evening. "I almost missed my bus."

Mother laughed. "It went off all right. I heard it. But you just kept hitting the snooze button and going back to sleep. I finally called you myself."

"You sound like some Christians I know," Dad said. Greg looked puzzled.

Dad grinned. Then he reached for his Bible. "Let's read tonight from Romans, chapter 13. It tells us that Christians need to 'wake up.' Why don't you read for us, Greg?"

"The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light" (NIV).

When Greg finished reading, Dad nodded. "In a way, God is sounding an 'alarm' here," he said. "God says we'd better wake up and live as we should because our time here is getting shorter and shorter. Sometimes other things seem more important than obeying God. Maybe we'd rather be playing all the time than learning how God wants us to live. We'd rather be doing what we want instead of doing what's right. In a way we get sleepy about being a Christian. We need to stay awake and do what's right."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you become sleepy in your Christian life? God's Word says we need to wake up and pay attention to doing what He wants. Do you go about each day pleasing yourself instead of obeying God? Be a wide-awake Christian by doing what the Bible says. Time is passing quickly. Wake up! Start pleasing the Lord! Ask Him to help you obey each of His commands.

The Bible tells us some of God's commands. We should

- respect our parents
- pay back what we borrow
- love others
- not hurt others

(Pray with the boys, asking God to help them pay attention and notice situations when they could obey God. Pray that they will want to obey God because He loves them so much.)

TODAY'S KEY: Wake up and live for God.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 1 THEME:

Nature Study—Birds

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loving

LESSON 2:

Some Strange Things Birds Do

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God loves us so much
He gave His only Son for us

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

SOME STRANGE THINGS BIRDS DO

QUESTIONS:

1. How do birds weave?
2. How does the tailorbird make its nest?
3. Why is the cowbird called a lazy bird?
4. Which bird is a bully?
5. What does a frigate bird look like?
6. What is the tiniest bird in the world?
7. How does a hummingbird drink nectar from a flower?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE LOVE OF GOD

TEXT: John 15:12-14

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you” (John 15:12, NIV).

“This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

WOVEN PLACEMAT

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HOLD AND PASS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

NOT GREEK TO GOD

TEXT: John 3:10-21

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

SOME STRANGE THINGS BIRDS DO

We have learned that a bird is an animal that has feathers, lays eggs, and has wings. How many of you got a chance to look at some birds this past week? Who would like to tell something about the birds you saw? (*Give the boys a chance to respond.*) Today we are going to learn about some strange things birds do.

Did you know that birds can weave? Most birds weave a nest for their young. They weave with only their beaks. Have you ever tried to weave something? If you have, you know how difficult it can be. Birds don't give up though. They keep weaving one stick at a time until they have built a strong nest.

Weaving is not the only way birds build their nests. The swallow makes its nest from mud that is held together with small sticks or twigs. The tailorbird makes its nest between two leaves. It sews the leaves together with silk or cobwebs and then fills the inside with straw and grass. It is hard for us to sew, using a needle and thread; imagine what a time the tailorbird has sewing with only its beak. How do you think it ties a knot in the end of the cobweb?

The cowbird is a lazy bird. It does not like to take care of its young. When it's time for the cowbird to lay eggs, it looks for the nest of another bird, such as the yellow warbler. It lays one egg in the warbler's nest. The cowbird's egg is a little larger and a slightly different color than the warbler's eggs, but the warbler doesn't seem to notice. The warbler usually sits on all the eggs. It raises the young cowbird after it hatches. Meanwhile, the cowbird lays another egg in another bird's nest. The cowbird is just too lazy to sit on its own eggs and raise the young birds.

The frigate bird is a bully. It waits for some other bird to catch a fish and then bullies it into giving up the fish. Because the frigate bird is so mean, it is sometimes called a "man-of-war bird." The frigate bird is black and has a long hooked beak. Its body is about 3 to 3½ feet long. (Measure a boy's height for comparison.) It has a wingspan of up to 10 feet. During the mating season, the male frigate bird is easy to spot because it has a large red pouch under its chin. This looks like a big bright-red balloon. Although the frigate bird is the fastest flying sea bird, it seldom lands on the ground. This is because it has such a hard time taking off again. Instead, it roosts high up in a tree or on a cliff so it can just drop off and begin to fly.

Hummingbirds are the smallest birds in the world. They do not walk or hop like other birds because their feet are too small. When a hummingbird wants to go somewhere, it must fly. These amazing birds can hover in one place, just like a helicopter, by beating their wings very fast. They can also fly backward as well as forward. When a hummingbird wants to drink nectar from a flower, it uses its wings to hover or dart forward or backward, pushing its long slender beak into the flower. A hummingbird takes a long time to build its nest. It flies all the time the nest is being built. The finished nest is so small it would fit inside half of a chicken's egg. The hummingbirds' eggs are about the size of a grain of rice.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE LOVE OF GOD

TEXT: John 15:12-14

When we think about the different kinds of birds God has made and the different things they do, it makes us realize how wonderful God is. Just think, God knows about all the birds He has made. Nothing happens to them without His knowing it. But we learned that we are more valuable to God than many birds. Jesus loves us so much that He took the punishment for our sins. God's Word says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Before Jesus came to earth as a baby, He was in heaven with God. He was equal in power with God. He was spirit, just as God is spirit. Jesus has always existed. He has no beginning and no end. He always was and always will be. But Jesus agreed to come to earth as a baby and take on a human body. He lived as a boy, then as a man, without sinning. Because He did not sin, only He, among all men, was able to take the punishment of death for all sins. Only He can forgive sins. The Bible says, "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NIV).

I'm glad Jesus said yes to God and died so our sins can be forgiven. Because of the love of God's Son Jesus, we can have forgiveness for our sins. That is why Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13, NIV). We know Jesus really loves us because He left His home in heaven with God the Father and came to earth to give His life for us. There is no greater love than this. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Once we believe in God and our sins have been forgiven, we must then obey His commandments. Jesus said, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:14). Obeying the commandments in God's Word, the Bible, is very important for us as Christians. Anytime we fail to keep God's commandments, we sin. Our sins keep us out of God's presence. Sin can keep us from going to heaven.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

After our sins have been forgiven, we may do wrong again, we may fail to do right. When we do, we should be sorry. We should tell God we're sorry for our failure. When we ask Him to forgive us, He will. If you need to ask forgiveness, I want you to raise your hand so I can pray with you. (*Pause for response. Pray with each boy who responds. Assure him that God forgives us when we are sorry for our sin.*) Now that you know how much God loves you and that Jesus gave His life for your sins, I pray that you will ask for His forgiveness whenever you sin. Love Him with all your heart and decide to keep His commandments so you can someday go to heaven.

CRAFT

WOVEN PLACEMAT

MATERIALS NEEDED

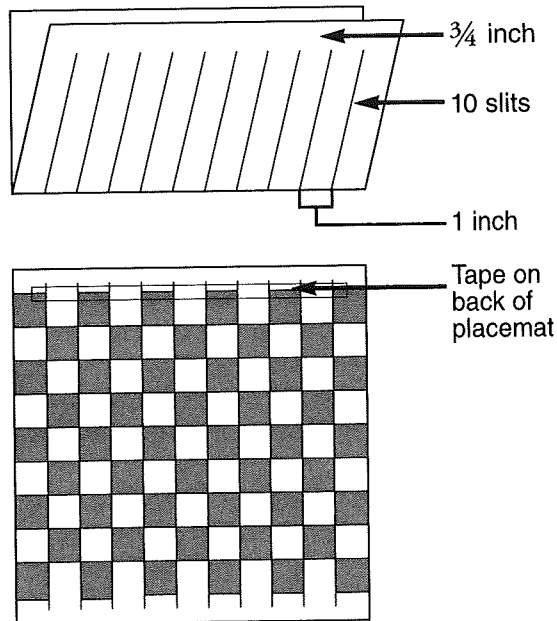
For each boy:

1 sheet of construction paper with slits cut in it

8 strips of construction paper ($\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 10 inches)

8 strips of construction paper ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch by 10 inches)

Shared items: paper clips



DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Prepare a base sheet of construction paper for each boy as follows—Starting and ending $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the top and bottom of the paper, cut 10 slits 1 inch apart and 1 inch from each side. It may be easier to fold the sheet lengthwise, mark it, then cut from the fold to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the edge. Using different colors, cut $\frac{3}{4}$ -by-10-inch and $\frac{1}{4}$ -by-10-inch strips. Prepare 8 of each size strip for each boy.

1. Have the boys weave the $\frac{3}{4}$ -by-10-inch strips through the slits in the base construction paper. Alternate every other strip.
2. Have the boys use a paper clip as a simulated bird's beak to push the $\frac{1}{4}$ -by-10-inch strips on top of the $\frac{3}{4}$ -by-10-inch strips. Weave both strips the same direction. Be sure to use a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch strip of a different color from the $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch strip. The $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch strip can be the same color as the base if desired.
3. When the strips are woven and in place, have the boys tape the ends on the backside of their placemats. Tell the boys to remember each time they use their placemats how much God loves them.

RECREATION

HOLD AND PASS

Separate the boys into two groups and seat them at a table, one group on each side. Each group picks a captain. Give a straw to each player and place 10 dried beans in front of each of the two captains at the end of the table.

At a signal, the two captains suck in on the straw to pick up a bean. Then each captain drops the bean from the end of his straw in front of the player next to him. The captains do this until they have passed all the beans. The other players pass each bean in the same way to the next player. The first group to pass all the beans to the other end of the table is the winner.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

NOT GREEK TO GOD

Before the meeting prepare a list of names and addresses of missionaries your church supports.

TEXT: John 3:10-21

"Yesu yana kaunar yara," sang David.

"What language is that?" asked David's friend, Jason. "It sounds like Greek to me!"

David laughed. "Not Greek. Hausa. I learned the song from Aunt Mary and Uncle Steve. They are missionaries in Nigeria."

"What does it mean?" Jason asked.

"Jesus, He loves the children," explained David.

Jason smiled. "Oh, that's almost the same as one of our songs. The tune sounded familiar."

David nodded. "Aunt Mary teaches a class of Nigerian boys who are the same age we are. She says one boy reminds her of me. She says we act a lot alike and we both smile a lot. Aunt Mary says the neatest part is that both of us love Jesus. We're going to write to each other, and Aunt Mary will translate for us. It'll be fun having a Nigerian pen pal."

"I guess maybe we're not as different from kids in other countries as we think we are," Jason said.

David nodded. "Aunt Mary always reminds me that we're all the same to the Lord. He loves Nigerian children—all the children of all the countries in the world—just like He loves us."

"Yeah, just like your song said," said Jason. "How did it go again?"

"Yesu yana kaunar yara," sang David. He laughed as Jason tried it too.

"That's OK—you can laugh at me," Jason said. "I bet the Nigerians would laugh at you!"

"They probably would," said David, grinning. "I'm glad God understands every language. He understands even when we mispronounce these words."

"Let's make it a duet," said Jason.

"Okay."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). You probably know that Jesus loves all the children, but have you ever thought what that means? Children in Africa, Brazil, Japan—all over the world—love Jesus just as you do. They memorize the same Bible verses and even sing some of the same songs—in their own language. We can learn about some of the other children God loves. *Get names and addresses of missionaries (and their children) that your church supports. Provide paper, pencils, and envelopes. Help the children address the envelopes and suggest things they can write to a pen pal. Send these to the missionary and ask if he can find pen pals for your Buckaroos.*

TODAY'S KEY: God loves all children.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 1 THEME:

Nature Study—Birds

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loving

LESSON 3:

Do You Eat Like a Bird?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God loves us and cares for us

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DO YOU EAT LIKE A BIRD?

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you think a person could really “eat like a bird”?
2. How much does a bird eat?
3. What do birds eat?
4. What do some birds do when insects attack a farmer’s crop?
5. Why are birds important to people?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

HOW MUCH DOES GOD LOVE US?

TEXT: 1 John 3:1-3

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23, NIV).

“The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Scarlet tanager

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

POOR KITTY CAT

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

OUTSIDE JIM’S WINDOW

TEXT: Psalm 91

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

DO YOU EAT LIKE A BIRD?

Have you ever heard someone say, “He eats like a bird”? What do you think that means? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) “He eats like a bird” means that a person picks at his food and eats only a small amount of it. But for their size, birds eat much more than humans ever could. Some baby birds actually eat their own weight in food every day. For example, let’s compare a baby bird with a human baby that weighs 10 pounds. The human baby probably drinks up to 4 ounces of milk seven or eight times a day—16 ounces is a pound. Eight times four equals 32 ounces or 2 pounds. The baby might eat 2 pounds of milk at most in one day. If the human baby ate as much, in relation to its size, as some baby birds do, it would have to eat 10 pounds of food every day. Even grown men don’t eat that much in one day.

A hummingbird as small as a child’s finger can eat 100 insects at one meal. To a flicker, 5,000 ants are just a tasty snack, and 30 grasshoppers cannot satisfy a catbird’s hunger. Scarlet tanagers can eat 35 gypsy moths a minute. For a purple martin 2,000 mosquitoes are just a fair day’s catch. A frisky little chickadee can eat about 5,000 moth eggs from morning till night.

As you can probably guess, birds are almost always hungry. It’s a good thing they are, because they eat millions of pests, like bugs, grubs, mice, and the seeds of weeds every year. Without birds, these pests would soon overrun the land and destroy many crops and gardens. Birds are helpful to all of us, but they are especially important to farmers.

It’s exciting to see birds hurry to the scene when swarms of grasshoppers or other insects attack a fruit orchard or a field of new green plants. Even though some of the birds are seedeaters and others prefer grubs, they all seem to forget about those favorite foods at these times. Like firemen called to a big fire, bluebirds, starlings, goldfinches, orioles, robins, grackles, and sparrows fly to the rescue from all over the countryside.

Some birds even bring their babies along for the feast. They line the babies up on a fence and treat them to an endless meal of grasshoppers. In a few days they have gobbled up all the insects. Then the plump birds fly back home, and the field or orchard begins to grow green again.

More and more people are providing food, water, and nesting houses for the birds. People are just beginning to learn that birds are important to them. Birds help us by eating insects that could become pests if many of them were not eaten.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

HOW MUCH DOES GOD LOVE US?

TEXT: 1 John 3:1-3

God provides food for the birds, He provides birds to help the farmers, and He provides salvation for everyone. If you are like most people, you probably

never think about how much God loves us. Think for a moment now just how much God must love us: God sent His only Son Jesus to earth to die for our sins. Because of Jesus, we can be forgiven for the wrong things we do. When we believe that Jesus is God’s Son and ask Him to forgive our sins, we become part of His family.

The Bible says, “How great is the love the Father has lavished [gave in great amounts] on us, that we should be called children of God!” (1 John 3:1, NIV). God loves us so much He wants us to become His children. Think about how pure and holy God is. It is hard for us to understand why He would ever want us as His children, but He does. Every time you do something wrong, every time you refuse to do right, and then tell God you are sorry and ask Him to forgive you, He does. That’s because He loves you so much. We know He forgives us because the Bible says He does. God knows everything about you and me and He still loves us. Before He sent Jesus to die for our sins, He knew the worst thing we would ever do in our lives. But He still wanted us to become His children.

No matter what sins you have done, God wants you to be forgiven. Forgiveness for sins is a gift—it’s free—from God. It is not something we can earn. It is the only way we can go to heaven. We get this gift of salvation and eternal life from God by being sorry for our sin and asking Jesus to forgive us.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you asked Jesus to forgive the wrong things you have done and the right things you have left undone? If not, you can become a child of God now. Raise your hand if you want to become a member of God’s family or if you have a sin that you want God to forgive. (*Allow the boys to respond. Pray with each one. Then close the prayer, thanking God for loving us so much that He made a way for us to become His children.*)

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE: Scarlet tanager

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 scarlet tanager coloring sheet (page 18)

Shared items: crayons, a color picture of a scarlet tanager

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys color the picture. Encourage them to use as many bright colors as they can for the different items in the picture.
2. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the boy or boys who follow directions. When judging, look for the picture that is most complete, with good use of colors for the bird and each item in the background. The picture can be a reminder that God cares for us.

RECREATION

POOR KITTY CAT

Have the boys sit around the room. Choose one boy to be the kitty cat. "Kitty cat" must bow before a boy and meow three times. The boy must pet kitty's head three times and say without laughing, "Poor kitty cat, poor kitty cat, poor kitty cat."

The kitty cat should do his best to make the boy laugh. He can make funny meows, hump his back like a cat, or rub the side of his face on the boy's knee as a cat would. The kitty should go from one boy to another until one of them laughs.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

JUST OUTSIDE JIM'S WINDOW

TEXT: Psalm 91

The Carter family lived in a two-story house with many big trees around it. Jim especially liked the maple tree that grew outside his window. He liked the sound of the leaves gently brushing against the windowpane.

One spring day from his bedroom Jim noticed a robin carefully looking at the crook of a branch. Soon a second bird flew up. Jim stood very still so he wouldn't scare the birds. As he watched, they began to build a nest. The robins made many trips to the ground and back, gathering twigs and bits of leaves. Jim laughed when he saw one of the birds use a piece of plastic fringe he had lost from his bike handlebar grip.

Finally the nest was finished. Each day Jim checked to see if anything was in it. One morning he saw four sky-blue eggs in the nest. After that he watched even more closely, waiting for the babies to hatch. Jim felt as if he had a front row seat when the tiny birds finally

broke from their shells. After the baby birds hatched, the parent birds were kept busy feeding them.

One day during a terrible thunderstorm the tree branch tossed back and forth in the wind. The nest moved with it.

"How are the robins doing, Jim?" Dad asked as he was passing Jim's room.

"The branch is tossing in the wind, but the mother robin covered the babies with her wings so they won't get hurt," Jim answered. "It's so neat that God created her so she would know how to protect her babies."

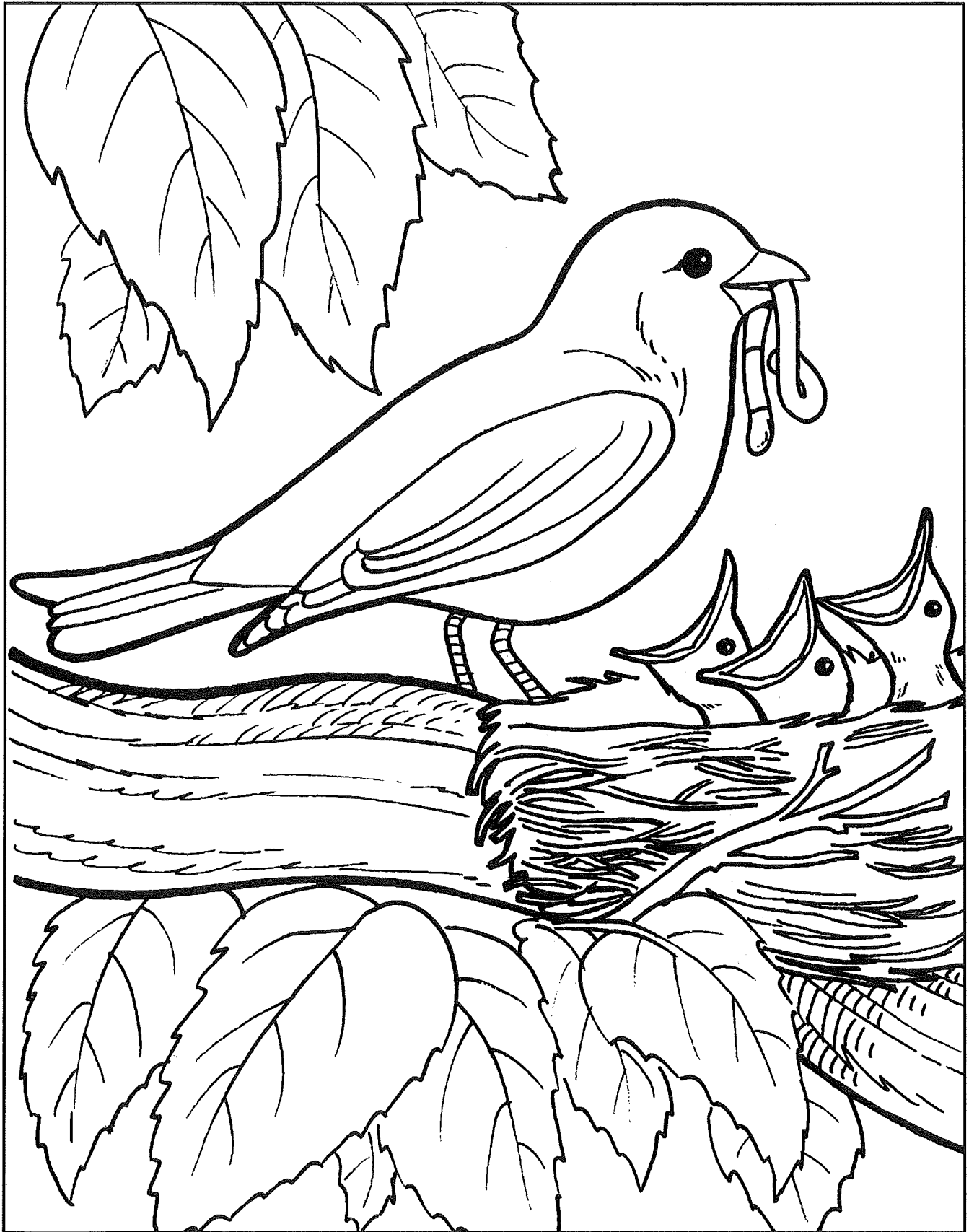
"I'll tell you another neat thing," Dad said, coming in to take a look. "God uses the description of the mother bird spreading her wings to protect the babies as an example of how He cares for us, His children. The Bible says, 'He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge [protection]'" (Psalm 91:4, NIV).

"That is neat, Dad," said Jim. "I'm glad God cares for us too."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever seen a mother bird protect her young? The Bible often uses descriptions or "word pictures" to explain how much God loves you. The Bible says, "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler [that's someone who sets traps, or 'snares,' for catching birds], and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust" (Psalm 91:2-4). Whenever you think about how a mother bird cares for her babies, you'll remember how God carefully cares for you. When you are scared by a storm, a barking dog, or anything else, you can trust God to protect and help you. He is with you and cares for you just as a mother bird cares for her babies.

TODAY'S KEY: God cares for you.



A Scarlet Tanager caring for her babies.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 1 THEME:

Nature Study—Birds

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loving

LESSON 4:

Blackbirds and Other Feathered Friends

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to love everyone as He does

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

BLACKBIRDS AND OTHER FEATHERED FRIENDS

QUESTIONS:

1. What are some of the different kinds of blackbirds?
2. Which blackbird makes a good pet and why?
3. What does "raven hair" mean?
4. How can you tell a grackle from a crow?
5. What makes the Baltimore oriole different from other blackbirds?
6. How did the Baltimore oriole get its name?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

TEXT: Matthew 5:43-46

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44, NIV).

"I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you" (Matthew 5:44).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

PLASTER CAST

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

THREE-LEGGED RACE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

TEXT: Matthew 5:43-48

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

BLACKBIRDS AND OTHER FEATHERED FRIENDS

There are so many kinds of birds it would take years to learn about just some of them. Today we want to talk about the blackbird family. There are so many kinds of blackbirds we will be able to mention only a few. If you should decide to do some bird watching, blackbirds (because of their black color) should be easy for you to spot. Some members of the blackbird family are the yellow-headed blackbird, red-winged blackbird, cowbird, grackle, and the Baltimore oriole.

Every bird you see with black feathers is not a blackbird. Many birds, such as the scarlet tanager or the redheaded woodpecker, have black feathers, but they are not members of the blackbird family. Different from the blackbird family is a group of large black birds known as the crow family. The crow family includes crows, jays, ravens, magpies, rooks, jackdaws, and fish crows.

Crows make fine pets if they can be caught while they are young. They are very smart and can be taught to talk as clearly as parrots do. The common crow is 18 to 19 inches long. (*Hold your hands apart to indicate these lengths.*) The raven is larger than the crow. It can be up to 26 inches long with a wingspan as wide as 3 feet. A raven's feathers have a slight purple luster. That means they shine by reflecting light. The word *raven* has a special meaning because of the black luster of the raven's feathers. If a person's hair is a shiny black, it is called raven's hair. A raven was the first bird sent out from Noah's ark (Genesis 8:7). It was ravens that fed the prophet Elijah by the brook Cherith (1 Kings 17:4-6).

The grackle is from the blackbird family, but it looks a lot like a crow. You can tell a grackle from a crow when it gets in the sun. It has shiny blue-green head feathers and a deep purple coloring in its tail and wings. The crow is glossy black all over. Another way to tell a grackle is by its tail. It is curved like a shoehorn instead of being flat. The grackle swings its tail from side to side when it walks and holds it high in the air when it takes a bath—It doesn't like to get its tail feathers wet. Farmers don't like crows or grackles because they pull up sprouting corn to eat. The truth is that these birds do more good for farmers than harm. They eat thousands of insects every year that would otherwise eat the farmers' crops.

The Baltimore oriole is from the blackbird family, but it does not look or act like other blackbirds. It has bright orange and black colors, it hops instead of walking, and sings beautiful songs instead of croaking. The Baltimore oriole builds an unusual nest. It looks like a large sock hung from a tree limb. Only the female Baltimore oriole builds the nest. The male oriole stands in a treetop nearby, cleaning his feathers and whistling a cheerful tune. Some people think the Baltimore oriole is the best nest builder of the bird world. Orioles eat many hairy caterpillars and other insects that feed on shade trees. The Baltimore oriole was named after Lord Baltimore. He was governor of the colony of Maryland

where the bird was first discovered. The bird's colors, orange and black, were the same colors used in Lord Baltimore's coat of arms, or family emblem.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

TEXT: Matthew 5:43-46

The Baltimore oriole is part of the blackbird family, but it does not look or act like the other blackbirds. This reminds us how we should act like Christians. Jesus does not want us to act like the people who do not love Him. He wants us to be like Him and be kind to everyone. People feel they should love their families and friends and hate their enemies. That's not what Jesus did and taught. He came to earth because He loves everyone—even those who hate Him. He was beaten, lied about, and killed, but Jesus still loved those people and prayed for them.

Probably all of us know someone who doesn't like us. How many of you have known someone who has tried to hurt you or has been mean to you? (*Ask for a show of hands.*) How does what that person says or does make you feel? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) When we are treated mean, we feel sad, hurt, or angry. Most of us have probably thought of ways we could get even with the person who was mean to us. Getting even is not what Jesus wants us to do. Do you know what a commandment is? It's something we have to do that someone over us has told us to do. Jesus has commanded Christians to "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute [are mean to you], that you may be sons of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:44,45, NIV).

Loving an enemy or praying for a person who is mean to us is not easy. We want to get even. But God still blesses people who don't love Him. He gives sunshine and rain to everyone, good or bad. And His Son Jesus died for His enemies as well as His friends. If we want to be recognized as Christians, we must behave like Jesus Christ and His Father. Even though we are human beings, we can do that because He gives us the power.

Doing good to someone who doesn't like you or praying for someone who is mean to you is what God would do; it is not what a human being would naturally want to do. You can choose whether you will obey God and do what He says or do what you feel like doing to those who dislike or hurt you. Do you want to act like a person who loves Jesus—a Christian? The choice is up to you.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you become a part of God's family? Are you obeying His commandments and acting like Him? Do you pray for those who are mean to you? If you want Jesus to forgive the wrong things you have said or done, raise your hand so I can pray for you. (*Let the boys respond. Pray for them that God will help them act in ways that show God is their Heavenly Father.*)

CRAFT

PLASTER CAST

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

A 6-inch bowl (paper or Styrofoam)

½ to 1 cup of fine damp sand (play-box sand works well)

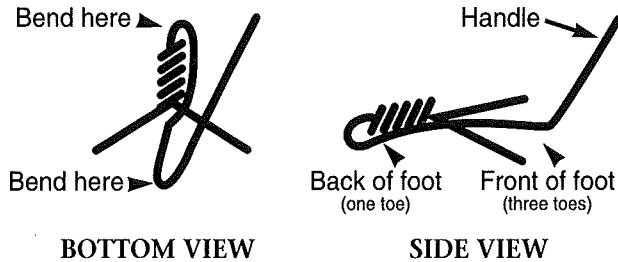
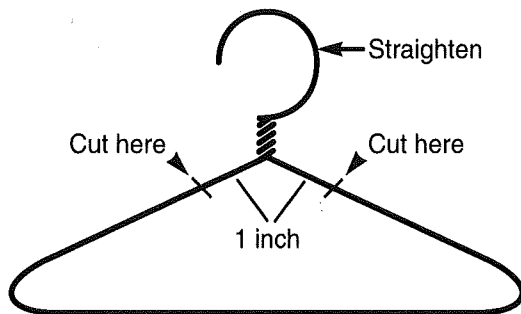
A 7- or 9-ounce plastic cup

A plastic knife or other stiff stirring instrument

1 strip of poster board (1 inch by 12 inches)

1 paper clip

Shared items: bird foot stamper, water, plaster of paris



BOTTOM VIEW

SIDE VIEW

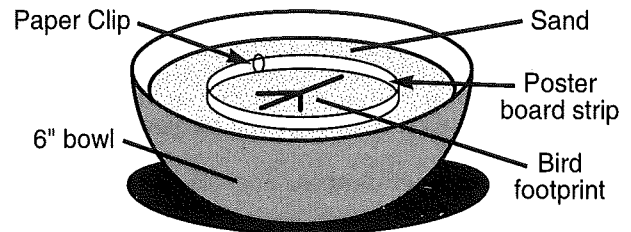
DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Bend and cut a wire clothes hanger into the shape of a bird's foot with three toes toward the front and one toe toward the back. Fill one 6-inch bowl for each boy in your group (plus a few spares) with a half inch of fine *damp* sand. If the sand is too wet or too dry, the impression made by the bird foot stamper will disappear quickly. Practice making this craft before you try to help the boys make it.

1. Explain to the boys that they are going to practice making a plaster cast of a bird's footprint. Encourage them to try to find a real footprint of a bird and make a plaster cast of it.
2. Have each boy stamp a simulated footprint in his bowl of sand.
3. Have the boys bend their poster board strip and paper clip it into a circle. They should press the poster board circle into the sand around the footprint they made.

4. Give each boy 3 to 4 ounces of water in his plastic cup. Slowly add one spoonful of plaster of paris at a time. The boys should stir it well between each spoonful. Keep adding plaster and water until each boy has one-half cup of paste. The plaster is ready when it is the thickness of pancake batter. (If the plaster pours like water, it is too thin and will take a long time to dry. It will not pour if it is too dry.)

5. Have the boys pour the plaster over the footprint (they will need to use the knife to get it all out of the cup).



6. Let the plaster set; do not touch it. The plaster should harden by the end of the meeting, but it will need up to a week to dry out completely.

7. When the plaster cast is dry, the boys can brush the sand from it with an old toothbrush. Then they may paint it with water-based paint, such as tempera paint.

RECREATION

THREE-LEGGED RACE

Determine the course (for example, the boys should race from the sidewalk to the tree and back). After the boys are paired together, use old neckties, pantyhose, or pieces of rope to tie one boy's right leg to another boy's left leg. Arrange the boys at the starting line. At the signal "go," they race to the determined line and back again. The first team completing the course wins. (This race can be run by pairs in one group or by pairs divided into two teams.)

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

TEXT: Matthew 5:43-48

Joey was small for his age. Randy, one of the boys at Joey's school, was always picking on him. Joey had been looking forward to going to the school picnic, but for the last few days Randy had been threatening to play a mean trick on him at the picnic.

"I'm tired of being picked on by Randy," Joey told his dad. "I—I hate him!"

"Do you remember that Jesus said Christians should love their enemies?" Dad asked. "That means we should

be kind even to those who are mean to us.”

Joey frowned. “You mean I should be nice to Randy even after he has been so mean to me?”

“That’s what Jesus teaches us,” his dad replied.

The next day on the way to school, Joey found a notebook. He opened it and found homework papers with Randy’s name on them. It belonged to Randy! *If I hid it or tore it up, Randy would get into trouble, Joey thought. Maybe he’d even be punished by not being allowed to go to the picnic!* “This is a great chance to get even!” Joey said to himself. Then Joey remembered what Jesus said Christians should do. It was the right thing to do, but it wasn’t easy when Joey gave the notebook to Randy’s teacher.

After school Randy found Joey. “You thought you were real cool to turn my notebook in, didn’t you? Now I’m supposed to thank you and be your pal, right?”

“Not if you don’t want to,” Joey said. “I was just doing what I thought I should do.”

“Well, I don’t want to be your pal!” Randy said angrily.

“I don’t see why you’re so mad,” Joey said. “All I

did was help you. That might not make me your friend. I just wanted to do what Jesus says.”

“You must be crazy,” Randy said. He started walking away, then turned back and added, “Well, maybe you aren’t so bad after all. You did keep me out of trouble by turning in my homework notebook. . . . Maybe I’ll see you at the picnic tonight.”

HOW ABOUT YOU?

“I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matthew 5:44,45, NIV). Do you find it hard to be nice to those who are mean to you? That’s what Jesus told us to do, and obeying Jesus always pays. Think of someone who has been mean to you. Can you think of some way you can be kind to that person? You could start by praying for that person as Jesus told us to.

TODAY’S KEY: Be nice to your enemies.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 1 THEME:

Nature Study—Birds

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loving

LESSON 5:

Our Backyard Friends

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we show our love for God by obeying His commands

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OUR BACKYARD FRIENDS

QUESTIONS:

1. What color is the robin?
2. How does the robin get mud to build its nest?
3. What is the flicker's favorite food?
4. How does the flicker capture his favorite food?
5. What bird lives in apartment houses?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

IF YOU LOVE ME

TEXT: John 14:15,21-24

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me" (John 14:21, NIV).

"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me" (John 14:21).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

BIRD HOUSE

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

WHIP THE PONY

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

HEALING THE HURT

TEXT: Romans 12:9-16

Date

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

OUR BACKYARD FRIENDS

There are many different types of birds. We are going to talk about birds you may see in your backyard.

One of the best-known birds in North America is the robin. The male has a brownish red-orange breast. It has a gray back, gray wings, and a black head. The robin got its name from the Pilgrims. It reminded them of the robin redbreast they knew in England. It also had a red-orange breast.

The female robin builds a nest out of straw, rags, string, and paper, held together by mud. If there is no mud around, she will hop into a birdbath and then shake the water off on the ground. Then she will scratch the ground, collecting the mud with her toes. She flies to her nest and scrapes this mud off with her beak. She uses the mud to cement the straw and rags together. Once the mud hardens, she lines the nest with fine grass. Then she lays three to six small blue eggs in it.

The flicker is a member of the woodpecker family. It gets its name from its loud call, which sounds like the word *flicker*. The flicker builds its nest high up in a rotten tree that is still standing. It takes a month or longer to build its nest. It taps away long after other birds have gone to sleep. The flicker's favorite food is ants. After the baby birds hatch, the parents spend most of their time digging up ant hills. They have tongues that are almost 2 inches long and very sticky. The flickers stick their tongues into the ant holes and lick up ants and ant eggs by the thousands. Flickers have gray-and-brown heads with a red spot on the back of their heads. They have a black spot in front under their necks. Their breasts are a light brown and white color with black polka dots. The back of their wings are brown with black spots and the underside of their wings are white with either yellow or red tips.

The purple martin is another well-known bird. The male is a dark purplish-blue. Purple martins live in apartment houses people build especially for them. You may have seen these large bird houses. They have many rooms in them and are put on the top of poles.

A long time ago some of the Indians made nests for the martins by hollowing out gourds and hanging them in trees. The Indians liked the martins because they were brave. Whenever a hawk tried to steal the Indians' chickens, the martins would attack the hawk and chase it away. That is how they got their name. *Martin* comes from a Latin word which means "warlike."

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

IF YOU LOVE ME

TEXT: John 14:15,21-24

Our Christian character trait for this unit has been loving. We learned how much God loves and cares for us. We also learned that we must love those who don't like us. Today we are going to learn what we should do if we really love Jesus. Can someone tell me what a

command is? (*Let the boys respond.*) A command is something someone over us tells us to do and we have to do it. Jesus is the leader to all people who love Him and have asked Him to forgive the wrong things they have done, including the good things you decided not to do. As our leader, Jesus has given commands to Christians. Jesus said, "Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me." The Word of God is clear: We must first have or know Jesus' commands, then we must obey them. Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command." After we know Jesus' commands we show our love for Jesus by obeying Him.

Can anyone tell me how we can know what Jesus' commands are? (*Allow the boys to answer.*) We must read God's Word, the Bible, to know what He tells us to do. This is why it is important for us to read God's Word every day. If we say we love Jesus, then we must learn what He wants us to do. We must know what His commands are before we can do them. The only way to do this is to read or hear the things in the Bible.

The way we can know Jesus' commands is to make them a part of our lives by memorizing them and then doing them. King David said, "I have hidden your word [or commands] in my heart that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11, NIV). Have you ever heard the saying, "In one ear and out the other"? That describes the way many people treat God's commands. They hear what God wants them to do, but they ignore it, forget it, or just don't do it. We hear the Bible telling us to be kind, to obey our parents, to always tell the truth. Do we always obey those commands? When we know what Jesus' commands are and obey them, we are showing that we love Him.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you really love Jesus? Do you know His commands? Do you obey His commands? If you are not really sure, you can ask Jesus right now to come into your heart and help you learn what His commands are. Then, as you learn what He wants you to do, you can show you really love Him by obeying Him.

CRAFT

BIRD HOUSE

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

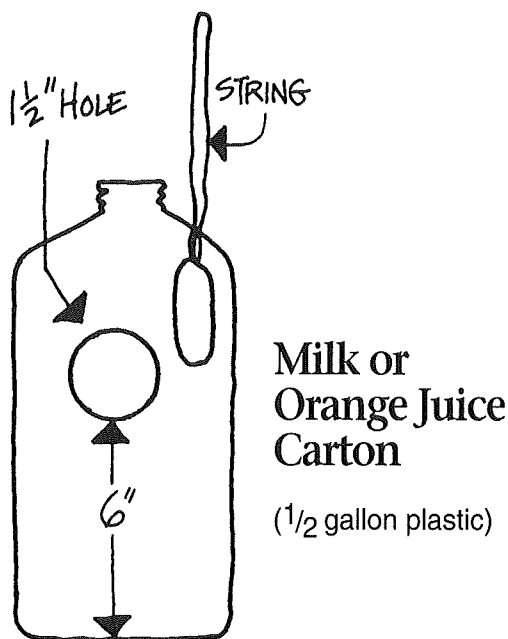
1 empty 1-quart milk or orange juice container

1 piece of heavy string or cord, 2 feet long

Shared items: scissors, permanent markers, sharp knife

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: You will need to save empty 1-quart milk or orange juice containers for several weeks prior to this craft so you will have enough cartons. Be sure to wash them thoroughly to avoid any



odors. NOTE: Plastic containers are best for this project because they are easier to color than the waxed cartons.

1. Cover the tables with old newspaper before starting this project.
2. Assist each boy in cutting a 1 1/2-inch hole 6 inches from the bottom of his empty carton.
3. With permanent markers, have the boys color their bird houses dull gray-green or brown. Be sure to warn the boys that the permanent marker colors will not wash off their clothes, hands, or the table.
4. Assist the boys in tying one end of the string to the handle of the container. If you use the waxed cartons, you will need to punch a hole in the top for the string.
5. Tell the boys to hang their bird house in a tree near their home. If they don't have a tree, they might keep the bird house in their window. This could remind them to let God's commands live in their hearts by learning and doing what He wants.

RECREATION

WHIP THE PONY

Make a switch by rolling newspaper about 1/2 inch in diameter and 2 feet long. Use tape to keep the paper in a roll. Have the boys stand in a circle with their hands behind them. The boy chosen to be "It" takes the paper switch and walks around the outside of the circle until he places it in the hands of one of the boys. As soon as "It" drops the switch into a boy's hand, "It" takes that boy's place in the circle and the one with the

switch becomes "It." All the boys must keep looking straight ahead. The boy receiving the switch immediately begins to swat the boy on his right and chase him around the circle. The boy being chased tries to keep out of "Its" range until he has reached his original place in the circle. "It" then walks around the circle and drops the switch into the hand of another boy, who then begins to chase the person on his right.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

HEALING THE HURT

TEXT: Romans 12:9-16

"Look at the assignment Miss Linda gave us in Sunday school today," Connor said, handing a paper to his mother.

Before his mother could read the paper, 3-year-old Missi came bursting into the room. "Mommy! Mommy! Look at my finger. It's blooded. That flower hurted me!"

A drop of blood almost hid the thorn in Missi's finger. Gently, Mother pulled out the thorn, wiped off the blood, and kissed the finger.

Smiling, Missi went back outside to play.

Mother turned back to the paper Connor had handed her. "Find a need and fill it; find a hurt and heal it," she read. She smiled at Connor. "That's a very good assignment."

"Sure," Connor said, groaning, "except I'm not a doctor. How can I heal someone?"

"Didn't Miss Linda explain that there are different kinds of hurts?" Mother asked.

Connor nodded. "Yes, she said that besides physical hurts, there are what she called 'mental' and 'spiritual' hurts. What can I do about those things? I'm just a kid." He sighed. "I know Doug's parents are getting a divorce. I know that John's big brother is in jail for selling drugs. Andy's dad is out of work, so he never has money for extra projects at school. I know those things, but I can't heal their hurts."

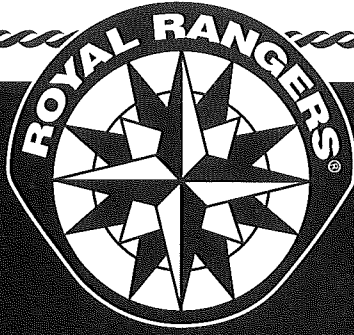
"When Missi came crying to me a while ago, I didn't really heal her finger. I just gave her some love and attention, and she forgot the pain," Mother said. "That's what you can do too. You may not be able to solve anyone else's problems, but with God's help you can encourage the person and make his day brighter. You can be a friend to Doug so he knows he's not alone. You can pray for John's brother. Maybe you can share one of your projects with Andy. You can tell each of them that Jesus loves them. He's the One who really can heal their hurts. Pray about it. The Lord will show you what you can do."

Connor smiled. "Okay. Maybe this isn't such a hard assignment after all."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn” (Romans 12:9-11,14,15, NIV). Do you know someone who is hurting? God wants to use you to help that person. He tells us to bear one another’s burdens. That means He wants us to help those who are having problems. You can show God’s love by showing someone you care about him. Smile at that person. Talk to him. Pray for him. Tell him something from God’s Word that might make him feel better. Try to heal at least one hurt in these ways this week. When you do that, you show that your love is sincere, or real. You are doing good and honoring others by serving, or helping, them.

TODAY’S KEY: Love eases pain.



UNIT TWO

Physical Fitness

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 2 THEME:

Physical Fitness

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Obedient

LESSON 6:

A Day on the Farm

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to obey our parents

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

A DAY ON THE FARM

QUESTIONS:

1. How is life today different from life in our story?
2. How much exercise do we get today compared to then?
3. What items do the work for us today that Jimmy and his family did?
4. How do these machines help or hurt us?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE NEW DESK

TEXT: Proverbs 12:12-15

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"A wise man listens to advice" (Proverbs 12:15, NIV).
"He that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise"
(Proverbs 12:15).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Our motto: "READY"

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

LINKING TAG

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS

TEXT: Ephesians 6:1

Date

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

A DAY ON THE FARM

Let's take a trip back in time about 150 years to a small town in Massachusetts. We are going to learn what life was like for a young boy there. Jimmy, who is about your age, lives with his parents in a small farmhouse. Let's see what happens as Jimmy begins his day.

Jimmy sleeps in a loft with his brothers and sister. The family is awake at sunrise. Jimmy gets dressed and climbs down from the loft. His first job for the day is to get a pail of water from the pump in the front yard. He carefully primes the pump with water and then pumps a bucket of water for his mother. Next he goes to the barn to milk the cows. While doing that chore, he gets into a milk fight with his older brother.

"Stop that!" Dad yells. "We can't afford to waste the milk."

After milking the cows, Jimmy goes back to the house. He eats a big breakfast of leftover stew, corn cakes, and apple cider. Then he drinks a glass of warm milk fresh from the cow. He won't be going to school today. Everyone is needed at home to help with the chores and the harvesting.

After breakfast, Jimmy's next chore is to chop wood. Chopping the chunks of wood into small pieces is hard work. Then he has to carry it into the house. If he doesn't do it, there will be no wood for the fireplace or for Mother to use in the cookstove. Mother is planning to bake an apple pie today. As soon as he finishes chopping wood Jimmy is off to get a basket of apples for her.

Next, Mother sends Jimmy to the garden to pick some pumpkins, squash, carrots, and turnips. He takes some of them to Mother for tonight's meal and carries the rest down to the root cellar. They will be stored away in this cool place underground for the long winter months ahead.

After the vegetables are stored, Jimmy helps Father bring the animals out from the barn to pasture. Then he and Father mend the fences for the rest of the morning. By lunchtime he is starting to get tired. He will get to rest but the day's work is still far from done.

For lunch Jimmy's family eats salt beef, squash, carrots, and corn bread. For dessert there is Indian pudding made with eggs, cornmeal, and a bit of molasses. Mother had to sell cheese she had made to get enough money to buy the molasses. Lunch is the main meal of the day. It is a time for the family to rest and talk before the afternoon work begins. They won't stop to eat supper until it is starting to get dark. Then supper will be a simple meal of meat and vegetables.

After lunch, Jimmy churns the butter while his sister goes to gather the eggs. Jimmy skims the cream from the top of a jug of fresh milk and pours it into a large wooden churn. Then he begins to stir the cream by working the heavy dasher up and down. A half hour later the cream has become butter. While he is churning the butter, Jimmy sings, "Come, butter, come." By the end of the day, the whole family is tired. Jimmy takes some time to whittle at his walking stick

or maybe a whistle he is making. It gets dark early in the fall. Candles are too expensive to use for light every day. By 8 o'clock, everyone in the family is in bed asleep.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE NEW DESK

TEXT: Proverbs 12:12-15

Mike had a brand-new desk! "I'll always take good care of it," he said, sighing as he slid his hand lovingly across the shiny top.

A few days later Mike slipped a box of matches out of the kitchen cabinet. He picked up a candle and headed for his room. He knew his mother would be angry if she caught him with the candle and matches. *But*, he thought, *I'm old enough to burn a candle without starting a fire.* After carefully locking his door, he lit the candle and placed it on his desk. The flame reflected in the shine of the desk. It looked handsome to Mike as the candle slowly burned. Mike relaxed and began reading his book.

Suddenly, Mother was knocking on his door. "Mike, what do I smell?" she called.

Mike's heart beat fast as he grabbed for the candle. "Nothing," he called, accidentally knocking over the candle and burning his fingers. "Oh no!" he whispered in horror as a piece of paper on his desk caught fire. It was a small piece, and the flame went out quickly. Mike sighed in relief, grabbed up the candle and burned paper and stuck them in his closet. Fearfully, he let Mother into the room.

"Mike! What happened to the top of your beautiful new desk!" Mother exclaimed.

Mike turned around and saw an ugly black spot on the top of the desk. In a trembling voice he told his mother the story.

"Mike, do you realize that you could have burned the house down?"

Mike swiped at a tear. "I just wanted to enjoy the candle awhile—I never thought it would hurt anything. I'm sorry."

"Mike," Mother said, sighing, "sin often seems to be fun and exciting while you're doing it, but in the end someone gets hurt. You knew the rules about not playing with matches and you disobeyed those rules. Now you'll have to pay the consequences. Do you see why it's so important to always obey?"

"Yes," Mike said, nodding. "If I ever forget, this spot on the top of my desk will remind me."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice" (Proverbs 12:15, NIV). That verse describes what Mike did. He thought he could disobey and it would be okay. Do the rules set by your parents sometimes seem silly or unimportant? It's wise to listen to and obey our parents' rules. Those rules often are meant to keep you from getting hurt.

God's rules are like that too. Things like "don't lie," "be kind," and "forgive" are for your good. God wants you to obey Him so you won't be hurt by the results of sin.

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE: Our motto: "Ready"

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 copy of "our motto" coloring sheet

Shared items: Crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Following the instructions on the coloring sheet on page 32, have the boys color the motto. Tell them to stay within the lines and use different colors as indicated for the shapes in the picture.
2. Explain the Royal Rangers motto: Ready. Ready for anything. Ready to: work, play, serve, obey, worship, live, etc.
3. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the best and most complete drawing.

RECREATION

LINKING TAG

Choose one boy to be "It" and have him count to 10. It is not necessary for the other boys to hide; in fact, they should be encouraged to stay out in the open. "It" will try to tag them, but whenever "It" gets close, any two boys must link arms with each other. As long as they have linked arms, they are safe and can't be tagged. Any boy who is tagged while he is not linking arms with another player must go to home base and wait until all the other boys are tagged. When everyone has been tagged, the boy who was tagged first becomes "It." The game is started all over again.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS

TEXT: Ephesians 6:1

In our story Mike didn't obey his parents. He knew it was wrong to use the candle and matches, but he thought he was old enough to use them without starting a fire. Mike got caught, of course. You don't always get caught when you disobey your mom or dad, do you? Have you ever done something you knew was

wrong and got away with it? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) If you did, you may have felt guilty about it. Every time your mom calls, you think, *I wonder if Mom found out about what I did?* Have you ever felt like that? When you do something that is wrong, at first you feel proud of yourself. You might say, "Look what I did and no one caught me." Later, your conscience starts to bother you. You worry that your parents will learn what you did.

God gave us a conscience so we would know when we do wrong, or sin. Did you know you can kill your conscience? If you do things you know are wrong, your conscience will bother you. If you keep doing those wrong things, your conscience will stop bothering you after a while. You will be caught in sin's web, kind of like an insect gets caught in a spider's web. God's Word, the Bible, tells us: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right" (Ephesians 6:1).

This is God's command to us. Do you know what a command is? It is when someone over you tells you to do something and you have to do it. God is over everyone. If He says to do something, we should do it. The problem today is people do not respect God. They think He was just kidding when He gave us the Ten Commandments. Perhaps you think, *Oh, it really doesn't matter if I obey God or not. He won't hurt me.* That is a lie of Satan. That's what he wants you to think. If we fail to obey God, we will suffer His judgment someday. God is keeping track of all we do. Someday when we stand before God to be judged, He will either say, "Here is a record of all your sins. You never accepted Jesus as your Savior. Now you must go away from Me," or He will say, "All your sins have been forgiven. They are covered by the blood of Jesus, and I don't remember them anymore. Come and be with Me."

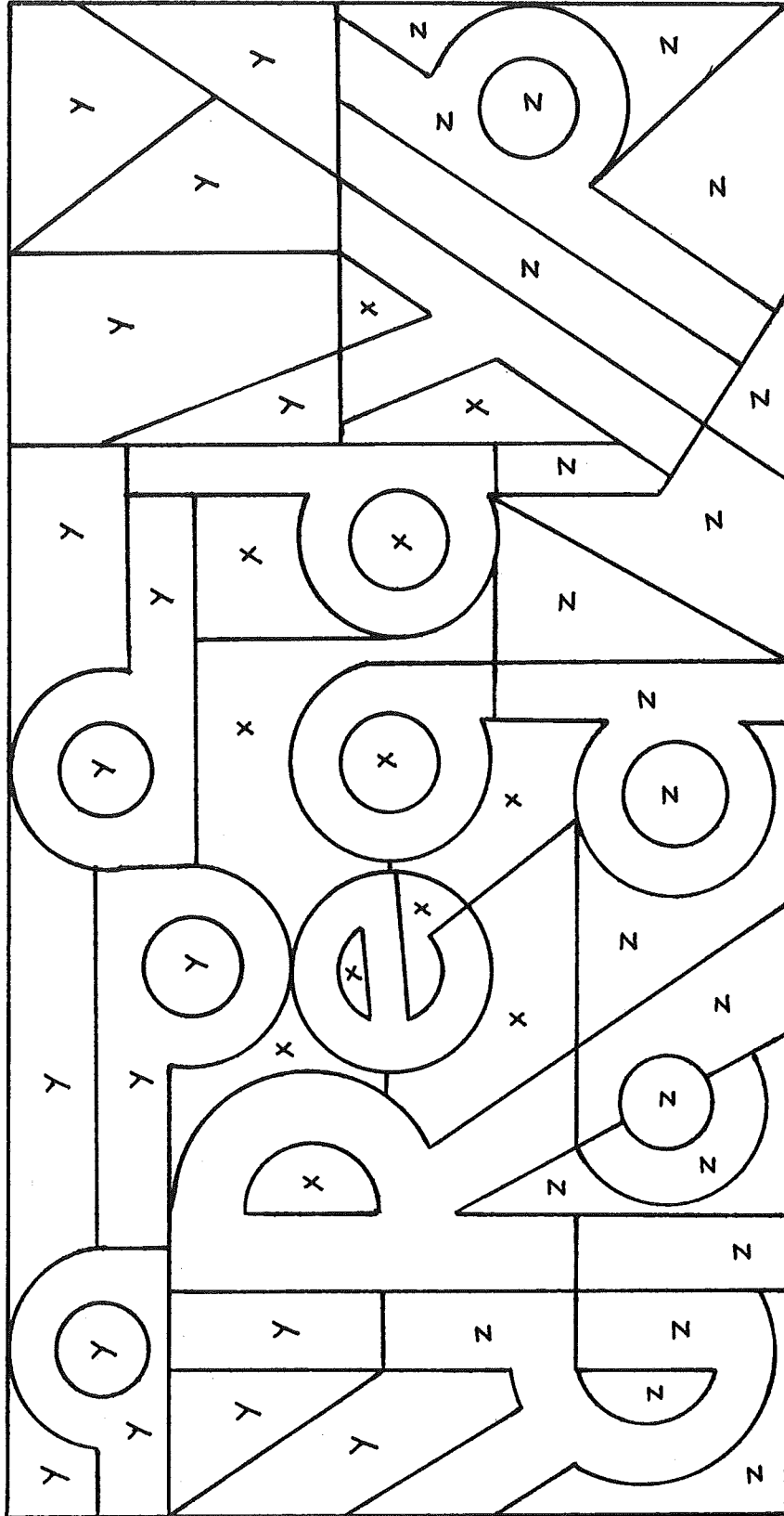
The choice is up to us. We can decide to ask Jesus to forgive our sins and help us to obey Him the way He wants. Or we can refuse His free salvation and spend eternity without God.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been disobeying your parents and getting away with it? The Bible says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1). Did you know that God is keeping a record of your sins? Would you like to ask Jesus to forgive you for the wrong things you have done? Today is the right time to tell Jesus you are sorry and ask Him to forgive your sins. When you do this, God forgets your sin. He keeps no record of it. (*Pray with any boys who want to acknowledge their sin to God. Assure them that God does forgive and forget our sins. After prayer, lead the boys in a song, such as "Jesus Loves Me."*)

TODAY'S KEY: Obedience protects you.

OUR MOTTO



To find the Royal Rangers Motto, color the y's red, color the x's yellow, color the z's blue.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 2 THEME:

Physical Fitness

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Obedient

LESSON 7:

How Our Muscles Work

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to obey the rules of those who are in charge of us

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

HOW OUR MUSCLES WORK and a story about **MR. MARATHON**

QUESTIONS:

1. Does a muscle pull or push?
2. Does it take more muscles to frown or to smile?
3. What two muscles in your arm are partners?
4. Why did Clarence DeMar win the Boston Marathon?
5. Do you think you could win a marathon if you tried?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

JESUS LEARNED OBEDIENCE

TEXT: Hebrews 5:8,9

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“Once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him” (Hebrews 5:9, NIV).
“Being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Hebrews 5:9).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

BALL AND CUP

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

JUMPING JACKS, PUSH-UPS, AND BENT-LEG SIT-UPS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE PRINCIPLE

TEXT: Hebrews 13:16-21

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

HOW OUR MUSCLES WORK

Our bodies have over 600 muscles that work together in different combinations. There are over 100 muscles in your face (it takes 34 muscles to frown but only 13 to smile). Muscles are made up of fibers (long thin cells) that lie alongside each other like spaghetti in a box. A group, or bundle, of muscle fibers form the big muscles in your body.

When you are ready to move a part of your body, your brain sends a message signal to the muscle fibers that causes them to contract (shorten). An individual muscle can do only two things—contract or relax. This means that a muscle can only pull, not push.

Muscles work in pairs. Two muscles are needed to move your arm or finger. One must relax while its partner, another muscle that lies opposite it (often on the other side of a bone), must contract. To move the arm in the opposite direction, the first muscle contracts while its partner relaxes.

Let's see which of our muscles are partners. Place one hand under the table and try to lift the table off the floor. With your other hand feel which muscle in your upper arm is doing the work. (*Let the boys find out which muscle it is.*) That muscle in the upper front is called the biceps. Now place your hand on top of the table and push down. Can you find which muscle is working now? (*Let the boys find the correct muscle.*) That muscle in the upper back of your arm is called the triceps. The biceps and the triceps are partners. If you had only one muscle, you could move your arm only in that direction, because muscles can only pull; they can't push.

MR. MARATHON

Clarence DeMar was one of the most famous Boston Marathon runners. Clarence was born in 1890 with a crooked spine that made it hard for him to walk when he was very young. His father died when Clarence was 8 years old, so he had to go to work to help support his five sisters and brothers. He got a job selling sewing goods door to door. This job required him to run up and down hilly roads. He moved with an awkward shuffle because of his crooked spine.

When DeMar was in college, he had a job on a farm and a job at a print shop. His jobs were 8 miles apart. He ran from one job to the other each day. He had an odd way of running, but he could move quickly over long distances.

DeMar's friends encouraged him to train for the Boston Marathon. A marathon is a 26-mile race. DeMar trained and he entered his first marathon in 1911. He set a new record of 2 hours, 21 minutes, and 39 seconds. Although DeMar was born with a crooked spine, he won the Boston Marathon seven times. He ran in more than 1,000 long-distance races during his lifetime.

DeMar continued to run for enjoyment until he was almost 70 years old. When he died, the doctors were amazed to find that the arteries around his heart were

three times the normal size. That was because of his lifetime of running.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

JESUS LEARNED OBEDIENCE

TEXT: Hebrews 5:8,9

In our Western Heritage story, we learned how muscles work. What do you think would happen if one of your muscles decided not to obey you when you wanted it to move? (*Let the boys answer.*) Instead of reaching for a glass of milk, your arm might hit you in the nose. Or your leg might decide to start dancing when you wanted to walk. You would be in a terrible mess if your muscles decided to do their own thing instead of obeying what you told them to do. You wouldn't be able to walk or play or eat unless your muscles decided that was what they wanted to do. It is the same way in the body of Christ—the Church. We are the members of the body of Christ. If we decide not to obey Him, then His body—all Christians—would be in a mess.

If someone in the church is sick, hurting, or needs help, it is up to the other members of the church—the body of Christ—to help that person. For example, if someone is so sick he can't get out of bed, then another member of the family will need to bring him food and take care of him. If someone falls down and breaks a leg, then another person will need to take him to the doctor. If a person who could help decides not to help, what do you think might happen? (*Let the boys answer.*) The sick person might die. It is the same way in our Christian life. Christians are members of Jesus's body. It is up to us to obey Him. God's Word says, "Though he [Jesus] were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Hebrews 5:8,9).

Even Jesus learned to be obedient as a child and as an adult. Jesus obeyed even when it meant He would die. His Heavenly Father asked Him to give His life as a sacrifice for our sins. Even though He had not sinned, Jesus still suffered for our sins so we could be forgiven. All Jesus asks us to do is admit we are sinners, tell Him about our sins, and ask Him to forgive us. It is not enough for us to just say we are sorry for our sins, we must really feel sorry for them and ask Jesus to forgive us. Then we must stop sinning.

Jesus is the one who gives eternal salvation for all who obey Him. If we don't obey Jesus, then we won't receive eternal salvation. To obey Him, you must read and study the Bible so you know what He wants you to do. Then you must do it. Jesus has made each of us free to choose what we will do. We can choose to obey and do the things the Bible says, such as "Obey your parents," "Love each other," "Be kind," "Don't lie, cheat, or steal." Or we can choose to disobey.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says Jesus learned obedience. Have you been disobeying or doing your own thing? Are you ready to admit your sins and ask Jesus to help you live the way He wants? Are you ready to learn to obey? Today is the right time to start being obedient to Jesus. *(Pray with any boys who want to ask Jesus to forgive their sins. Encourage them to keep obeying Jesus by obeying what the Bible says.)*

CRAFT

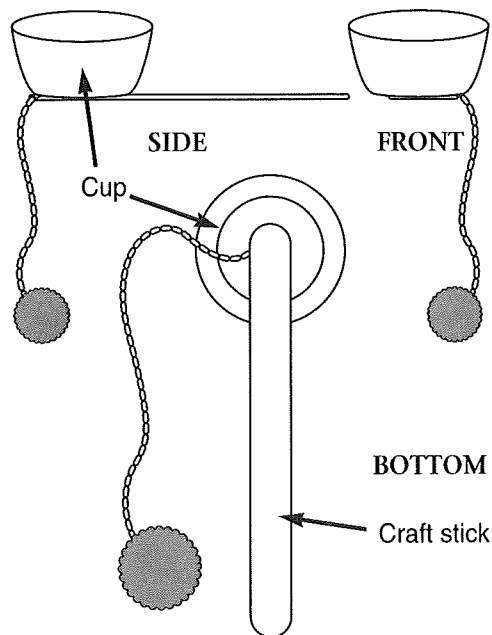
BALL AND CUP

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 large craft stick ($\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 6 inches)
- 1 small plastic cup ($2\frac{1}{4}$ inches round by 1 inch deep)
- 1 string (18 inches long)
- 1 craft ball ($\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pom-pom)

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, glue or hot-glue gun (optional)



DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys cut the string, glue it to one end of the craft stick, then glue the bottom of the cup on top of the string.
2. Have the boys glue the other end of the string to the pom-pom.

Note to commander: If hot-glue gun is used, don't let the boys get near it. They could get seriously burned.

RECREATION

JUMPING JACKS, PUSH-UPS, AND BENT-LEG SIT-UPS

Jumping Jacks—Have the boys stand in formation and start with feet together and hands at their sides. Jump up and land with your feet shoulder-width apart and at the same time swing your arms up so your hands meet above your head. Jump up again and return to starting position.

Push-Ups—Have the boys do at least 5 or 10 push-ups each. They should keep their bodies straight with only their toes and hands touching the ground. Boys who are badly out of shape may do push-ups from their knees.

Bent-Leg Sit-Ups—Have the boys pair up in teams of two and choose who will go first. The second boy will hold the first boy's feet while he attempts to do 25 sit-ups. The boy doing the sit-ups should bend his knees (forming an upside down "V"), place his hands behind his neck, and sit up until his elbows touch his knees.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE PRINCIPAL

TEXT: Hebrews 13:16-21

"Our new principal has changed just about everything at school," Eddie grumbled one day. "Mr. Peterman won't let us go out for our noon recess until 12:15. We can't even line up until it's actually time to go because he says we're too noisy; we can't eat any food on the playground. He has changed lots of other things too. It will be hard to get used to him and his rules!"

"I'm sure it will," said Dad. "There are bound to be differences of opinion when someone new takes over. But I think the problems will get worked out."

When Eddie came home from school the next day, he was worried. "The kids are getting really mad about all the new rules," Eddie told his parents at dinner. "Some of them are planning a demonstration to show they don't like the rules. They're going to chant while they go through the halls."

"Eddie, there's a rule in the Bible you need to keep in mind," Dad said. "God says to obey your leaders and to respect them. I know you find it hard to understand all of Mr. Peterman's rules. Perhaps they aren't even the best rules, but your job is to obey them. Just make up your mind that things are going to be done his way. He is the leader in charge at school. Once you get used to the rules, you'll probably find they aren't so bad after all."

"Maybe not," Eddie sighed, "but the kids asked me to join the demonstration. I told them the principal is the boss, and I'm going to do what he says."

"Good for you," Dad said. "I'm proud of you. The things we need to demonstrate are love, common

sense, faith in God, and respect for others. We need these kinds of demonstrations every day.”

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give an account” (Hebrews 13:17). That means we must obey our leaders, teachers, parents, principals, and others because they are responsible for our safety and for what we learn. Does your principal make rules you don’t like? Do you like the “No running in the halls” rule or the “No fighting rule”? Remember he’s the boss at school. Do your teachers have rules that seem unreasonable such as “No chewing gum” or “No talking aloud”? They’re boss in the classrooms. Do you disagree with your parents’ rules? They’re boss at home. Obey God by showing respect and obeying the rules of those who are in charge of you.

TODAY’S KEY: Obey authority.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 2 THEME:

Physical Fitness

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Obedient

LESSON 8:

Strength, Endurance, Flexibility, and Sore Spots

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we obey promptly

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

STRENGTH, ENDURANCE, FLEXIBILITY, AND SORE SPOTS and the story RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

QUESTIONS:

1. What is strength? What is endurance?
2. What is the difference between strength and endurance?
3. What is flexibility?
4. What should you do if you get a sore spot?
5. How did the first marathon get started?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OBEY PROMPTLY

TEXT: Matthew 21:28-31

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority" (Hebrews 13:17, NIV).

"Obey them that have the rule over you" (Hebrews 13:17).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CRAFT STICK PICTURE FRAME

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

WIN THE FIELD

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

IN A MINUTE

TEXT: Psalm 119:57-64

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

STRENGTH, ENDURANCE, FLEXIBILITY, AND SORE SPOTS

Strength—a one-shot effort, the maximum amount of work muscles can do in a single effort. *Power* is the skill of using your muscle strength very quickly.

Endurance—how long you can hold or continue an effort, or how well a group of muscles can continue to work for a long period of time. Endurance can be measured in two ways:

1. How many times you can repeat a movement within a fixed time.
2. How long you can hold or continue an effort.

For an example of the difference between strength and endurance, have a boy pick up a load of something, such as a bucket of water. If he has strength, he can lift it one time and then put it back down. If he has endurance, he would be able to hold it for a while. (*Let each of the boys give it a try. Have the boys try arm wrestling to see who has the most strength and power. You may also have the boys try with books, chairs, etc., until they understand the difference between strength and endurance.*)

Flexibility—how far you can stretch or move. If you stretch your muscles before you exercise, you are less likely to hurt yourself. Stretching is a good way to warm up your muscles before you play or exercise.

Sore Spots—when you overstretch, you may tear some of the tiny muscle fibers, causing you to feel pain. Give the sore spot some rest. The fibers heal quickly and the ache should go away when you become active again. You may also get a cramp in your side if you exercise too soon after eating. Remember the following:

1. Don't strain too much the first time you exercise.
2. Wait at least 45 minutes after you eat before exercising.

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

A long time ago in the country of Greece, there was a battle between the army of Athens and the invading army of Persia. The battle took place in the Plains of Marathon, which is about 20 miles from the city of Athens. The army from Athens won, and a messenger was sent to tell the people in Athens. He ran the 20 miles without stopping. As soon as he told the people their army had defeated the invaders from Persia, the messenger dropped dead from exhaustion! That was the world's first marathon run.

In 1897 the Boston Marathon was started as a race for amateurs who enjoy running. They want to see how far they can push their bodies to finish a long endurance race. The Boston Marathon is a 26½-mile run. Over 7,500 runners ran in 1979 and a crowd of more than 250,000 came to see them run. That year Bill Rogers, a three-time winner, set a new marathon record of 2 hours, 9 minutes, and 27 seconds.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

OBEY PROMPTLY

TEXT: Matthew 21:28-31

Has your mom or dad ever told you to do something and you said, "Okay, just a minute"? Sure. We all have done that. How many times did you do what you said you would? Let me tell you a story Jesus told. Jesus had healed blind and crippled people. The chief priests and Jewish leaders asked by whose authority or power He did those wonders and miracles. This is the story Jesus told them:

"What think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work today in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not; but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir; and went not. Whether of them . . . did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you" (Matthew 21:28-31).

Look at the difference between the two boys. The first one said, "I will not go." Later he was sorry he'd said that; he changed his mind and went. This boy obeyed what his father asked him to do. The second boy said, "I will go," but he never went. He did not obey his father. Are you like the first boy? Do you obey?

Have you disobeyed your mother and father because you told them you would do something later and then just forgot about it? It is sad that many times we don't think about what we are saying. We are busy playing or watching TV. We don't want to stop what we are doing to take out the trash or do whatever else Mom or Dad has asked us to do. We answer, "I'll do it in a minute." That minute never comes, and Mom or Dad has to tell us again. Many times we get upset the second or third time Mom or Dad tells us to do the same thing. The real problem is that we have not obeyed. We are like the second son in the story, who said "I will go" but never went.

The last part of our Bible text says, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you" (verse 21). Jesus was telling the religious leaders that the sinners would be going into the kingdom of God before them. This is because the sinners were like the boy who said no at first, but later changed his mind and obeyed. They changed their minds and believed in Jesus. They asked for forgiveness for their sins on their way to heaven. The chief priests and religious leaders were like the boy who said "I will" and then didn't go. They thought they were saved because they obeyed the Law and were leaders of the people. God could see their hearts. He knew they did not love Him. They were too proud to admit they had any bad thoughts.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

One boy said he would, then didn't. One boy said he wouldn't, then did. Which boy are you like? Jesus wants us to be obedient. Do you obey when you're asked to do something? If you have a problem with

that, you can ask Jesus to forgive you. He can help you obey your parents the first time they ask you to do something. *(Pray that God will forgive those who are sorry they have disobeyed. Ask Him to help the boys show their love for God by obeying their parents immediately.)*

CRAFT

CRAFT STICK PICTURE FRAME

MATERIALS NEEDED

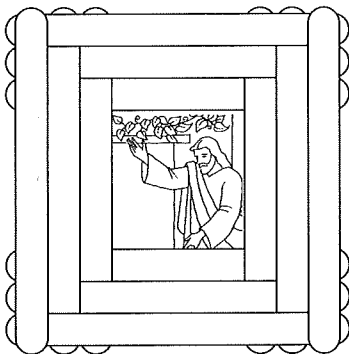
For each boy:

- 14 small craft sticks ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches)
- 1 small picture of Jesus (page 40)
- 1 small piece of cardboard (3 inches by 3 inches)
- 1 piece of string 3 inches long

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, craft glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys lay two craft sticks $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart and then put glue on the tips. Place two craft sticks across the first two sticks at the ends to form a $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch square.
2. The boys should put glue on the tips of two new craft sticks and place them $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches apart on the last two craft sticks.
3. Have the boys put glue $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the tip of two new craft sticks and place them on top of the last two craft sticks to form a $3\frac{3}{4}$ -inch square.
4. Repeat the process with four more craft sticks to form a 3-inch square on top of the $3\frac{3}{4}$ -inch square.
5. Cut the last two craft sticks at both ends so they are $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches long. Glue these between the last two craft sticks you glued. This will form a flat surface on which to glue the picture.
6. Photocopy one picture of Jesus (page 40) for each boy.
7. Have the boys color the picture of Jesus and glue it onto the cardboard.
8. Cut out the picture and cardboard so it is 3 inches by 3 inches and glue it on the back so the craft sticks form a picture frame.
9. Have the boys glue the 3-inch piece of string on the back of the frame for hanging.



RECREATION

WIN THE FIELD

The "field" can be a gym mat or a space approximately 8 by 10 feet marked on the floor with a piece of chalk. The two teams will line up opposite each other, each team about 10 feet outside the nearest edge of the field.

At a given signal, each team will rush to the field and attempt to get the greatest number of players onto the field and keep them there. Players may push and shove and dodge and pull as much as is necessary, but they must not grasp clothing. Take a point away from a team whose player pulls clothing.

At the end of a minute, blow a whistle. As soon as the whistle is blown, each player must freeze in his position. The team having the most boys completely on the mat or inside the marked field wins the joust. This game is also good for squad competition.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

IN A MINUTE

TEXT: Psalm 119:57-64

"Mark," Dad called, "come and take out the trash."

"Okay. I'll do it in a minute," Mark agreed. When Mother told Mark to clean his room, Mark answered, "Okay, in a minute." When asked to mow the lawn, "Just a minute—I'm busy now" was Mark's answer. The "minute" always stretched to many minutes. He had to be told several times before the work was done.

"Will you fix me a snack?" Mark asked when he came home from school one day. "I'm starving!"

"Sure," Mother agreed. "In just a minute." She didn't fix it. By the time Mark asked again, it was too close to dinnertime. He had to wait until then to eat.

After dinner Mark asked, "Dad will you play catch with me?"

"Sure will, Mark," Dad said nodding. "Just a minute."

Mark went out and bounced his ball while he waited. Finally he went to find Dad. "When are you coming out to play catch?" he asked.

Dad looked up over his newspaper. "Oh, in a minute," he replied, and he continued to read.

Mark waited a while, then asked again—and again. Each time he asked, he got the same answer. "But, Dad," Mark finally said, "you've said 'in a minute' three times now. It's been 30 minutes already."

Dad looked at his watch. "Hmmm, you don't mind keeping others waiting, but you sure hate to wait yourself, don't you?"

Mark's eyes widened. "You and Mom made me wait today on purpose, didn't you? I guess I deserve it for all the times I've made you wait. I'll try to do better from now on."

"Good," Dad said. "I'm wondering if you make God wait too. Do you take time each day for personal devotions, or do you always put it off 'for a minute'?"

Mark felt his face get warm. "I'm going to read my Bible and pray right now! No more 'in a minute' for me."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

In the Bible, King David wrote, "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies. I made haste and delayed not to keep thy commandments" (Psalm 119:59,60). He is saying that he thought about the wrong things he's done and he is not going to do them anymore. He says he will hurry and obey what

God tells him. Maybe David had put off doing what God wanted "for just a minute." Do you sometimes put things off for "just a minute"? Notice how often you do that this week. Think about it. Then decide to change. Start each day with God by reading the Bible and praying. Then go through the day doing your tasks the first time you're told—and smile! God is pleased with prompt and cheerful obedience.

TODAY'S KEY: Obey promptly.



Coloring pictures of Jesus to be photocopied.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 2 THEME:

Physical Fitness

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Obedient

LESSON 9:

Our Lungs

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to remember to obey

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OUR LUNGS AND A STORY ABOUT AEROBIC KICKS

QUESTIONS:

1. What job do our lungs do?
2. What is inside our lungs?
3. What will smoking do to our lungs?
4. Why are the Tarahumaras considered the greatest endurance runners in the world?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

BE OBEDIENT BECAUSE YOU FEAR GOD'S JUDGMENT

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:13-17

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord" (Colossians 3:20, NIV).

"Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord" (Colossians 3:20).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

BALLOON VOLLEYBALL

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

MOTHER KNOWS BEST

TEXT: Proverbs 6:20-23

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

OUR LUNGS

Our bodies make wastes all the time, whether we are sitting, standing, or running. These wastes need to be removed from our bodies in order for us to live. One of these wastes is a gas called carbon dioxide; it is removed by our lungs. Every time we breathe air—oxygen—in through our nose or mouth, it goes down through our windpipe and bronchial tubes and into our lungs. Inside our lungs are millions of tiny air sacs. These air sacs let the oxygen be taken into our blood and the carbon dioxide wastes to be removed and released into the air when we breathe out again. When we exercise, our muscles need extra energy to do their work. Our lungs supply extra oxygen to meet that need.

In order for our lungs to work, they must be healthy. Smoking hurts our lungs and can cause permanent damage to them. Coughing, bronchitis, or even emphysema can result from smoking. The best way to avoid these diseases is by never starting to smoke in the first place. *Bronchitis* is a condition that keeps a person constantly coughing to keep the airways to the lungs clear. *Emphysema* is a disease in which the tiny air sacs in the lungs are damaged by the tar and nicotine in cigarette smoke. People with really bad emphysema can't breathe well enough to work, play, or even walk across a room.

Note to commander: Get a book from the library so you can show the boys what their lungs look like inside. Several good books have color pictures, and some demonstrate the effects of smoking. Some also show what normal, healthy lungs should look like. Have the boys tell about friends or family members who smoke. Write down their names. Have all the boys join in prayer, asking God to deliver their friends and family members from smoking. Then give each boy a balloon and have him test his lung capacity as follows:

Here is how to test how much air your lungs hold. Take one deep breath and blow as much air into the balloon as you can, using just one breath. (*Have each boy compare the size of his balloon with the balloons of the other boys.*)

AEROBIC KICKS

Do you think you could kick a ball around for 2 days, non-stop, while covering 100 to 200 miles of hilly countryside as you move? That sounds impossible doesn't it? The Tarahumara Indians of Mexico like to run that kind of continuous kick-ball relay race, as often as they can, just for fun. They practice every day by running in the mountains where they live. They run just to keep in shape. The Tarahumaras are considered the greatest endurance runners in the world, but remember, it took them years of this kind of life-style to earn that honor.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

BE OBEDIENT BECAUSE YOU FEAR GOD'S JUDGMENT

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:13-17

Our Christian character trait for this unit is obedient, and it means a Royal Ranger is obedient: he obeys his parents, leaders, and those in authority. That means he can't always have his own way. Let's read what the Bible has to say about obedient children:

"Prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy'" (1 Peter 1:13-16, NIV).

It is God's will for us to be obedient, not just to parents, but to our leaders and all those in authority. The Bible says we should not be conformed to the evil desires we once had when we lived in ignorance. That means we should not do the wrong things we did before we knew better—before we were saved and gave our lives to Jesus. Perhaps some of you think, *I will just wait until I am older and then I will be obedient.* Don't fool yourself. It will be a lot harder to be obedient when you get older. Being disobedient is a sin; it can become a habit that is hard to break. The older you get the harder it will be to change your ways. Now is the time to decide that you are going to serve Jesus and be obedient to those in authority over you.

God is holy. He does not sin. He wants us to be holy just as He is. Remember, His Son Jesus gave His life so we might live forever. God raised Jesus from the dead. That showed God's power. If God can raise Jesus from the dead as He said He would, then we can be sure He will also keep the other promises He has made in His Word.

The Bible says, "If ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning [or life] here in fear" (1 Peter 1:17). Notice two important things in this verse. First, God is going to judge everyone's work, no matter how good, bad, old, young, important, unimportant, rich, or poor a person is. Some of you may get the idea that it is all right to sin because God has never judged you. Remember, the day is coming when all of us will be judged. You may think no one saw you when you sinned or disobeyed, but God saw you. He has kept a record in heaven of every sin you have ever committed. If you have given your life to Jesus and asked Him to forgive your sins, they are washed from God's record book by the blood of Jesus.

Second, we should spend our lives here in fear. This is not fear like being afraid of the dark. It means to fear the judgments of God. If you know God keeps a record of everything you do, then you will want to be sure all your sins are forgiven and forgotten by God.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Has God's record of the wrong things you've done been erased? Have you been obedient to those who have charge over you? Do you fear the judgments of God? You can be sure your sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus by being sorry for your sin and asking Jesus to forgive you. Raise your hand if you want your record in heaven clear. *(Pray with the boys that God will forgive each sin and erase it from His records. Give thanks that God promises He will forgive if we ask.)*

CRAFT

HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART

MATERIALS NEEDED

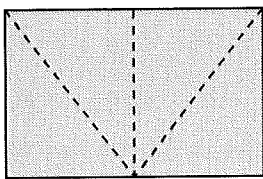
For each boy:

1 sheet of red construction paper

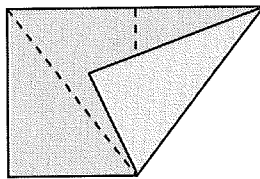
2 white 3- by 5-inch cards

Shared items: scissors, pencils, crayons, stapler

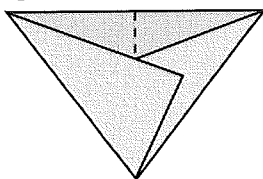
1 Fold on dotted lines



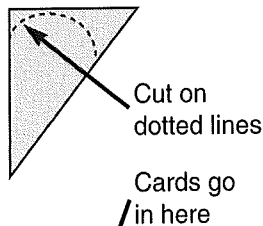
2



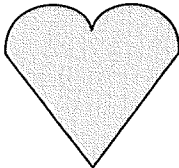
3



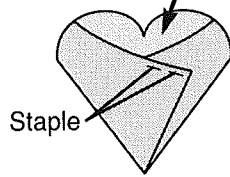
4



5



FRONT



BACK

DIRECTIONS:

1. Fold the construction paper in half just enough to mark the center on one side only. Then open it again. Or use a ruler to mark the center (6 inches from the end).

2. Starting at the center, fold one side from the bottom center and the top corner.

3. Then fold the other side from corner to center to form a "V"-shaped cone.

4. Fold the "V" in half down the center and cut the top in the shape of half a heart.

5. Unfold the "V" to show your heart. Then staple the back halves together.

6. Have the boys write the Bible verses from last week and this week on the white 3- by 5-inch cards and put them in the hearts. Next week they will add another card.

7. Have each boy write his name on the front of his heart.

RECREATION

BALLOON VOLLEYBALL

Move the chairs out of the way and set a table in the center of the room. Divide the boys into two teams, with one team on each side of the table. Have the boys play volleyball over the table. Be sure they understand the rules.

RULES:

1. If the balloon touches the floor, the other team gets the point.

2. If one team hits the balloon more than three times, the other team gets a point.

3. No pushing or shoving allowed.

4. If anyone screams excessively, he will be taken out of the game for a 1-minute penalty.

5. If the balloon lands on the table, the commander will place it back in play.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

MOTHER KNOWS BEST

TEXT: Proverbs 6:20-23

The nice, clean car was going to be a surprise, for Dad, Mom, Bill, and Sally all worked hard to make it shine. As Bill ran to get the hose, Mother said, "Now don't turn that on until I tell you." A minute later, water squirted all over her. "Bill," she shouted, "turn that off!"

Bill quickly turned off the faucet. "I just meant to test it," he said. "I guess I turned it too hard."

Just then Sally ran up. "Can I make some lemonade, Mother? I know how."

"Just wait a minute, Sally," Mother said, as she dried herself. "I tucked the lemonade mix on the shelf with my good glasses. I'll get it down as soon as I'm dry."

A few minutes later, Mother heard a crash. "Oh, no!" she exclaimed. "My good glasses! Sally and Bill, come here! I want to talk to you." With downcast eyes,

the children stood before her. "I told you both to 'wait' this morning, but you both disobeyed. What happened when you did that?"

"We got in trouble," Bill admitted.

Sally began to cry. She sobbed. "I only meant to help."

Bill nodded.

"Well," Mother said, "after this, I want you to remember that disobedience always brings unhappiness and trouble—even when you think you're helping. This is true whether you break one of my rules or one of God's rules. Now, let's see if we can patch up the morning. You children finish the car while I clean up the glass. Then we'll have some lemonade together while we discuss some ways to help you be obedient. You be thinking about it."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you had the unhappy feeling that comes from disobeying? Sometimes it seems that parents are too fussy, or too strict, or maybe even too careful, doesn't it? God says they are to be obeyed. The Bible says, "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck" (Proverbs 6:20). That means to obey your father's rules, and remember the things your mother teaches you. Make them a part of your life so you will avoid the unhappiness that disobedience brings. (Pray that God will help the boys remember to obey their parents. Then sing "This Is the Day" or another familiar chorus.)

TODAY'S KEY: Remember to obey.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 2 THEME:

Physical Fitness

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Obedient

LESSON 10:

Our Heart and Pulse

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to obey because it is for our own good

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

YOUR HEART AND PULSE and a story about MARATHON "MISS-TAKE"

QUESTIONS:

1. How fast does your heart beat?
2. What makes the sound when your heart beats?
3. How can you check your pulse?
4. Why do you think women were not allowed to run at first in the Boston Marathon?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

IT IS POSSIBLE TO OBEY EVERY TIME

TEXT: Philippians 2:5-9

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5, NIV).

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

MAKE YOUR OWN JUMP ROPE

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

JUMPING ROPE AND 9 MOVING MINUTES (jogging)

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

REMEMBER THE RULES

TEXT: Proverbs 4:1-10

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

OUR HEART AND PULSE

Our Heart—The heart is a hollow muscle about the size of your fist. It is in the center of your chest between your lungs. It pumps about 8,000 gallons of blood each day through 12,000 miles of blood vessels. Your heart must beat over 100,000 times each 24 hours to do this. Each time the heart beats, it squirts about ½ cup of blood. The heart has valves that open and close to keep the blood flowing in one direction. The heart relaxes for about half a second between beats. When a doctor or nurse listens to your heart through a stethoscope, the sound they hear is from the valves slamming shut.

For an example of how your heart works, make a fist with one hand and squeeze it with the other hand 80 times a minute. This is how hard your heart has to work all the time. Think how wonderful God is to have made your heart so it beats all the time without your thinking about it and without its getting tired.

Our Pulse—The resting pulse rate for boys 7 or 8 years old should be about 80 to 110 beats a minute. Use your fingers to check your pulse. First, find a pulse point on the inside of your left wrist, between the bone and tendon on your thumb side. Or find one on your neck on the right or left side of your windpipe. Check your pulse for 15 seconds—if you have been resting for a while, you should be able to count between 20 and 27 beats. Some healthy boys can have pulse rates even higher than 27 beats in 15 seconds. Check your pulse after doing some exercises. You will find it is higher after exercise because your heart must beat faster in order to supply the extra oxygen and sugar your muscles need to keep you moving.

MARATHON “MISS-TAKE”

The year was 1967 when Kathy Switzer decided to run in the all-male Boston Marathon. Women were not allowed to run in it at that time. In order to fool the judges Kathy sent in her application signed “K. Switzer.” She did not mention that she was a woman. On the day of the race she tried to hide her identity by wearing a hooded sweatshirt.

After the race began, the hood soon came off her head. The news spread like wildfire—K. Switzer was not a Ken or a Kevin. K. was a girl! Soon the director of the marathon heard about it, went to where Kathy was running, and tried to throw her out of the race. Kathy’s male running companion saw what was about to happen. He pushed the director out of the way so Kathy could finish the race.

Not until 5 years later, in 1972, were women officially allowed to enter the Boston Marathon. Since then more and more women have become interested in fitness. In 1979, five hundred seventeen women finished the race. That proves women do have the endurance needed for long-distance running and should be allowed to race. Now women are able to run in races all over the country.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

IT IS POSSIBLE TO OBEY EVERY TIME

TEXT: Philippians 2:5-9

The theme for this unit has been obedience. We heard several stories about what happened when people were not obedient. It is possible for us to be obedient every time we are tempted. Jesus was obedient every time and He set the example for us to follow.

God’s Word says, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name” (Philippians 2:5-9).

This tells us that we can have the mind of Jesus Christ inside of us. Once you are saved and have given your life to Jesus, it is time to stop your old way of thinking and let the mind of Christ Jesus be inside of your mind. That means to have the same attitude, or way of thinking, as Jesus. Do you think the mind of Jesus would be disobedient? (*Let the boys answer.*) Jesus did not sin. If we have an attitude like His, then we will want to obey and do what is right. Remember, we still are free to choose what we will do. It is up to us to choose to do right.

Each of us has two natures inside—the old sinful nature and our new nature given to us when we asked Jesus to forgive our sins and be our Savior. Each of us has been given the ability to choose which nature will control what we say or do. We choose what we will do. We can choose to have Jesus’ attitude, or mind, and obey. It is not easy to make the right choice, but with the help of Jesus we can. Remember that Jesus was obedient and He has given us the ability to make the right choice and obey also.

If we sin, it is because we have made that choice. If we obey, it is because we have chosen to follow Jesus’ example.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Just as our bodies get stronger as we exercise them, our ability to make right choices gets stronger each time we choose to do right. What choices have you been making? Have you chosen to learn what God wants us to do so you can make right choices? Do you want to have Jesus’ mind, or attitude? If you do, now is the right time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you make the right choices from now on. Remember, it will not always be easy, but with God’s help you can do it!

CRAFT

Before starting the craft, have the boys copy the Bible verse on a white 3- by 5-inch card and place it in the heart they made last week.

MAKE YOUR OWN JUMP ROPE

MATERIALS NEEDED

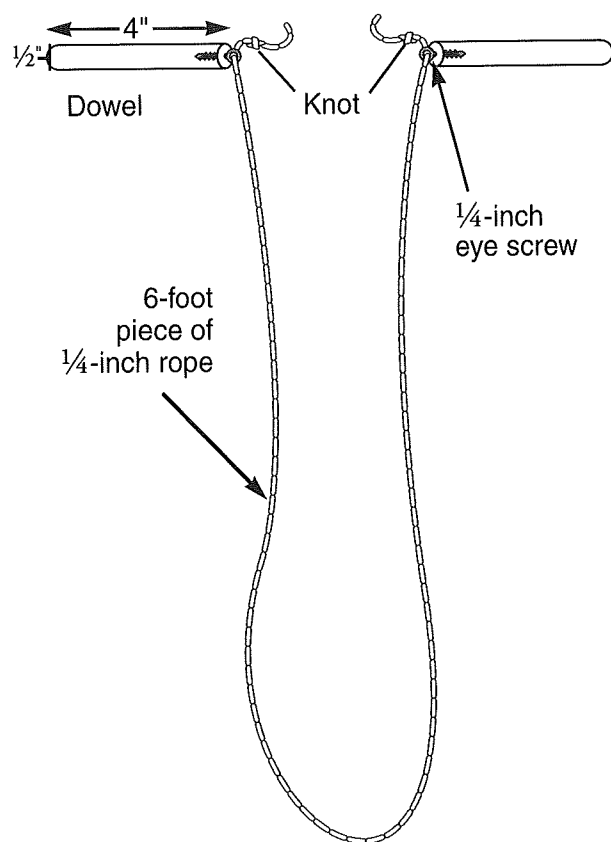
For each boy:

A 6-foot piece of ¼-inch rope

Two ¼-inch eye screws

2 dowel rods (½ inch—or larger—by 4 inches long)

Shared items: pliers or screwdriver, knife (to be used by commander only)



DIRECTIONS:

1. Commander should pre-drill a small hole (½ inch) in one end of the dowel rod so it will be easy to insert the eye screws.
2. Give each boy two dowels and have him screw an eye screw in the end of each one.
3. Insert one end of the ¼-inch rope through one of the eye screws and tie a knot in the rope. Repeat this for the other end of the rope and the second eye screw.
4. It may be necessary to shorten the rope for some of the boys.

RECREATION

JUMPING ROPE AND 9 MOVING MINUTES (jogging)

Have the boys practice jumping rope until they can all do it correctly. Encourage the boys to try with only one foot, and then alternating feet. Don't let the boys quit. Each boy should at least try until he can successfully jump rope 5 to 10 times in a row.

Have the boys do some stretching. They should sit on the floor or ground with legs straight and feet about a foot apart. Then they should reach down and try to touch their toes and hold them for 10 seconds. Then have them stand 4 to 5 feet from a tree or post, keep one foot flat on the ground, lean forward, and hold onto the tree; this will stretch the back of their leg. Repeat this for the other leg. Then for some moving minutes (9), lead the boys in jogging. When you finish, do the stretches again.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

REMEMBER THE RULES

TEXT: Proverbs 4:1-10

Katie and Dale were on their way to the neighborhood store when they heard sirens. "Hey! A fire!" Dale said eagerly. "Look! Across the street, just up ahead!" As they watched, people gathered and fire trucks raced by. "Let's go," Dale said. "We can't see much from here."

"We're not supposed to cross Main Street," Katie objected. "We promised Mom."

"Oh, yeah." Dale shrugged.

Dale and Katie were eager to see what was happening, but they didn't cross the street. Several minutes later, yelling and screaming came from the crowd as a corner of a building crumbled and fell toward them. Someone was hurt, and policemen forced everyone back out of the way.

Later, Katie and Dale told their mother about it. "They put the fire out really fast. Water was everywhere," Katie said.

"You should have seen those hoses—they were huge!" added Dale. "I didn't think I'd ever get to see firemen at work like that."

"Well, you've had a lot of excitement," Mother said. "Now, tell me, did you have any trouble remembering our rule not to cross Main Street?"

Dale nodded. "I was going to run across," he admitted. "Then Katie remembered the rule, so we didn't."

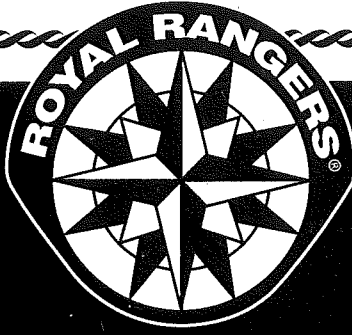
"You always say disobedience brings unhappiness and trouble," Katie said slowly. "Mom, if we had disobeyed, we could have been in trouble because part of a building fell. A boy was hurt, and an ambulance took him to the hospital. Just think—that could have been us!"

Mother hugged them. "Then you wouldn't have been able to go to the beach this afternoon," she said. When the children squealed in delight, she added, "Daddy and I planned to take you today. Just as disobedience brings unhappiness, obedience brings very happy times."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live" (Proverbs 4:2-4). The Bible tells us to listen to our fathers when they give us rules to follow. If we remember and obey their rules, we will be wise and our lives will be better. Have you learned that it pays to obey your parents? You may not always understand their rules or think all of them are necessary. But it's your responsibility to obey them as God wants and trust Him to bring about good in your life. If you have not obeyed and you are sorry, God will forgive you when you ask. *(Instruct the boys to bow their heads. Pray with them that God will help them remember the things they're told and to obey.)*

TODAY'S KEY: It pays to obey.



UNIT THREE

**Civic
Pride**

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 3 THEME:

Civic Pride

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courteous

LESSON 11:

Keep America Beautiful

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to grow spiritual fruit in our lives

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

QUESTIONS:

1. What does the slogan "Keep America beautiful" mean?
2. What are some of the ways people took pride in their cities?
3. What is a mural?
4. How fast does a tree grow?
5. How can you see a tree grow?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

HOW WE GROW

TEXT: Galatians 5:22,23

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV).

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

GRASS SEED PLANTER

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

ONION

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE LEAST OF THESE

TEXT: Matthew 25:34-40

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

Have you ever heard the slogan “Help keep America beautiful”? What do you think it means? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) The slogan was made up to help us take pride in our country. Ads on TV and in the newspaper made us think about cleaning up the roadside. We saw pictures of a beautiful river with trash and garbage piled up on the bank. There were pictures of walls and bridges with graffiti (drawings, scratched or scribbled, on walls or other public surfaces) all over them. These ads encouraged us to show pride in ourselves and in our cities by cleaning up the trash and painting the ugly walls. The ads also encouraged us to plant trees and cut down the weeds in empty lots.

A lot of people did what they could to help clean up and beautify America. Today you will find murals (large pictures painted directly on walls) in many of our cities. Many children today get together under the direction of their schoolteachers, or some other leader, and paint beautiful things on the walls that once had graffiti on them. It is better to see a colorful picture on a public wall than bad words. Have you ever seen one of these pictures on TV or while you were riding in a car?

In other areas of our country people who work in the forest planned tree-planting parties. People got together to plant trees in bare fields. After several years, the trees will grow to become a big forest. Sometimes in state fairs these forestry workers would give out free trees for people to plant in their own yards. Have you ever planted a tree and then watched to see it grow? If you have, you know a tree doesn’t grow very fast. In fact, trees grow so slowly that if we watched them all day long or even for a week we wouldn’t see any change. To see a tree grow, we must first take a good look at it and then wait a long, long time and look at it again. It takes months or years to see trees grow. The best time to watch a tree grow is during the spring and summer. Just before or after school gets out for the summer, find a small tree in your yard or in a nearby park and measure it carefully. You can use a tape measure or a piece of string to measure from the ground to the top of the tree. Then put your measurement in a safe place and wait until summer is over. Just before school starts, measure that same tree again. Compare your new measurement with the measurement you took when school let out. You will then be able to see just how much that tree has grown.

We are going to plant some seeds that you can take home with you. We are not going to use tree seeds because they take too long to grow. Instead we will use grass seeds, which grow quickly. In a week or so you will be able to see the seed you planted grow and become a plant. You will need to take good care of your seeds by watering and placing them near a window so they get plenty of light. Next week you can tell the group how much your seeds have grown.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

HOW WE GROW

TEXT: Galatians 5:22,23

Our Christian character trait for this unit is courteous. Do you know what that means? Can anyone tell me the point of the Royal Ranger Code that tells us what *courteous* means? (*Allow the boys to answer.*) It means “to be polite, kind, and thoughtful.” The Bible talks about being polite, kind, and thoughtful as “the fruit of the Spirit.” The Scripture verse is Galatians 5:22 and 23. You may want to find it in your Bible so you can read it along with me. (*Give the boys highlighting markers and have them highlight these verses.*)

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law” (Galatians 5:22,23, NIV).

We talked about how long it takes a tree to grow and what we would need to do to be able to see that growth. Does anyone have any idea how long it takes a tree to grow fruit? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) It takes several years for a tree to grow fruit. Some plants (which are really not trees), like the banana plant, can grow fruit in less than one year from the time the new shoot is planted in the ground. Other fruit trees, such as oranges, apples, pears, and plums, take from 5 to 10 years from the time the seed is planted in the ground until they begin to grow fruit.

Planting a tree and growing fruit is like our life as a Christian. When we believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins, we are given new life, we are born again (John 3:3,16). We become a “new creation” in Jesus. The Bible says, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV). Being born again and becoming a new creation is not something we can see. These things happen in our spirits. You can compare it to planting a seed in the ground. Once a seed is planted you can’t see it anymore. You must wait until that seed sprouts and begins to grow before you can tell what kind of tree it is going to be.

God’s Word is the seed that is planted in your heart when you admit your sins to Him and ask Him to forgive you. In the natural world (the things we can see and touch), the seeds we plant must have water and sunlight in order to grow. In our spiritual lives (which we cannot see or touch), the spiritual seed must also be watered. Reading the Bible and praying every day are to our spiritual seed the same as water and sunlight are to natural seeds. If we do this, the spiritual seed will grow in our lives.

We wait for trees to grow fruit. We must also wait for the fruit of the Spirit to grow in our lives. It may be a long time before we see love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, self-control, or the other fruit of the Spirit. We must not give up. No matter what happens, we must continue to believe in Jesus, read our Bibles, and pray so we will grow, or we will die spiritually.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you given your heart to Jesus? If not, would you like to ask Him right now to forgive your sins? If you have already asked Him to be your Savior, have you been watering the spiritual seed in your life with prayer and Bible reading? (*Pray with those who want to be forgiven of sin.*)

CRAFT**GRASS SEED PLANTER****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

A 9- to 12-ounce plastic or Styrofoam cup

½ sheet of construction paper

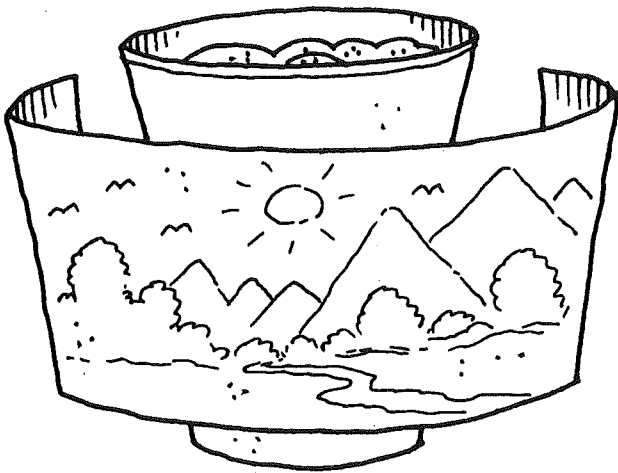
1 cup of potting soil

1 teaspoon of grass seed

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, clear tape or glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys cut a piece of construction paper large enough to go around and cover the cup they have.
2. Have the boys color a nature scene on the paper.
3. Tape or glue the paper onto the cup.



Grass Seed Planter

4. Assist the boys in filling their cups $\frac{3}{4}$ full with potting soil.
5. Sprinkle enough grass seed on top to cover the dirt. Then add a small amount of soil, enough to barely cover the seeds.
6. Instruct the boys to gently water their grass seed when they get home and check it every day to be sure the soil does not get dry.

RECREATION**ONION**

We are going to find out who is the toughest "onion." Have the boys line up single file in front of a pole or post. Have the first boy place his hands around the pole and hold on tight. The next boy in line will put his hands around the first boy's waist, the next boy in line will put his hands around that boy's waist and so on.

The object of the game is to pull the tough onion off the pole. At a signal, all the boys start pulling as hard as they can. If any boy lets go, he must go to the back of the line. Do not allow any boy to pull on someone else's clothes. Set a time limit of a few minutes; if the boy holding the pole is not pulled off, he is called a "tough onion." Have the boys take turns holding the pole with the other boys trying to pull him off. Give a small prize for all the tough onions. Make sure everyone gets a chance to hold onto the pole.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**THE LEAST OF THESE****TEXT: Matthew 25:34-40**

Eric and Lyndon were still talking about the new boy when they got off the bus at their grandfather's farm. "Did you ever see such a sissy? He's afraid to do anything," Lyndon sneered.

"Wait until Buddy and the guys get through with him tomorrow," Eric said, chuckling. As the boys entered their grandmother's kitchen, they were still laughing about the practical joke Buddy had planned for the newcomer.

"Hello, boys," Grandma said, smiling. "What's so funny?"

"Oh, just a trick Buddy is going to play on the new boy tomorrow," Eric answered as he reached for a cookie. "It'll probably scare him half to death."

"I hope you boys aren't in on it," Grandma cautioned.

"Well, not really. At least, it wasn't our idea." Lyndon quickly changed the subject. "Did your chicks come in?"

"They're in the garage," Grandma said.

"Come on, Eric. Let's go see them." Lyndon was already out the door.

Soon the boys burst back into the kitchen. "Grandma, come quick! One poor little chick is about to die!" Eric grabbed his grandmother's hand.

"The others are pecking it to death!" Lyndon was horrified. "It has blood all over it." In the garage their grandmother removed the half-dead chick and doctored its wounds while the boys watched.

"Hateful chicks!" Eric raged. "Picking on a little one!"

Grandmother looked at Eric. "Chicks are not the only creatures who can be cruel."

Lyndon was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"I know what she means," Eric said slowly. "She's talking about our picking on the new boy in school."

"Oh—but we weren't going to hurt him," said Lyndon. "We were just going to tease him a little."

"There are wounds besides those that leave bruises, and cuts besides those that bleed," their grandmother said. "Jesus said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'"

Lyndon shrugged. "What does that mean, Grandma?"

"It means we can hurt people with our words or actions. The people's feelings are hurt, but no one can see the wound. Jesus said if we are kind to someone who is hurting, it's the same as being kind to Him," Grandma said.

As the boys followed their grandmother into the house, Eric whispered, "Tomorrow, Lyndon, let's see if we can get Buddy to change his mind."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"I was ahungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in" (Matthew 25:35). That means when someone was hungry or thirsty and someone else fed him, it was like feeding Jesus. Do you know someone who is sad, lonely, or hurting inside? Do you know someone the other kids are always picking on? Have you joined them? Remember, the way you treat another is the way you treat Jesus. What can you do to help others? (*Pray with the boys, asking Jesus to help them be careful not to hurt others with the things they say and do. Thank God that He loves even those that no one else does.*)

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 3 THEME:

Civic Pride

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courteous

LESSON 12:

Trash, Trash, Everywhere

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to clean the sin out of our lives

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

TRASH, TRASH, EVERYWHERE

QUESTIONS:

1. What is a landfill?
2. What is most trash called?
3. What is a "sanitary" landfill?
4. How is methane, or natural, gas made?
5. What is removed before trash is mass burned?
6. Why should we keep a compost in our yards??

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE TRASH IN OUR LIVES

TEXT: Galatians 5:16-18

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature" (Galatians 5:16, NIV).

"Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

JUICE CAN PENCIL HOLDER

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

TRASH CAN RELAY RACE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

A FRESH LUMP

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

TRASH, TRASH EVERYWHERE

Have you ever wondered where the trash goes after the garbage truck picks it up? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) In most states it goes to a landfill. A landfill is just a big hole in the ground, several acres in size, where the garbage trucks dump their trash. After the garbage truck leaves, bulldozers spread out the trash and then cover it with a layer of dirt about 6 inches deep. More garbage trucks keep bringing more trash every day. This keeps the bulldozers busy spreading out the trash and covering it with a layer of dirt. After several years the landfill gets full, but the bulldozers keep covering trash until a high mound or hill is formed where the hole used to be.

Most trash is called solid waste—wood, metal, cloth, plastic, food, paper, and other *solid* things. It must be covered with dirt to keep animals and insects out of it. If trash was left uncovered, the animals and insects would soon get into it looking for food. Then they become disease-carrying pests. On the average, each person in the United States throws away over 3 pounds of solid waste daily. That's enough trash to keep 100,000 garbage trucks busy every day.

Today's dump sites are known as sanitary (healthy) landfills because they have a layer of clay or plastic that covers the bottom and sides of the hole. A liquid forms as the garbage begins to rot. This layer of clay or plastic is needed to prevent that liquid from getting into the groundwater. The liquid contains many harmful chemicals and will make the groundwater unsafe to drink or use. Many landfills have put drains at the bottom of the hole to drain off this harmful liquid.

When a landfill is almost full, the rotting garbage begins to turn into methane, or natural, gas. This gas can be dangerous if it is not removed, so many landfills sell this gas as a fuel. Perhaps many of you use natural gas in your homes. It may have come from a landfill.

Some cities don't use landfills. Instead they sort the trash and remove tires, large appliances, and any metal. Then the trash is cut up into little pieces that can be used as fuel for power plants to make electricity.

Still other cities burn the trash after removing the tires, large appliances, and metal. This method is called the mass burn process. Sometimes it makes harmful chemicals that get out into the air.

In some cities a lot of the solid waste is made up of lawn clippings and leaves. This type of waste should not be sent to the dump. It can be placed in a pile somewhere in our yards. It will then become compost (a mixture for fertilizing and conditioning soil). By adding vegetable scraps that Mom normally throws out and some fertilizer, the lawn clippings and leaves will rot quickly. The compost pile can then be used as potting soil for plants or fertilizer to make the plants in your garden grow better.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE TRASH IN OUR LIVES

TEXT: Galatians 5:16-18

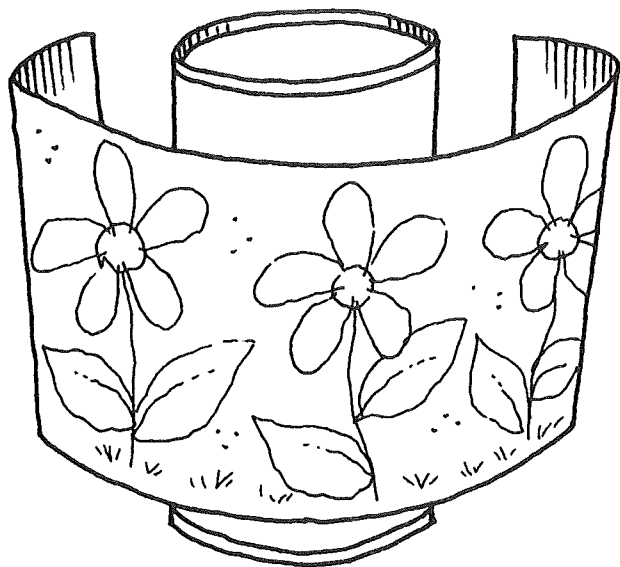
We learned about some of the ways cities get rid of their trash, or garbage. Think about the trash in our lives. Each of us has habits or thoughts that are not good. When we give our hearts to Jesus, these habits or thoughts are things we would like to throw out of our lives, just as we throw out the trash we no longer want in our homes.

It is easy to get rid of the trash from our homes. We put it in the trash can, and the garbage truck hauls it away. In our spiritual lives it is not so easy to get rid of the trash (bad thoughts or habits). The Bible calls the trash in our lives our sinful nature, the part inside us that wants to do wrong, that hates to do right. The Bible tells us the reason it is so hard for us to throw away the bad thoughts or habits: "The flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Galatians 5:17). That means that the part inside of us that wants to do wrong fights against the part that wants to do right.

When we give our hearts to Jesus, He comes to live in our lives. It is His Spirit inside of us that is against our sinful nature. Our sinful nature always wants to do what is wrong, while our spirit, where Jesus lives, wants to do what is right. The choice of what we will do is up to us. We can listen to the bad thoughts or desires from our sinful nature or we can listen to the Spirit of God that lives within us. If we choose to listen to what the Spirit wants us to do we will grow spiritually.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you living by what the Spirit wants or by what your sinful nature wants? Are you obeying the part inside you that wants you to do wrong, that wants you to ignore opportunities to do good? Or are you choosing to do what God wants? It is time to get serious about living the way Jesus wants. Jesus is coming back very soon. We need to be ready so we can go with Him. If you have not asked Jesus to come into your life, today is the right time for you to ask Him to forgive your sins and then start living for Him. (*Pray with any boy who responds.*)



Juice Can Pencil Holder

CRAFT

JUICE CAN PENCIL HOLDER

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 small can of fruit juice for each boy to drink
- 1 sheet of construction paper

Shared items: good quality can opener, scissors, crayons or markers, and tape or glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have one of the boys give thanks for the juice.
2. Give each boy a can of juice and let him drink it.
3. Have each boy rinse his can and cut the top out of the can, using the can opener.
4. Cut a piece of construction paper wide enough to cover the can.
5. Color a design on the construction paper.
6. Wrap the construction paper around the can and tape or glue it in place.

RECREATION

TRASH CAN RELAY RACE

Divide the boys into two or more teams and have each team stand in a single file line. About 10 feet in front of the lines, place one trash can for each team of boys. About 30 to 50 feet beyond the trash can put a large pile of trash.

At your signal, the first boy in each team will run past the trash can to the pile of trash. He will pick up

ONE piece of trash, run back, and throw it into the trash can. If he misses the trash can or knocks it over, he must stop and fix it before continuing. Once the trash is in the trash can and the can is standing up, that boy will run and tag the next boy in line for his team, then go to the back of the line.

Play continues until all the trash is in the trash cans. The team with the most trash in their trash can is declared the winner. Provide sufficient trash so each boy will get to race more than one time.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

A FRESH LUMP

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

"Mother, those loaves of bread look so little," Janice said as she watched Mother baking bread. "Shouldn't you put more dough in the pans?"

Mother laughed. "Come and look at them in about an hour," she said as she set the loaves aside.

Janice forgot about the baking as she played "house" with her friend Audrey. They wore some of Mother's old dresses and high heels and pretended to be grand ladies. As Janice teetered through the hall, she noticed a small bottle of perfume on Mother's dresser. She knew she wasn't supposed to touch Mother's things, but grand ladies should have some perfume. They would use only a very little. She stopped and listened. Mother was still in the kitchen, so Janice tiptoed into Mother's bedroom. She opened the bottle and put a tiny bit on her wrist. Ummm! It did smell good! She shared it with Audrey too.

A little later Mother called, "Come have a look at these loaves now, Janice. They're ready for the oven."

The "grand ladies" tromped to the kitchen. Janice was surprised to see that the loaves now were raised over the top of the pans.

Mother sniffed. "What do I smell? Did you use my perfume?"

Janice was surprised. She had meant to wash it off. "N-no," she stammered.

Just then Janice's little sister Amanda came into the kitchen. "Smell me!" she said. "I smell good." She held a half-empty perfume bottle and she definitely did smell.

"Amanda!" Mother demanded. "Why are you wearing my perfume? You know better than to do that!"

Tears filled Amanda's eyes. She turned to Janice. "Janny used it," she said, "so I thought I could too."

Mother looked at Janice. Soon Janice told her the whole story. Mother looked stern as she pointed to the loaves of bread. "Remember how little the loaves were earlier? The bread contains a small amount of yeast that causes the bread to grow. Your 'little' sin of disobedience has grown too. You disobeyed and that caused you to lie to me. It also spreads to others. Your little sister was watching you. Then she did what you did."

"I'm sorry, Mother," Janice said. "I thought it wouldn't matter. It was just a little bit wrong."

"Little sins grow into more sin," Mother said. "That's why the Bible says we need to get rid of the 'yeast,' or sin, in our lives. We do this by telling our sin to God and not doing it anymore. God will forgive us when we ask Him."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened" (1 Corinthians 5:6,7, KJV). ("Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough? Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast"—NIV.) That means doing a little wrong can lead to doing more wrong. Are you tempted to do something you know isn't right, as Janice was? Do you use words that wouldn't please Jesus? Do you sometimes disobey your parents? Be careful. Clean out that "yeast," or sin, before it can grow in your life.

TODAY'S KEY: Clean out sin.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 3 THEME:

Civic Pride

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courteous

LESSON 13:

Why Recycle?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to obey Him because our sin also affects others

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHY RECYCLE?

QUESTIONS:

1. What is recycling?
2. Why is it important to recycle?
3. What can be recycled?
4. How much energy does it take to recycle aluminum cans?
5. What can you do if you want to recycle?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

POLITE, KIND, AND THOUGHTFUL

TEXT: Matthew 5:38-42

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:39, NIV).

"Resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:39).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

EGG CARTON CATERPILLAR

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HIDDEN MEN

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

WHO'S HURT

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

WHY RECYCLE

Recycling is something everyone is doing. Do you know why? (*Let the boys answer.*) Recycling saves money, time, and space in our landfills. Recycling also happens in nature. Think about the dead trees and animals you have seen. What happens to them? (*Let the boys answer.*) They rot and become part of the soil. Then the soil grows new plants that feed the animals. This is a natural cycle in nature.

Recycling our trash into the soil is not that easy. Glass and cans, along with a lot of other trash, don't rot as trees and animals do. In fact, solid waste like these things is a big problem in most of our landfills. The more people recycle glass, paper, plastic, and cans, the more they help our country's trash problem. Some records show that every year each person throws away 5 pounds of aluminum cans, 2 trees' worth of paper, 80 pounds of glass and jars, 88 pounds of plastics, 72 pounds of tin cans, and about 10 times his own weight in household garbage. That's a lot of trash and most of it could be recycled if we took the time to sort it out.

Here is an example of what can be saved by recycling. Using scrap aluminum takes less than one-tenth of the energy it takes to make new metal from raw materials. Aluminum soda cans, for instance, are worth collecting for recycling. It takes 31 barrels of oil to make a ton of aluminum from raw material. It takes only two barrels of oil when scrap aluminum is reused.

Not everything can be recycled. Steel scrap, for example, may have bits of other metals that will make the new steel breakable and hard to shape. Some other items, such as paper, don't really save any money, but fewer trees have to be cut to make new paper.

Last week we learned that some cities, after removing tires, large appliances, and metal, cut up the trash into little pieces that can be used as fuel for power plants.

Here is what you can do to help in recycling. First, tell Mom and Dad that you want to recycle. The things that can be recycled are glass, cardboard, paper, plastic soda bottles, and aluminum cans. Then ask your family to help you collect these items and take them to the recycling center nearest you. The different items will go to different places. Don't mix different types of trash in the same bin. (*If your city has a trash recycling program, read their instructions and follow them. If there is no recycling program in your city, find out where the nearest recycling locations are. Have this information available for any boys who want to recycle.*)

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

POLITE, KIND, AND THOUGHTFUL

TEXT: Matthew 5:38-42

Our Christian character trait for this unit is *courteous*; it is part of the Royal Ranger Code. It means we should be polite, kind, and thoughtful. Being polite

means we don't talk back to our parents or leaders. We answer "Yes, sir" or "Yes, ma'am." Being kind means treating someone with respect, or doing something nice for them. Being thoughtful means thinking of ways that you can do something nice for someone else. Jesus said this about being courteous:

"Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: but I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:38,39).

Jesus talked about the law that said "an eye for an eye." That is, before God gave such a law, the punishment was often worse than the crime. If you hurt someone (knocked out a tooth, for example), he might kill you. Under the Old Testament law, God said that the punishment could only equal the crime: "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." But God sent Jesus to change things even more. He tells us if someone hits us on one cheek, we should turn the other cheek and let him hit us again. This seems like a hard thing to do. It is against our sinful nature, but after Jesus comes into our lives we have the right to choose what we are going to do. We don't have to hit someone back.

God has made us able to become His children. Once we believe on Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins, we have the power to become sons of God. One way we can use this power is by obeying God's Word. We have a will; we can *choose* to do whatever we want to do. But if we want to become sons of God and live with Him forever in heaven, then we must choose to obey Him. It is up to us to choose to obey. It is God's Word, but it is our choice to obey or not to obey.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been obeying God's Word or do you get even when someone hurts you? If someone pushes you and you push him back, that's following the law of the Old Testament of an eye for an eye. (If you push and kick, you are not even obeying the Old Testament!) This is not what God's Word tells us to do now. Jesus wants us to love and forgive others. Would you like to ask Jesus to forgive you for your sins and to help you obey His Word and be kind to others? (*Pray with any boys who respond.*)

CRAFT

EGG CARTON CATERPILLAR

MATERIALS NEEDED

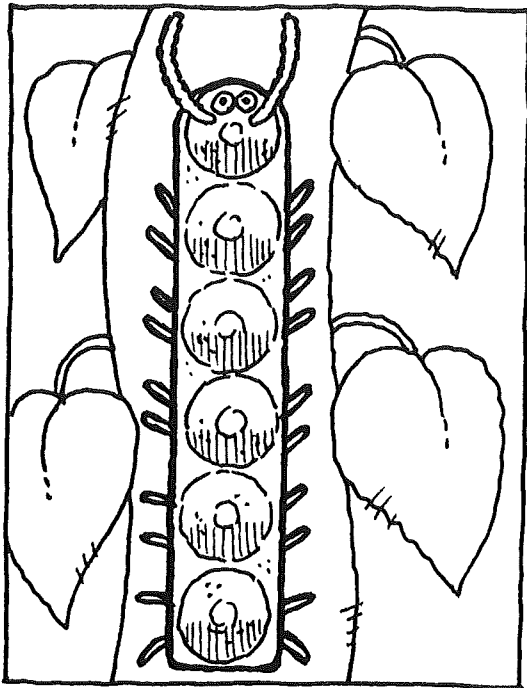
For each boy:

One half of an egg carton (split lengthwise)

1 pipe cleaner

1 sheet of white or light-colored construction paper

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, glue, glitter



Egg Carton Caterpillar

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Cut the egg cartons in half lengthwise with a sharp knife.

1. Have each boy trim his egg carton to remove the top and front latch, then glue it onto the construction paper, open cup down toward the paper.
2. Have each boy cut a pipe cleaner in half and attach it to the front of the egg carton to form antenna for the caterpillar.
3. Draw legs on the paper beside the egg carton and decorate the caterpillar with markers or glitter or both.
4. Remind the boys that caterpillars have eyes. Some even have tails. They crawl on tree limbs and eat leaves. The boys may want to draw a tree or leaves on the paper also.

RECREATION

HIDDEN MEN

Divide the boys into two or more groups (three or four is best). Each group picks one boy to hide. The group may communicate with him in any way before he leaves so they will know where he will be. At the signal, the "hidden men" may hide within specified boundaries. All other players must remain in a group for 5 minutes. At the next signal, the search for all opposing "hidden men" begins. When found, each must return to home base without a struggle. The last man to be brought back is the winner.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

WHO'S HURT?

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

"Oh, no!" Brad said. He groaned as he and his sister Sandi waited for Mother outside the grocery store. "Here comes that old grouch!"

Sandi looked up and saw their neighbor, Mrs. Blake, approaching. "Be quiet!" Sandi whispered. "She'll hear you."

"Hi, you two," Mrs. Blake said pleasantly. "By the way, Brad, I found a baseball in my yard," she said. "Is it yours?"

Brad nodded.

After Mrs. Blake was gone, Sandi turned to Brad. "You know that ball's not yours. You don't even own a baseball. Why did you lie?"

"What's the difference? Mrs. Blake doesn't know whose it is, so I might as well have it," said Brad. "Who is it hurting?"

When Mother heard the story, she told Brad he could not have the ball. Then she punished him for lying. "Sandi's a tattletale," Brad said angrily. "It wouldn't hurt anyone if I had that ball. Mrs. Blake can't use it."

That evening Brad answered the door when Mrs. Blake came over. "Did you bring my ball?" he asked softly, hoping Mother wouldn't hear.

"Right here it is," Mrs. Blake said, handing it to him. "It landed on my prize rosebush and broke it. I expect you to pay for it!"

Just then Mother came to the doorway and saw Brad with the ball in his hand. "Brad, you tell the truth," she ordered. "You know that ball is not yours."

"Well!" Mrs. Blake said, "the ball belongs to Brad until you find out it has done some damage. Then it isn't his!" Brad and his mother tried to explain, but Mrs. Blake would not believe them. "I'm simply amazed!" she declared. "You claim to be Christians too. You're just hypocrites!" She stomped off shaking her head.

Mother frowned. "Brad, this fits something the Bible says. It says when we accept Jesus as our Savior, He becomes our God. We're supposed to be different from people who don't love God. That's what Mrs. Blake meant by hypocrites. She means we say we love God, but we act like people who don't love and obey Him."

Brad hung his head and mumbled, "I thought I wasn't hurting anyone. Now you're being blamed because of what I did. I'm sorry!" He looked up. "I'll go talk to Mrs. Blake. I'll pay her for the rosebush and I won't take the ball. Maybe then she'll believe me. Will you forgive me, Mom? I guess I need God's forgiveness too."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

“Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Corinthians 6:16,17). This means that God lives in us if we ask Him to forgive our sins. If we belong to God, we should act like Him, not like Satan. Did you know that when you lie, cheat, disobey, or do other wrong things, those actions reflect on others just as Brad’s reflected on his mother? Your family and friends may have problems because of your doing wrong. God’s name may also be hurt if we say we love Him but act as if we don’t. Think about how what you do will affect others the next time you are tempted to do wrong.

TODAY’S KEY: Your sin hurts others.



UNIT FOUR

The Rodeo

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 4 THEME:

The Rodeo

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loyal

LESSON 14:

Roundups in the Old West

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to be loyal to Him because we love Him

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

ROUNDUPS IN THE OLD WEST

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the ranch boss send the cowboys on the roundup?
2. What did the cowboys do to the cattle during the roundup?
3. How and why did the cowboys brand the cattle?
4. How did the cowboys capture or round up the wild horses?
5. Why did the cowboys ride the broncos?
6. How did the rodeo begin?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OUR STUBBORN WILLS

TEXT: Matthew 22:37; Romans 5:8; James 4:7

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7, NIV).

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Top hand riding a Bronco.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

BRONCO RIDING

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

BEING LOYAL TO OUR FRIENDS

TEXT: Matthew 7:12

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

ROUNDUPS IN THE OLD WEST

In the Old West cowboys needed a lot of skills to do the general ranch work and for the roundups. A roundup was when the cowboys would gather—or round up—the loose, grazing cattle into a herd. Most ranches in the Old West had lots of land, and the cattle were allowed to run free on the ranch. Several times a year the ranch boss would ask the foreman to check the cattle's health and brand the new calves (burn their mark into each cow's hide). The foreman would then send the cowboys out to round up the cows.

While inspecting the cattle, the cowboys would brand any cows that had been born since the last roundup. The cowboys would heat a piece of iron shaped into the ranch's brand. Then they would put the hot iron on the cow. It would burn into the cow's hide, leaving the brand's mark. Many ranches in the Old West were very large and sometimes they did not have fences around them. The cattle from one ranch would wander to the next ranch. Then it was difficult for the cowboys to tell who owned the cows. This is why it was necessary to brand the cattle so there would be no disagreement about who owned them. Even the ranches that had fences around them had to brand their cattle. This allowed them to claim their cattle if the cattle got through breaks in the fences or if thieves stole them.

Inspecting and branding cattle was not the only reason for a roundup. Sometimes the ranch boss would want to sell some of his cattle. The cowboys would first round up the cattle and then have a cattle drive to get them to the market.

There was one other type of roundup. In many areas of the country were large herds of wild horses that did not belong to any ranch. On this type of roundup the cowboys would ride for hours, and sometimes days, to locate and capture these horses. It was difficult to capture them out in the open plains. The cowboys would drive the horses into a box canyon—a deep narrow valley with steep sides and no way out. Then they would close the entrance with ropes so the horses could not get back out that way.

Once the wild horses were captured, they would have to be broken or tamed before they could be used by the cowboys. These untamed horses were called broncos. Riding broncos was a very exciting but dangerous job the cowboys loved. The cowboys were always bragging that they could ride anything with four legs. They would first get a couple of ropes over the bronco's head. Then two men would hold the horse while a third cowboy got on. He would ride the bronco until it either threw him off or stopped bucking.

Bronco riding became a real sport for the cowboys, just like soccer or football or baseball is for many people today. In the 1800s different cattle ranches, or outfits,

began to have bronco riding contests between themselves. This gave those cowboys who had been bragging a chance to prove how good they were. These bronco riding contests became so popular that someone decided to charge money for people to watch. That is how the event called a rodeo began in Arizona in 1888.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

OUR STUBBORN WILLS

TEXT: Romans 5:8; Matthew 22:37; and James 4:7

In our Western Heritage story the cowboys rode the broncos in order to break, or tame, them. It was necessary to break the will of the broncos before they could be used by cowboys. The broncos were wild. They would fight, buck, kick, trying to throw the cowboy. Once the bronco was tamed, it would become loyal and obedient to its master. Then it was no longer called a bronco but a horse. Many cowboys referred to their tamed horses as their best friend.

In many ways we are like wild broncos. We fight and buck and want to do what we please. Because of our sinful nature—the part inside us that wants to do wrong, that ignores doing right—we do not want to submit to (obey) those in charge of us. We get angry with others when they do something we don't like. We don't want to forgive someone who hurts us. We say, "I want this" or "I want that," and we get upset if we don't get our own way. We say we love Jesus, but we don't act as if He is in our lives. Our sinful nature needs to be broken, just as the bronco's will is broken. Then we can become loyal and obedient to Jesus.

God wants us to love and serve Him with all of our heart, and with all of our soul, and with all of our mind (Matthew 22:37). But God is not like the cowboys, who rode the broncos until their wills were broken. God wants us to love Him because He first loved us. The Bible says God gave His love to us before we even knew Him; He showed this love by sending His Son to die in our place (Romans 5:8). God will never force us to love Him. He wants us to know how much He loves and cares for us so we will *choose* to love Him.

The choice is ours. Jesus has already died for us. God is waiting to see what we will do. Will we refuse His love and keep doing wrong things and saying no to right things? Or will we accept His love, obey Him, and let His Spirit change the desires of our hearts?

When we want to obey God, His Spirit will help us overcome our sinful nature. God's Word says, "Submit yourselves, therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7). That means to obey God and say no to the wrong things the devil wants us to do and yes to the good things Jesus wants us to do. Even after we ask Jesus into our lives, God does not force us to do what He wants. Obeying God and saying no to

the devil is something we must do. God will not do it for us. He has made the way for us to obey Him, but we must choose to obey.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you accepted God's love? Have you given your will and life to Him? Are you saying no to the devil when he puts thoughts in your mind to do wrong or to ignore doing good? Don't let any sin stay in your heart or mind. Say no to them in Jesus' name!

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE:

Top hand riding a bronco

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 copy of the picture on page 68

Shared items: crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys color the coloring sheet picture of the bronco and rider. Tell them to make it as colorful as they can.
2. Give a small prize, such as a small sticker, for the best and most complete drawing.

RECREATION

BRONCO RIDING

The boys pair off to ride piggyback, the larger boy on the bottom. The boys do not try to throw each other off. Have a race among the pairs of boys to see who is the fastest. Give a small prize for the fastest pair. NOTE: Careful supervision is required to prevent injury to any of the boys.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

BEING LOYAL TO OUR FRIENDS

TEXT: Matthew 7:12

Our Christian character trait for this unit is loyal. It is the fifth point of the Royal Ranger Code. To be loyal means we should be faithful to our church, family, Royal Ranger group, and friends. Today we will hear about two Royal Ranger boys from the same group. Fred and Paul also went to the same school. One day some other fellows were criticizing and making fun of Paul. Fred was afraid the fellows would criticize him too if he took up for Paul. So he said nothing.

"Whose side are you on?" one of the boys asked.

Fred felt scared. He decided to join the other boys in teasing Paul. Their teasing hurt Paul. He went home crying. Fred didn't feel too good either. He felt bad for teasing Paul.

The next week at Royal Rangers Paul and Fred would not speak or sit next to each other during the meeting. Their commander thought something was wrong, so he met with them alone. Soon he had heard the whole story. The commander then asked them to forgive one another and apologize. At first Paul didn't want to forgive Fred. Then he saw Fred crying and asking Jesus to forgive him. Paul changed his mind and forgave Fred for joining the other boys in their teasing him.

Both boys learned a good lesson that week. Now they are the best of friends. The next time the boys at school started making fun of Paul, Fred stood up and said good things about him.

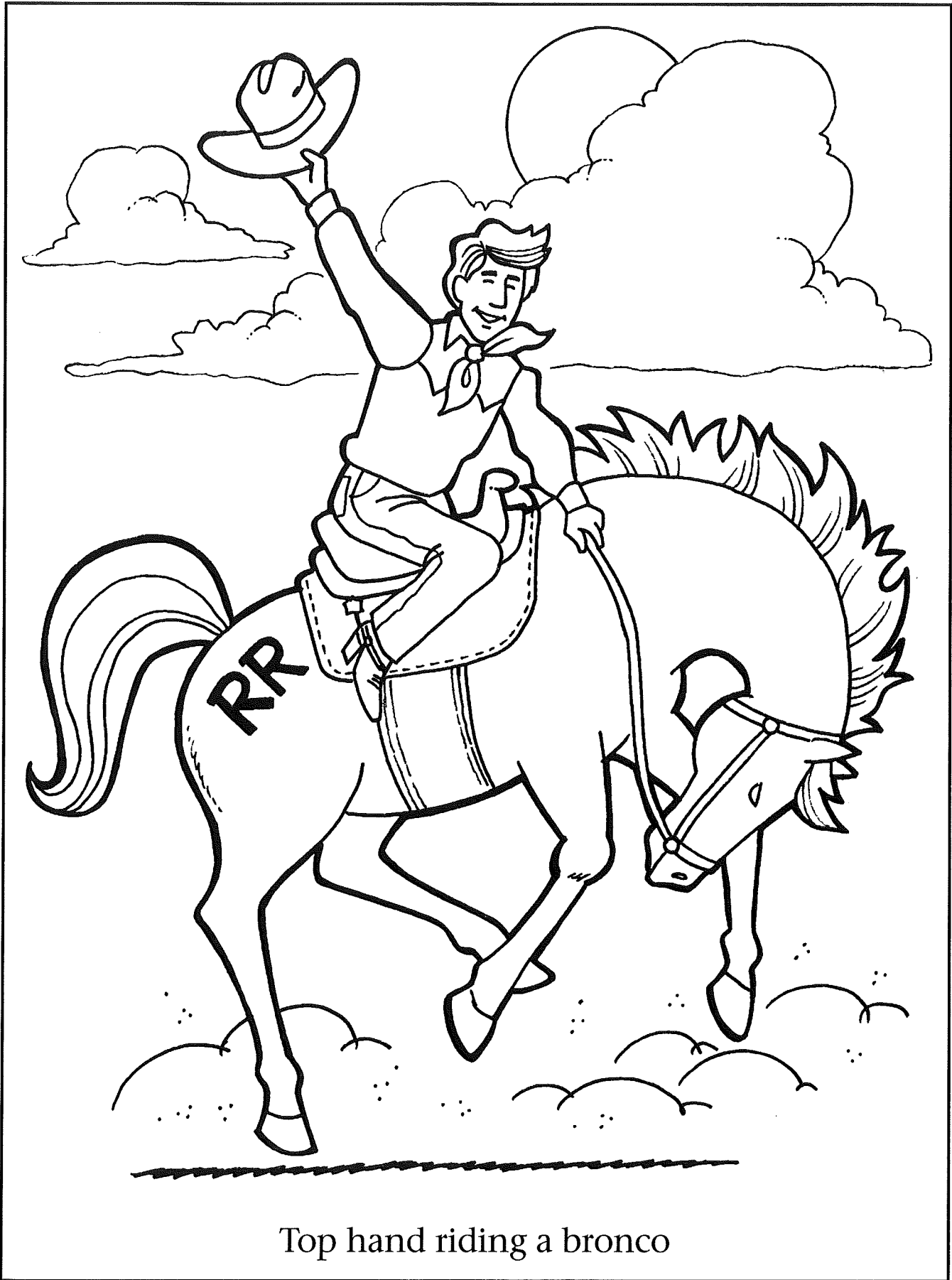
Fred was obeying the Bible verse called the Golden Rule.

Do unto others as you would want them to do unto you (Matthew 7:12).

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been loyal to your friends? Do you treat them the way you want to be treated? Or have you let someone down when the going got tough? If you did, today is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you. Then find that friend and apologize for the way you acted. *(Pray with the boys who want to ask forgiveness then lead the boys in a hymn, such as "When We All Get to Heaven.")*

TODAY'S KEY: Be a loyal friend.



Top hand riding a bronco

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 4 THEME:

The Rodeo

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loyal

LESSON 15:

The Rodeo Events

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to show our love for Him by being loyal to Him and to others

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE RODEO EVENTS

QUESTIONS:

1. What are the five main or standard events of the rodeo?
2. What happens during the Grand Entry?
3. What do you remember about bareback bronc riding?
4. What are the rules for bull riding?
5. How do the riders select the horse or bull they will ride?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

JUST ONCE WON'T HURT

TEXT: Hebrews 10:16-25

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing" (Hebrews 10:25, NIV).

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is" (Hebrews 10:25).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

STICK HORSES

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

STICK HORSE RACING

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE DOUBLE CROSS

TEXT: Mark 14:43,44; Matthew 27:3-5

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE RODEO EVENTS

A little over 100 years ago when the rodeo first began there were five main events. They were bareback bronc riding, saddle-bronc riding, bull riding, calf roping, and steer wrestling (often called bulldogging). Today's rodeos have these same five events plus a few other events, such as team roping, trick riding, and barrel racing for the women in the rodeo.

All rodeos start with a Grand Entry. This includes a parade of people who ride in on horses. There are clowns, contestants, local saddle clubs, the rodeo committee, and local officials. The national flag is presented and everyone sings the national anthem.

The first event of the rodeo is bareback bronc riding. As we learned last week, broncos, that is, wild horses, needed to be broken, or tamed, before they could be used by the cowboys. To break the horses, a cowboy known as the broncobuster would rope, or lasso, each horse and ride it until it was tame. This job could take several days, depending on how wild the bronco was. In the rodeo, bareback bronc riding is a timed event. The cowboy's goal is just to stay on and ride for 8 seconds. He is not trying to break the bronco. The only thing the bareback rider has to hold onto is a strap that goes around the horse just behind its front legs and the top of its shoulders. He can use only one hand to hold on. The other hand must stay in the air. The rider will be disqualified if his free hand touches the horse anywhere. The rider tries to keep his spurs (the pointed device worn on the heel of the boot, which is used to get the horse moving) on the shoulders of the horse.

Saddle-bronc riding is similar to bareback bronc riding, except the rider sits on a small saddle and holds onto a rope. Again he must ride for 8 seconds and his free hand must not touch the horse anywhere.

Bull riding is probably the most dangerous event in the rodeo. The bull rider uses a flat braided rope that is wrapped around the bull and around the rider's hand. It is not tied in any way. According to the rules, it must be a loose rope that will fall off when the ride is over. There are no rules in bull riding. The rider just holds on with one hand and tries his best to stay on for 10 seconds. Getting off the bull after the ride can be more dangerous than riding the bull.

In all of these events the spirit and performance of the horse or bull is part of the rider's score. The rider doesn't get to select which horse or bull he rides. Instead, each animal is given a number and the rodeo judge draws a number for each rider before the rodeo begins. The cowboys refer to this as the "luck of the draw." As you can see, animals are very important to the rodeo. Some of them are worth thousands of dollars.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

JUST ONCE WON'T HURT

TEXT: Hebrews 10:16-25

For several months Todd had been attending Sunday school with Johnny. One day he told Johnny, "I'm going fishing with my father next Sunday. My dad says missing just once won't hurt." A few weeks later Todd went camping with his family; the week after that, they went on a picnic.

"You don't have to go to church to worship God," Todd told Johnny. "You can worship Him anytime, anywhere."

"Yes, but . . . well, skipping church is a bad habit," Johnny said. "The first time you skipped, you said just once wouldn't hurt. Now it has been more than once. Remember that memory verse we had from Hebrews? the one about Christians meeting together? In Bible times Christians met together often—sometimes every day. Seems like we could be at church at least one day a week."

"Well, maybe," said Todd. "But there are so many good things to do on Sunday. I hate to give them up!"

As Johnny and Todd walked home from school a few weeks later, Todd surprised his friend. "Hey, Johnny," he said, "I'm going to church and Sunday school this week."

"Great!" Johnny said. "I'll stop for you."

"Oh, that's okay," Todd said. "My whole family is going. My sister and I have been fighting so much lately that Dad says he's sure he's missed something in the way he's bringing us up. The math test I flunked the other day didn't help things either."

"Didn't your parents realize you were absent when we had that lesson?" Johnny asked.

"Not till my sister blabbed about it," Todd replied. "I didn't tell you, but I skipped school that day. Dad was really mad about that. When I told him I didn't think it would hurt to miss just once, he got a funny look in his eyes. He said, 'Maybe all of us have been missing some important lessons. I'm going back to school myself—on Sundays!' Now the whole family is going with me!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been loyal to God and to your school? Have you been loyal in your daily devotions? You might think that skipping "just once" won't hurt, but missing can easily get to be a bad habit. The Bible says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:25). That means not stopping getting together with other Christians to worship God and learn about Him. Be loyal in reading your Bible and in praying every day and in going to Sunday school and church. That's what God wants us to do.

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised; and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking [or stopping] the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:23-25).

CRAFT

STICK HORSES

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 sheet of heavy cardboard or poster board (9 by 11 inches)

1 piece of heavy cord or rope

1 copy of the horse's head outline from craft illustration on page 72

A 1¼-inch closet rod cut into 3-foot lengths.

Note: You can use a dowel as small as ½ inch in diameter, but buying a closet rod is cheaper by foot than the dowel.

Shared items: scissors, crayons, and paste or glue

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Prepare the closet rod by cutting it into 3-foot lengths and then sawing a groove into one end about 4 inches deep. Then drill a ¼-inch hole perpendicular to the groove you cut. See craft illustration on page 72 for details.

1. Have the boys trace the horse's head pattern onto the 9- by 11-inch cardboard and then color the horse's head.
2. Cut out the horse's head and place it in the groove in the rod.
3. Insert a pencil into the ¼-inch hole to mark the position of the hole on the cardboard head.
4. Remove the cardboard head and cut a ½-inch hole around the mark you made in step 3.
5. Glue the cardboard into the groove in the rod, lining up the hole in cardboard with the hole in the rod.
6. Thread the rope or cord through the ¼-inch hole to hold the cardboard in place. Let the glue dry. Tie the rope or cord. It becomes the bridle.

RECREATION

STICK HORSE RACING

Each boy will ride the stick horse he made during craft time. Use boxes or 2-liter plastic bottles as markers. Set up a course similar to a rodeo. Boys race around the markers and back to the starting point. The winners of each event will race each other until the fastest horse (or boy) is determined. You may want to give a small prize to the winner.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE DOUBLE CROSS

TEXT: Mark 14:43,44; Matthew 27:3-5

Today we talked about being loyal to our church, family, Royal Ranger group, and friends. We learned that doing something "just once" can hurt us. Judas Iscariot was one of Jesus' disciples. He thought once would not hurt, but he was wrong. The Bible says:

"Immediately, while [Jesus] yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely" (Mark 14:43,44).

Judas brought the high priests and others who wanted Jesus killed. Judas had told the crowd that he would show them who Jesus was by kissing Him. That was a way to say hello to each other back in Bible times. Then they could capture Jesus. Once he double-crossed, or betrayed, Jesus to the high priests, there was no more forgiveness for Judas. He had crossed the line and gone too far.

Judas soon realized his terrible mistake. He tried to say he was sorry and ask for forgiveness, but it was too late. He still tried to change what he had done.

"Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself" (Matthew 27:3-5).

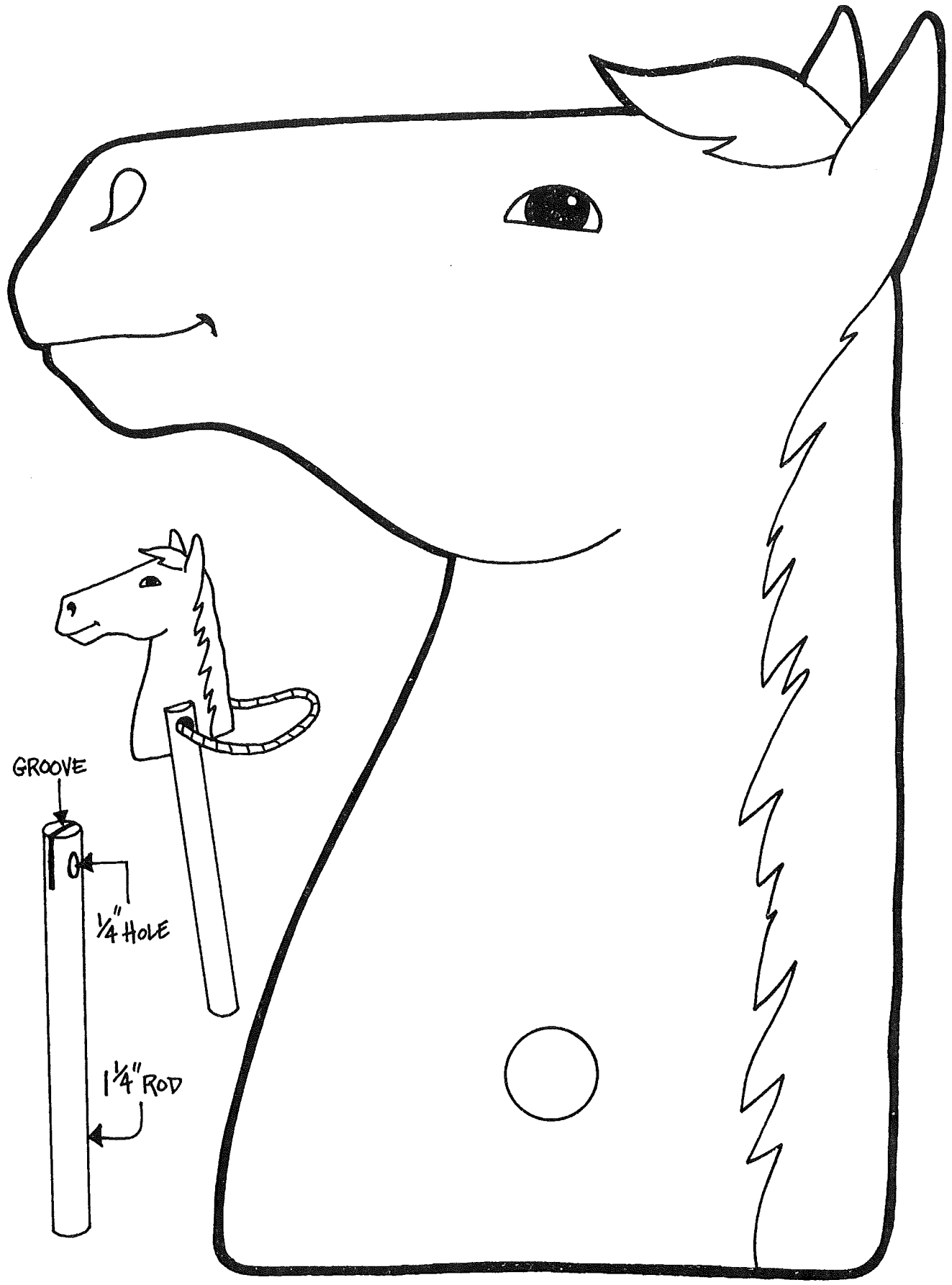
When Judas saw that the high priests had sentenced Jesus to die, he was sorry. He tried to give back the money the priests had paid him to betray Jesus. They wouldn't take the money. They wanted Jesus dead.

Judas had everyone fooled. He was with Jesus for 3 years just as the other disciples were. No one thought he would betray Jesus. Remember, God looks inside the heart. He knows if someone really loves Him or is only pretending. Let's not make the same mistake Judas did when he double-crossed Jesus.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you serving Jesus with your whole heart or are you just pretending? Do you have everybody fooled as Judas did? Today is the time for you to give your life to Jesus and then live for Him every day. Raise your hand if you want to serve Jesus with all your heart. (*Pray that God will help the boys determine to live for Him in their hearts and not just pretend that they love Him.*)

TODAY'S KEY: Show your loyalty to Jesus.



MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 4 THEME:

The Rodeo

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loyal

LESSON 16:

More Rodeo Events

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God sent the Holy Spirit to help us be trustworthy and loyal

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

MORE RODEO EVENTS

QUESTIONS:

1. Why was it necessary to rope or capture the cattle?
2. What did the cowboy carry in his saddlebag to put on any sores the cattle might have?
3. How did the cowboys capture the cattle?
4. What is the difference between calf roping and team roping?
5. What can you tell about steer wrestling?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

ARE YOU TRUSTWORTHY?

TEXT: Luke 16:10-12

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much" (Luke 16:10-12, NIV).

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Greenhorn emblem and fireplace

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

CALF ROPING

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

BE TRUE TO YOUR FRIENDS

TEXT: Luke 22:33,34,60-62

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

MORE RODEO EVENTS

Let's travel back in time to the Old West and find out how rodeo events first began. Imagine we are on a cattle ranch in West Texas. The year is 1810, long before the first rodeo started. It is early spring and the roundup has begun. Let's ride with the cowboys as they search the range for the cattle. The cowboys' job was to inspect the cattle and brand all the cows that were born after the last year's roundup.

The ranch was big, and the cattle were allowed to roam free. The cowboys had to first find the cattle and then capture and hold them long enough to brand them. Other cattle would need to be treated for disease. The cowboys would need to inspect the cattle for lumps or sores on their hides. When they found a cow with a sore, they would rope it and then paint the sore with a terrible-smelling salve they carried in their saddlebags.

The cowboys would ride in groups until they found a herd of cows and then set up camp. One of the cowboys would get a fire burning and keep the branding iron hot while the other cowboys would round up or drive the cattle toward the fire. Another cowboy would look for an unbranded or sick cow and use his rope (called a lasso or lariat) to capture it. He would swing the lasso around his head and at just the right time let it go—*swish!* It would travel through the air and over the cow's head or horns. This would stop the cow. The horse would start to back up to keep the rope tight. At this point, the cowboy would jump off his horse, run to the cow, throw it on the ground, and tie its legs together. The cowboy with the hot branding iron would then run over and brand the cow or if the cow had a sore, it would be painted with salve. After that they would release the cow. As you can probably guess, this is how the rodeo event known as calf roping began.

Many times cowboys would work as teams to capture a cow. One cowboy would throw his lasso around the cow's head while the second cowboy would rope its back legs. This was a lot easier on the cowboys because they didn't have to jump off the horse, run, and throw the cow to the ground. Instead, they would let the horses do most of the work in keeping the cow on the ground by having them pull in different directions. Team roping is one of the events in today's rodeos. Both calf roping and team roping are still used by cowboys today on cattle ranches.

Sometimes the cowboys would not use their lasso to capture a steer. They would ride alongside a running steer and then jump onto its back and wrestle it to the ground by twisting its head. It took strength, skill, balance, and timing to get the steer to the ground. In today's rodeo a second rider rides on the other side of the steer to keep it in position for the steer wrestler. Steer wrestling is also known as bulldogging and the wrestler is called a dogger. The second rider is called a hazer.

In the rodeo, both calf roping and steer wrestling are timed events. The cowboy with the shortest time gets the most points.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

ARE YOU TRUSTWORTHY?

TEXT: Luke 16:10-12

Cowboys depend on their horses when they are calf roping. A horse must be dependable and trustworthy. Cowboys spend many hours training their horses so the horse knows exactly what to do and when to do it. For example, in calf roping, once the cowboy has roped the steer or cow, the horse must keep the rope tight while the cowboy jumps off, throws the cow to the ground, and ties its feet. If the horse fails to keep the rope tight, the cow will get loose and run away.

Being trustworthy, or dependable, is a lot like one of the points of the Royal Ranger Code. Can anyone tell me which point I am talking about? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) The point I am referring to is loyal. "He is faithful to his church, family, Royal Ranger group, and friends."

The Bible says, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?" (Luke 16:10-12, NIV).

In our lives we need to be loyal and trustworthy. Once we have given our lives to Jesus, we must then learn to obey what we have learned from God's Word, the Bible. Many times as Christians we will be tempted to do wrong. We must then choose between doing what we know is right and what is wrong. The Bible says this is "the trial [testing] of your faith" (1 Peter 1:7). If we do what is right, we will pass the test. If we do wrong, we will fail the test. God will test us with little things before He will ask us to be responsible for bigger things. For example, if you get an allowance, do you give some of it to God? If you do, you will likely get a bigger allowance, because God sees you are learning to share and not be selfish. If we are loyal to God and obey His Word, we will in time, grow up in God and the responsibilities He wants us to have.

We must be careful not to blame God when we are tempted. Although God does allow problems to come into our lives to prove our faith, He does not tempt us. God's Word says, "When tempted, no one should say, 'God is tempting me.' For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed [tricked]. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death" (James 1:13-15, NIV).

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you loyal and trustworthy? Do you have to make choices between doing what you know is right and doing wrong? Have you blamed God for the bad things that have happened in your life? If you have, now is the time to be sorry and ask God to forgive you

and help you not to sin or blame Him. When something bad happens in your life, ask God to guide you to do right and help you to be loyal to Him.

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE: Greenhorn emblem hanging over fireplace

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 copy of the coloring sheet on page 76

Shared items: crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys color the coloring sheet. Tell them to try to stay within the lines and use bright colors for the different items in the picture.
2. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the best and most complete drawing.

RECREATION

CALF ROPING

Tie a stick horse to a saw horse, or some other support, such as a tree, so its head sticks out. Have the boys take turns trying to rope it. Teach them how to properly hold and throw the rope. They should take hold of the rope and the loop with one hand, just behind the slip knot. Practice throwing the rope until the loop stays open while it is in the air.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

BE TRUE TO YOUR FRIENDS

TEXT: Luke 22:33,34,60-62

Being loyal or true to your friends sounds simple enough, but it is not always easy to do. During the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples, Peter was sure he would always be loyal to Jesus.

"[Peter] said unto [Jesus], Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And [Jesus] said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me" (Luke 22:33,34).

Peter said he would even go to jail or die for Jesus. Peter really meant what he said. He was very sure he would be loyal to Jesus no matter what happened. The Bible says after Jesus was betrayed by Judas and taken to the high priest's house, Peter followed at a distance. Three different times someone came up to Peter and said he had been with Jesus. Each time Peter said he didn't know Jesus. The third time "Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And Peter went out, and wept bitterly" (Luke 22:60-62).

While Peter was saying for the third time that he didn't know Jesus, the rooster crowed. That reminded Peter that Jesus had said Peter would not be loyal to Him. Peter was sorry. He felt so bad that he cried for what he had done.

What do you think made Peter say he didn't know Jesus? (*Allow the boys to answer.*) It was Peter's sinful nature (the thing inside us that makes us want to do wrong and to ignore the chance to do good) that caused him to sin. How do you think the same thing could happen to us today? (*Let the boys answer.*) It happens when we don't want other people to know we love Jesus. That is why we need the Holy Spirit to help us. Peter had not yet received the baptism in the Holy Spirit which would make him brave for the Lord. We need the baptism in the Holy Spirit in our lives also.

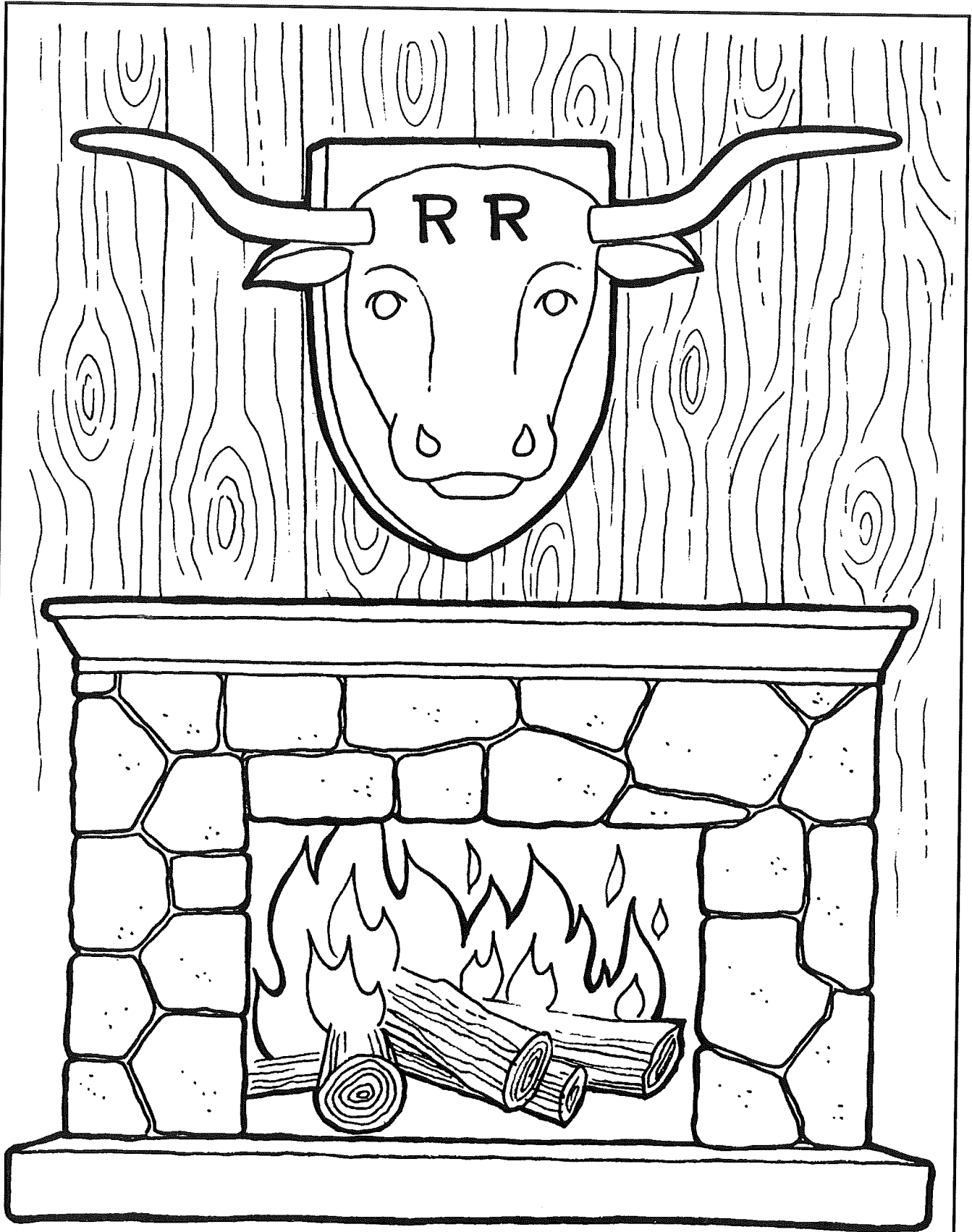
After God raised Jesus from the dead, Jesus was seen by His disciples and Peter several times. He told His disciples to "wait for the gift my Father promised. . . . In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:4,5). After 40 days God took Jesus to heaven, right through the clouds, as His disciples watched. Just before He was taken up Jesus told them, "You will receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8). He meant that the disciples would have the help of the Holy Spirit after they were baptized in the Spirit. That same promise is also for us today.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever said you will do something and then didn't? Have you promised someone you would do something and then not kept your promise, like Peter? If so, you can tell Jesus about it, ask Him to forgive you and help you do right. Who would like to be prayed for today to receive the Holy Spirit? (*Allow the boys to respond. Pray for each one.*)

Note to commanders: Do not try to pray for the boys to receive the Holy Spirit unless you are filled with His power yourself. Be sensitive to the Spirit's leading as you pray.

TODAY'S KEY: Seek the Holy Spirit.



Greenhorn emblem

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 4 THEME:

The Rodeo

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Loyal

LESSON 17:

The Rodeo Clown

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is loyal and will never leave us

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE RODEO CLOWN

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the rodeo clown's main job in today's rodeo?
2. Name the two types of rodeo clowns found in today's rodeos.
3. What does the barrel man do?
4. What are some of the things the bullfighter clown does?
5. What do you remember about the act Daddy and Peppy put on?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

GOD IS FAITHFUL

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 10:13

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you"
(Hebrews 13:5, NIV).

"He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"
(Hebrews 13:5).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CLOWN SUITS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

RODEO CLOWN SHOW

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE CHOICES WE MAKE

TEXT: Romans 6:12,16

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE RODEO CLOWN

What do you think of when you hear the word clown? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Clowns wear bright, colorful, baggy clothes. They paint their faces and act silly to make us laugh. They make jokes, pull tricks on each other, and do other funny things that make us smile. This is what the first rodeo clowns did. When rodeos first started, the clown's main job was to entertain the crowd and keep them from getting bored between events. That soon changed.

Rodeo clowns still do all the silly things clowns do to make us laugh, but their main job is to protect the bull riders. As we learned already, bull riding is the most dangerous event in the rodeo. Getting off the bull is the most dangerous part of the ride. If the bull rider has trouble during the ride, the last thing he needs is for the bull to stomp on him, kick him, or gore him with his horns. Even if the cowboy has a good ride, he doesn't want to get hurt getting off the bull. This is why the rodeo clown is important. His job is to keep the bull from hurting the bull rider once he's on the ground. The clown must lead the bull away from the rider by drawing the bull's attention to himself until the rider is safely out of the bull's way. Usually the rider will run to safety, but if a rider gets hurt and needs help getting away, the clown's job becomes even more important.

There are two different types of rodeo clowns. They are barrel men and bullfighters. The barrel man gets the bull's attention, then jumps inside the barrel and keeps on teasing the bull. He ducks inside the barrel when the bull charges. Sometimes the bull will hit the barrel, and the barrel man gets an exciting ride. The other clown, known as the bullfighter, will jump right in front of the bull, slap him on the head, or pull on his tail—anything to get the bull's attention. Sometimes a bullfighter may run in circles around the bull or even jump over his head! It is never easy to outrun a bull. When the ground is muddy, as it often is, the clown's job becomes even more difficult and dangerous. The rodeo clown's job is very important because many times he has saved a cowboy from getting badly hurt or even killed.

Rodeo clowns also have some very funny acts. Joe (the rodeo clown) played the part of an old gold miner. His pony, Peppy, was his loyal packhorse. Joe would go about pretending to chip at rocks, looking for gold, while Peppy would take things from his pockets—his neckscarf, then an apple. Then all but the two lights near Joe and Peppy would go dark. Joe would lie on the ground; Peppy would lie down beside him. Joe would cover himself with a blue blanket; Peppy would take hold of the blanket with his teeth and pull it off Joe. Everyone laughed. Then Joe spread the blanket over both of them. Everything was quiet for a moment except for Joe's loud snoring. Then Peppy would roll away from Joe, wrapping the blanket around himself and leaving Joe with no cover.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

GOD IS FAITHFUL

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 10:13

The rodeo clown's job is very important. The cowboys have learned to depend on him. What do you think would happen if the rodeo clown decided to go on strike and not help the bull rider? (*Let the boys answer.*) The cowboy could get hurt very badly or he could even be killed. The rodeo clown always does his best to protect the bull rider. He is a good example of someone who is loyal, or faithful. His actions can help us understand one of the points from the Royal Ranger Code which says a Royal Ranger is loyal: "He is faithful to his church, family, Royal Ranger group, and friends."

As I read this, listen for the name of someone in the Bible who is loyal and faithful.

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it" (1 Corinthians 10:13, NIV).

Have you ever had something really bad happen in your life? Maybe someone you love got real sick or was in a car accident. Perhaps one of your friends said something about you that was not true and everyone believed it. Or you didn't get to play a game or throw the ball or watch your favorite TV show or you missed out on something else you wanted to do very badly. Even worse, maybe your mom and dad have separated or divorced because they could not get along. You feel it may have been partly your fault.

Whenever something bad happens in our lives, Satan will use it to try to get us to sin. He does this by bringing thoughts into our minds that make us feel afraid, unloved, or unwanted. If we keep on thinking about how bad or wrong things are, we will soon become angry or sad because of what has happened. This is just what Satan wants us to do. He wants us to feel afraid and unloved so we will give up and say, "It is no use." If that doesn't work, he will try to get us so upset that we become very angry and refuse to forgive someone. Satan knows if we don't forgive others, then God won't forgive our sins. Satan is our enemy. The Bible says, "The thief [Satan] comes only to steal and kill and destroy" (John 10:10, NIV).

The Bible says, "God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear." And "he will also provide a way out." This means that no matter what thoughts Satan brings into our minds or how bad we feel, how afraid, or how angry we become, God has made a way out, a way for us to overcome our problems and to win. It may not seem like it at the time you are being tempted, but God is always with you. Satan will try to deceive you and get you to blame God or say, "Why has this happened to me?" Remember, Satan is a liar. Don't listen to his lies.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been tempted by Satan to do wrong or to give up doing good, living for Jesus? Have you become

very angry or afraid because of something bad that has happened in your life? If you have done wrong or given up what's right, remember that God is loyal, that is, faithful. He never leaves you. If you ask, He will forgive you. Are you angry or scared because of something bad that has happened in your life? You can give your life to Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins. Then when Satan puts thoughts in your mind to do wrong, to give up, or to be really sad or angry, just say no to him. Remember, Jesus loves you so much that He died for your sins.

CRAFT

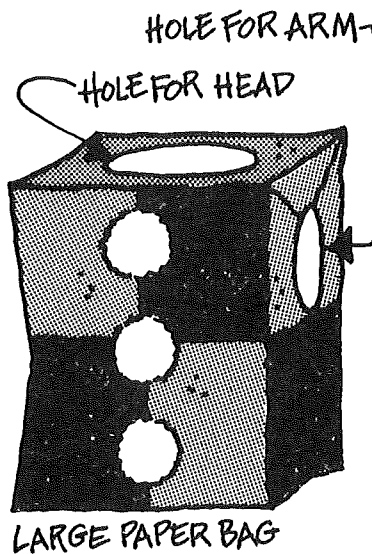
CLOWN SUITS:

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 large brown paper bag

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers



DIRECTIONS:

1. Give each boy a brown paper bag and have him make a clown suit out of it.
2. You could also have some face paint and let the boys color their faces to look like clowns.

RECREATION

RODEO CLOWN SHOW

Have the boys choose teams and put on a clown act like Joe and Peppy did in our Western Heritage story. Give a small prize for the best team. If you can get a barrel, let the boys take turns hiding inside like a barrel man. *Do not let the boys get out of hand or someone could get hurt.*

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE CHOICES WE MAKE

TEXT: Romans 6:12,16

We should be very thankful that we live in America. Here we have freedom to do just about anything we want to do. Of course we're not free to do those things that are against the law, such as stealing or damaging someone else's property. Many times each day we are faced with choices about what we are going to do. For example, we may choose between going outside to play, staying inside to watch TV, or doing our homework. We make many other choices every day. We're going to talk about the most important choice we must make every day.

You are probably thinking, *I know what that is, it's accepting Jesus into my life.* Asking Jesus into your life is the most important decision you will ever make in your life. After that, we must all choose to serve Him each day: Am I going to serve God or do what I want? The Bible says, "Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?" (Romans 6:12,16, NIV).

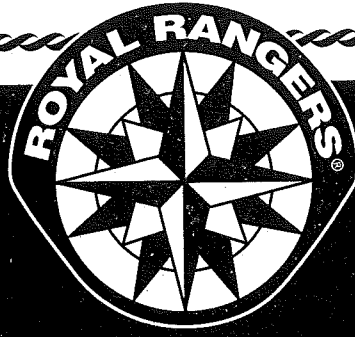
Many times every day we choose between doing good or evil, between obeying God or obeying ourselves when we want to do what we know is wrong. It is not always easy to do what we know is right. In fact, it can be very difficult because of our sinful nature, the thing inside us that wants to do wrong, to forget good. Think about a time you were doing something you really enjoyed, such as watching TV or playing some video game. Mom called you for supper, asked you to go do your homework, or to take out the trash. At that moment your sinful nature acts its part. Satan brings thoughts into your mind, such as, *Why does she have to call me just when I am having fun?* or, *Doesn't she know that this is the most important part of the program?* If we don't say no to the thoughts that come into our minds, it won't be long before we decide, "I don't want to!" or "Just a minute!" We may even become angry and say, "Why don't you leave me alone, can't you see that I'm busy?"

The choice is ours. God has given us the power over our sinful nature. The problem is we don't use that power to overcome Satan. We all know the Bible says, "Children, obey your parents," and if we talk back to them or refuse to mind them, we sin. Somehow we always seem to justify our actions even when they are wrong. That is because Satan is a liar. He doesn't want us to obey God. He is always trying to trick us by putting his lying thoughts into our minds. If we listen to them, we will soon become servants to sin, doing the things Satan wants us to do. If we use the power God has given us, we can say no to his lying thoughts and yes to doing what's right.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you given your life to Jesus? Are you saying yes to God, obeying the things the Bible tells us to do? Are you saying no to the sinful thoughts Satan tries to put in your mind? Remember, whoever you obey, that's whose slave you are. God is a loving Master. He wants to help you. Have you used the power God has given you to say no to Satan or have you become a slave to sin because you choose to do the wrong things Satan tells you to do? If you need prayer to choose right, raise your hand. *(Pray with any who respond. Ask God to give the boys greater desire to serve Him by choosing to do what He wants.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Make right choices and be loyal.



UNIT FIVE

First Aid

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 5 THEME:

First Aid

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Alert

LESSON 18:

Our First Night on the Trail

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to be alert to His calling

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OUR FIRST NIGHT ON THE TRAIL

QUESTIONS:

1. What first aid should be given for a first-degree burn?
2. What should never be put on a burn?
3. Who should treat a third-degree (very serious) burn?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

BEING SPIRITUALLY READY

TEXT: Matthew 22:2-10

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9, NIV).

"Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

3-D COVERED CHUCK WAGON

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

COUNTDOWN (Mission Control)

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE GUEST WITHOUT A WEDDING GARMENT

TEXT: Matthew 22:11-14

Date

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

OUR FIRST NIGHT ON THE TRAIL

Take a trip with me, back in time, to a cattle ranch in north Texas. Imagine that you are a cowboy working on the Running W ranch. The ranch boss has sent you and most of the other cowboys on a cattle drive. Your job is to get a large herd of cows to market in Kansas City, Kansas, over 600 miles away. This is your first day on the trail. Even though you worked hard to keep the herd moving, you're less than 10 miles from the ranch. At this rate it will take you 2 or 3 months to complete the cattle drive.

The sun is starting to set, so the trail boss gives the order to stop and set up camp for the night. The chuck wagon pulls up by a grove of trees and the cook lets down the tailgate. He starts preparing supper of fresh beef stew and biscuits. It is a real treat to have fresh beef on a cattle drive because the cook is not allowed to kill the cattle you are taking to market. Soon it will be dried beef, or jerky, for almost every meal.

Some of the cowboys have gathered rocks and made a fire ring. You helped gather firewood and have started a roaring fire. One cowboy drives a forked stick into the ground. Another stick is placed in the fork with a coffee-pot hanging on one end, over the fire, and a large rock weighting down the other (much like a seesaw with the heavier kid keeping the lighter one dangling in the air).

After supper the cowboys are sitting around the fire. It is a clear night and you can see hundreds of stars in the sky. In the distance a coyote is howling. One of the cowboys is playing the harmonica. Others are telling stories and laughing. It is so peaceful. You are deep in thought about how great it is to be alive.

Just then Sam taps you on the arm. You realize he has been asking you to pour him a cup of coffee. You apologize for daydreaming and reach for the coffeepot. You quickly realize it is too hot to touch, so you get a stick and lift it off the fire. The handle is also very hot. You reach into your back pocket and get out your neckerchief. Sam holds up his cup. As you start to pour the coffee, the stick breaks and boiling-hot coffee spills on Sam's hand. His hand is badly burned and you are responsible. You need to do something right away. Do you know what to do when you get a burn? What kind of first aid should you give? (*Give the boys a chance to respond.*)

CORRECT FIRST AID FOR FIRST-DEGREE BURNS:

1. Put burned area (first-degree burn is red) in cold water for 10 minutes or apply cold compress (cloth).
2. If the burn needs protection, cover it with a dry, sterile (free from germs) cloth.
3. NEVER put dirt or butter, or any other food, on a burn. If the burn is more serious (second-degree burn has blisters), DO NOT put ice on it. Use only cold water or cold cloth (compress).
4. DO NOT TREAT a third-degree burn where skin has been charred. Get medical help from a doctor.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

BEING SPIRITUALLY READY

TEXT: Matthew 22:2-10

"The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, and sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: and the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests" (Matthew 22:2-10).

The first point of the Royal Ranger Code is ALERT. It means that we should be mentally, physically, and spiritually alert. In our story today you were daydreaming. That means you were not alert to what Sam was saying. You didn't hear him ask for the cup of coffee. That's just one example of *not* being alert. Today we will talk about being spiritually alert.

The king in our Bible reading is really God who is making a marriage supper for His Son Jesus. The people whom He called to the wedding are His chosen people, the Jews. They rejected Jesus and did not believe in Him. In fact, they killed Him, but God raised Jesus from the dead.

The Jews were not spiritually alert because they did not realize Jesus is God's Son. They had studied the Scriptures and knew God was going to send a Savior. In fact, they were looking and waiting for Him. But when Jesus was with them, they were blind spiritually and did not know He was the Savior. Even though the Jews are God's chosen people, God said they were not worthy to come to His supper because they did not believe in Jesus.

God (the king) then said, "Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage" (verse 9). This means God has invited everyone in the world to be saved and come to His supper (live with Him in heaven). There is really going to be a Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Jesus), and God wants you to be there. The Bible tells us, "Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" (Revelation 19:9, NIV). If you believe in Jesus, feel really sorry for your sins, and ask Him to forgive you for your sins, He will forgive you. Then you should live for Him so you will be able to go to that wedding celebration.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

God has invited everyone to believe in Him and obey Him. Are you spiritually alert? Have you heard what the Holy Spirit is speaking to you? Are you willing to admit that you are a sinner and need a Savior? Now is the time to ask Jesus into your heart. Don't be like the Jews and refuse to accept the Savior when He is calling you. Raise your hand if you want to ask forgiveness and go to the wedding supper when Jesus returns. (*Pray with each boy who responds.*)

CRAFT**3-D COVERED CHUCK WAGON****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

- 1 sheet of white construction paper
- 1 copy of the craft illustration on page 86
- 3 large craft sticks

Shared items: scissors, crayons, and paste or glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Color the wheels and water barrel on craft illustration on page 86.
2. Cut out the wheels, barrel, and top cover.
3. Glue the top cover on white construction paper, bowing it out like a real chuck wagon's top.
4. Glue the three craft sticks at the bottom of the top cover to form the body of the chuck wagon.
5. Glue the water barrel onto the craft sticks and the wheels below so it looks like a chuck wagon.
6. Use crayons to complete the chuck wagon by adding a tailgate, tongue, grass, horses, etc.

RECREATION**COUNTDOWN (Mission Control)**

Mark off a playing area about 15 to 20 feet wide with two lines 30 to 50 feet apart. Select one boy to be Mission Control ("It"). The other boys line up behind one of the lines. Mission Control yells, "Countdown!" The other boys start counting down from 10 to 1, starting from the left to right. Each boy says one number. (If your group is large, you could have every other boy call each number.)

Mission Control will either say *FIZZLE* or *BLAST OFF*. If "It" says *FIZZLE*, then no one may cross the line. If they do, they must join Mission Control. If "It" says *BLAST OFF*, the boys must run to the line at the other end of the play area without being tagged by "It." If "It" tags anyone, that boy must join Mission Control and assist in capturing the other boys.

Give a small prize to the boy who avoids being captured for the longest time. If you have a small group of boys, it may be necessary to make the playing area narrower.

DEVOTIONS**THE GUEST WITHOUT A WEDDING GARMENT****TEXT: Matthew 22:11-14**

Do you know what Jesus meant when He talked about a man who did not have a wedding garment? It is a person who does not have proper clothes to wear to a wedding. This person without the right clothes is like a person who does not have his sins covered by the blood of Jesus. He may have once believed in Jesus as his Savior, but sometime during his life he sinned again and never asked Jesus to forgive him. Or perhaps he does not want to forgive someone who did something to him. Unconfessed sin or not forgiving someone can keep us out of heaven. Jesus said, "If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14,15).

Sometimes we don't want to forgive someone because we are still angry at the person. Or we may say, "I forgive you but I'm not going to forget what you did." This is not the way God treats us. When God forgives us, He forgets our sin. In fact, the Bible says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our [sins] from us" (Psalm 103:12). He removes our sins to the opposite side of the world. That means He takes them far, far away and will never remember those sins again. God really loves us a lot, doesn't He?

Jesus' blood can remove all our sins, but only if we admit them and ask Him first. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). If we want God to forgive us, we must be willing to truly forgive others. If we hold a grudge in our hearts, then God can't forgive us. That's what He said in His Word.

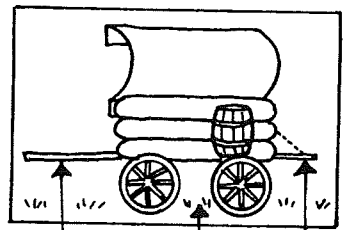
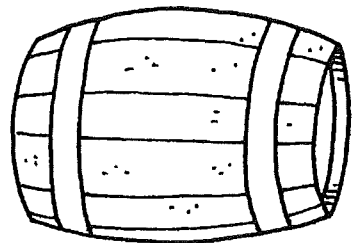
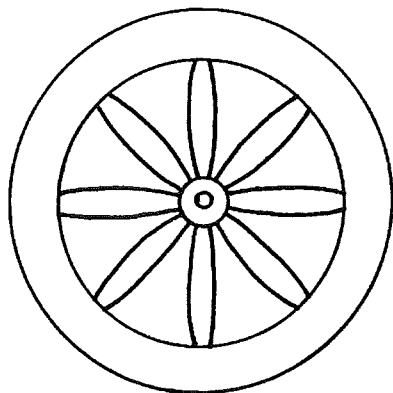
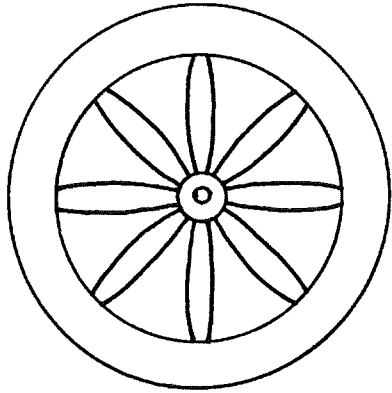
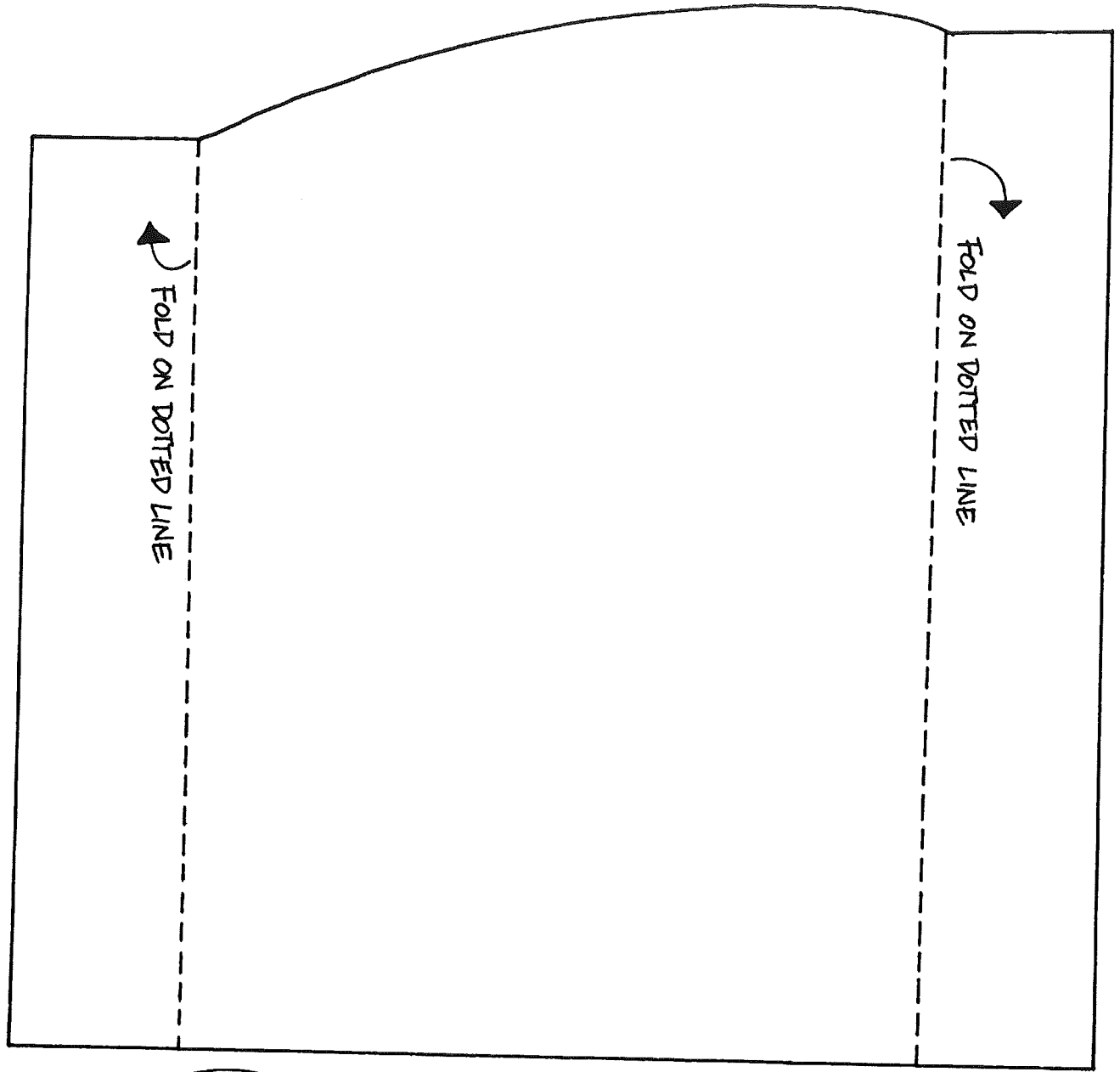
HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have sin in your life that you've never asked God to forgive? He wants you to be sorry for your sin and to ask Him for forgiveness. Are you having a hard time forgiving someone? If so, you need to tell it to Jesus right now and ask Him to forgive you and help you to forgive the other person. This first step may be hard for you, but if you ask God, He will help you truly forgive others. The Bible says no one without a wedding garment will be at the wedding. If such a person tries to come, he will be thrown out (Matthew 22:11-14). Neither will anyone be at the wedding supper in heaven who does not have the blood of Jesus covering his sins. Be alert. Accept God's Son as your Savior today.

Note to commander: After prayer, you could have the boys join hands and sing songs, such as "Jesus Loves the Little Children" or "The B-I-B-L-E."

"When the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: and he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:11-14).

TODAY'S KEY: Be alert. Be ready.



TONGUE GRASS TAILGATE

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 5 THEME:

First Aid

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Alert

LESSON 19:

A Day on the Cattle Drive

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we need to be alert so Satan, the devil, can't trick us into sinning

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

A DAY ON THE CATTLE DRIVE

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the correct first aid for a bee sting?
2. How do you remove a bee stinger when it is in your skin?
3. Why should you avoid squeezing the poison sac attached to the bee stinger?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T LET SATAN DESTROY YOU!

TEXT: John 10:7-10

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10, NIV).

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Range Rider

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

STEAL THE BACON

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

BE ALERT TO SIN

TEXT: Romans 5:6,8

Date

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

A DAY ON THE CATTLE DRIVE

Imagine you are a cowboy from the Running W ranch. You are on your first cattle drive. Last night was distressing because you burned Sam's hand with hot coffee and had to give him first aid. This is a new day and you hope everything will go smoothly.

The cowboys get up as soon as daylight comes. You are not used to getting up so early, but you are so excited that you jump out of your bedroll. You roll up your blanket and tie it to the back of your saddle. Next you get your tin plate and cup out of your saddlebag and head for the chuck wagon. The cook has made some biscuits to go along with the beans and hot coffee. You miss the eggs and pancakes you are used to having back at the ranch. The biscuits are hard, but no one says anything to the cook. If he gets mad, he will give you only beans and hot coffee. You soak the biscuits in your coffee and eat a big breakfast to keep you going all day. Once the cowboys start driving the cattle they don't stop until the sun is going down. All you will get for lunch is beef jerky and water from your canteen. After you finish eating, you wash your tin plate and cup in the bucket of water and put them back in your saddlebag.

The trail boss gives everyone orders for the day. You and Sam will be riding on the left flank (side) of the herd of cattle. Joe and Tommy will be on the right flank, and the other cowboys will bring up the rear. The trail boss and several other men will ride around and in front of the cattle to keep them going in the right direction. You are glad to be riding close to Sam. He has been nice to you, and he didn't get mad when you spilled the hot coffee on his hand last night.

It is really dusty on the trail today so you put your neckerchief over your nose and mouth and tie it at the back of your head. It will keep some of the dirt out of your mouth and lungs. You laugh because you must look like a train robber. The only thing showing is your eyes. It's a hot, dry job keeping the cows in line, but that is your job. The herd is moving slowly. Every once in a while a cow will start to stray off in a different direction. You quickly ride to the cow and make it go back to the herd. You swing your rope to hit the cows that get out of line. It makes them stay with the herd.

As you start out after a stray cow, you accidentally run into a tree limb that has a beehive in it. The bees begin swarming all around you. Soon you are stung several times. You ride away as fast as you can, swatting at the bees. Sam comes riding up to find out what happened. What are you going to do now? What is the correct first aid for bee stings? (*Give the boys a chance to answer. Many will have stories about bee or insect stings.*)

CORRECT FIRST AID FOR BEE OR INSECT STINGS:

1. Be sure the poison sac is removed, but don't squeeze it because this will put more venom (poison) into your body. Scrape the stinger out with the blade of your pocket knife.
2. Wash with soap and water.

3. Apply cold compress.
4. Apply a soothing lotion, such as calamine.
5. Seek medical help if you have a serious reaction.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T LET SATAN DESTROY YOU!

TEXT: John 10:7-10

In our Western Heritage story you accidentally ran into a tree limb with a beehive on it. If you had been alert, you might have been able to keep from running into that tree limb. Can any of you tell me about a time when you were not alert? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) The Bible says this about being spiritually alert:

"Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:7-10).

We are like the sheep. We belong to Jesus, who cares for us. Our enemy (Satan, or the devil), who is a thief, is trying to steal and to kill and to destroy us. If we are not careful, he will trick us into doing something that is wrong. Satan makes doing wrong look good and pleasing to us. That way he can get us to sin without our realizing it is wrong. Or he can tell us we don't need to do that good thing we were thinking of doing—without our realizing that that is wrong too. This is why Christians must be alert all the time.

Have you ever been with a friend who said "Let's go have some fun"? You go with him because it sounds good to you, but soon you learn he is planning to do something you know is wrong. That is the time we need to be strong in the Lord and say, "NO! I am not going to do this because it is wrong." If you love Jesus and want to please Him, He can help you say no. If you don't know Jesus as your Savior, you probably will not be able to say no when you are tempted to sin. You will still know it is wrong, but you won't have the strong desire to say no. Sometimes we fail to say no even though we do love Jesus. When this happens, and as soon as we realize that we have sinned, we must admit our sin to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us.

To keep from sinning we need to read God's Word and pray every day. His Word is our spiritual food. How many of you know the Lord's Prayer? (*Let the boys respond.*) Say it with me if you know it. "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:9-11). Let's stop there. We can think of "daily bread" as more than just the food we eat each day. It may also mean our spiritual food. This is why we need to read our Bibles and pray every day. Jesus came to give you life. To increase His life in you, read His Word daily. If you don't pray and read your Bible daily, you will be

weak spiritually. You will not be able to say no when you are tempted to sin.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Jesus loves you. He wants to keep you from sin and from Satan's harm. Have you been loyal to Jesus? Are you strong in the Lord so you are able to say no when you are tempted to do wrong? If not, now is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you be strong next time. Are you having trouble finding time to read God's Word and pray daily? If so, let's pray together for God's help.

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE: Range Rider Saddle

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 Range Rider Saddle coloring sheet (page 90)

Shared items: crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys color the coloring sheet picture. Tell them to do their best and use different colors for the items in the picture.
2. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the best and most complete drawing.

RECREATION

STEAL THE BACON

This two-line game is played by teams with equal numbers of players. Each team is numbered in order. Each team stands behind goal lines, which are drawn about 30 feet apart. Select any object to use as the "bacon." Place it midway between the two goal lines. When the leader shouts a number, the players from each side having that number race from their goal line to the "bacon." Each player tries to outmaneuver his opponent to get the "bacon" and carry it over his goal line before he is tagged. Score: two points for crossing the line with the "bacon"; one point for tagging the man before he can cross. As a variation, more than one player may be called from each team.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

BE ALERT TO SIN

TEXT: Romans 5:6-8

The Bible says, "When we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:6,8).

Jesus loves us so much He died for us while we were sinners—before we loved Him. He doesn't want anyone to die and go to hell. He wants us to love Him because He first loved us. His Holy Spirit wants to help us. God wants only good for us. Satan is always trying to destroy and kill us. Whenever something bad happens to us, we should never blame God. Our enemy the devil brings bad things into our lives. It is the devil who places in our minds thoughts of blaming God for the bad things the devil causes to happen to us. We must not listen to him. We need to be alert so we will not blame God for the bad things that happen to us. The devil is a liar. Don't listen to his lies.

Jesus wants us to be alert to the tricks of the devil and his lies. The devil does not want us to live for God. Jesus wants us to be alert and say no when we are tempted to do wrong or overlook doing good. If we have Jesus in our lives, and if we read our Bibles every day and pray to keep our spiritual man strong, Jesus will help us be alert to Satan's tricks and lies.

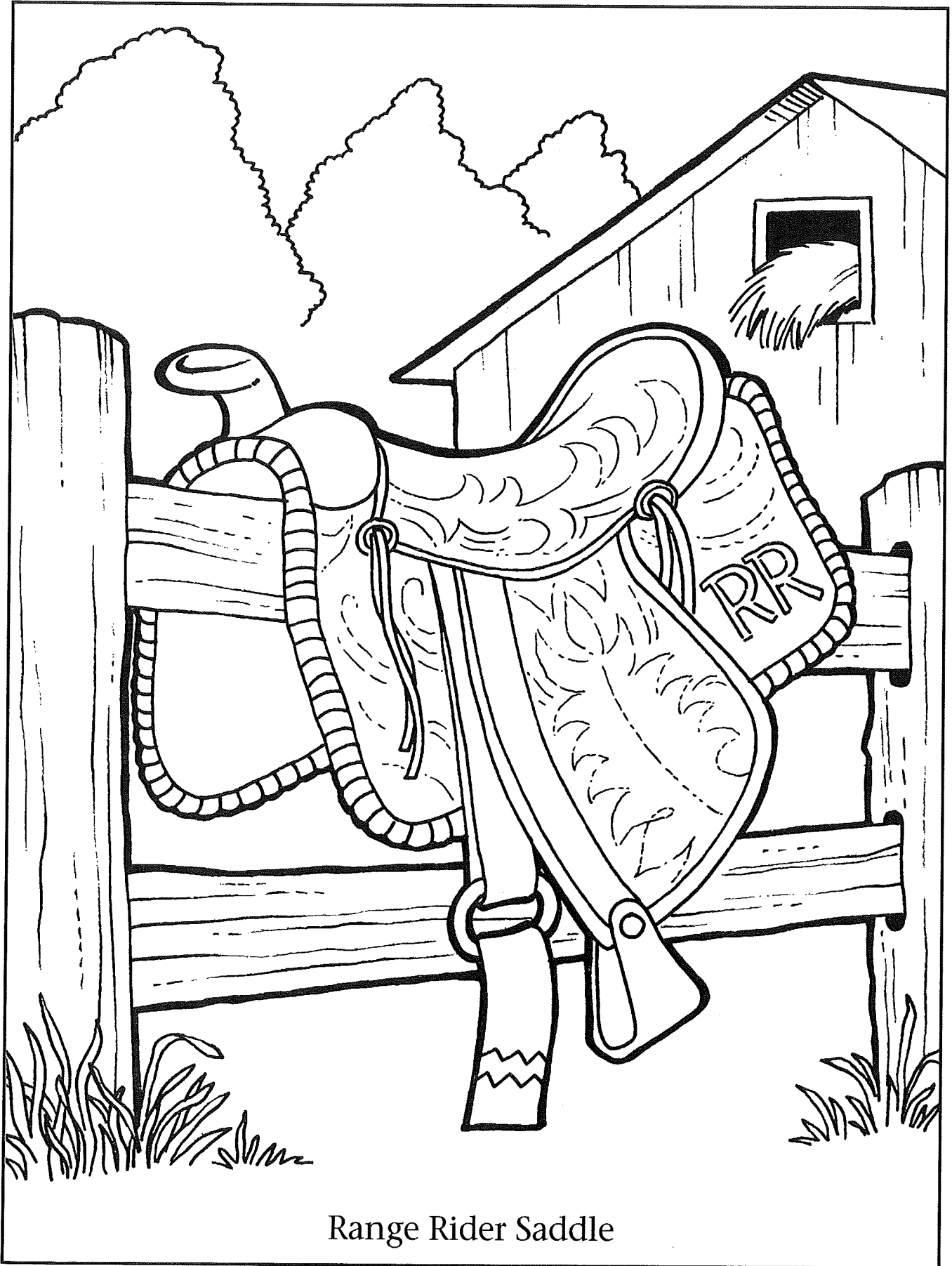
Being alert can keep us out of danger. We must be alert spiritually as well as physically. God sends His angels to guard us. Often He keeps us from harm. We don't deserve God's protection, but He protects us anyway. That's how much He loves you and me.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

We could not save ourselves—only Jesus could. He loved us and gave His life for us. Have you been listening to Satan's lies? Have you been blaming God for the bad things that happen in your life? If you have, you need to ask Jesus to forgive you. God loves you. He is good to you. Ask Him to help you be alert to the lies and tricks of the devil.

(After prayer, have the boys sing a song and then close with everyone saying the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13.)

TODAY'S KEY: Stay alert to Satan's lies.



Range Rider Saddle

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 5 THEME:

First Aid

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Alert

LESSON 20:

The Slithering Surprise

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to be alert to the feelings of others

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE SLITHERING SURPRISE

QUESTIONS:

1. What do cowboys eat while on a cattle drive?
2. Why did the cowboys draw straws?
3. Why did the cowboys sing to the cattle?
4. What do you do for a snakebite?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

TWO BOYS, TWO FATHERS

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 4:5-8

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“Though the Lord is on high, he looks upon the lowly, but the proud he knows from afar” (Psalm 138:6, NIV).

“Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off” (Psalm 138:6).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PAPER PLATE SHAKER

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

AMERICAN EAGLE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

LET'S BE ALERT

TEXT: 2 Timothy 2:15

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE SLITHERING SURPRISE

Imagine we are again in the days of the “wild, wild West.” We are on a cattle drive for the Running W ranch. We must get a big herd of cattle to the market in Kansas City, Kansas. We have been riding all day, watching out for stray cattle and keeping the herd moving. The cows walk on the hot, dry ground, stirring up lots of dust. It is starting to get dark. You are glad the trail boss has ordered us to stop for the night.

You ride over to a small stream nearby and wash your face and hands. Then you wash the dust out of your neckerchief, wring out all the water you can, and tie it around your neck again. You ride back to the chuck wagon and help get a good fire started. The cook is fixing supper. It will be beans and hot coffee again. You are glad to have something warm to eat after having only beef jerky and water all day.

The cowboys are drawing straws to see who will take the first watch tonight. You happen to pick the shortest straw, so you are to take the first watch. Joe picks the next shortest straw. He gets the second watch. He will relieve you at midnight. Your watch will start as soon as supper is over. You ask Sam if you can ride his horse during your watch tonight. He says okay. It is important to have a horse that is quiet when riding watch, otherwise the cattle may get spooked and start a stampede.

You eat a big plate of beans and drink plenty of hot coffee. Then you saddle up Sam’s horse and ride slowly around the herd of cattle. As you ride, you begin to sing your favorite cowboy songs softly to the cattle. Singing helps keep the cows from getting spooked. The cattle are very nervous at night. Any strange sound can scare them and cause a stampede. The night is clear and cool. You really enjoy singing lullabies to the cattle.

Before you know it, Joe comes riding up to take the second watch. You are surprised that it is midnight already. You ride back to the camp, tie up Sam’s horse, and take off the saddle. Next you take your bedroll and look for a place to lie down for the night. You find a place, make your bed on the ground, and cover yourself with your blanket. Soon you are asleep.

Just before daylight you wake up and feel something move up next to your leg. You are scared, but you don’t move. Soon you realize it is a snake looking for warmth. What should you do now? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) The best thing to do is lie still and wait until the sun comes up. The snake will crawl away as soon as it feels the warmth of the sun. If you are close to another cowboy you can quietly ask him to help you. Whatever you do, don’t make any sudden moves or start screaming. This might cause the snake to bite you. What first aid should be given in case of a snakebite?

CORRECT FIRST AID FOR SNAKEBITE:

1. Keep the victim from moving around. Immobilize (prevent movement of) the bitten area.
2. Keep the victim as calm as possible and preferably lying down.
3. Get the victim to a hospital as soon as possible.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

TWO BOYS, TWO FATHERS

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 4:5-8

Jeff Blair was proud of his dad. He was a policeman. Often the kids at school would say, “I saw your dad on the news last night.” Or “That was your dad’s name in the paper again, wasn’t it, Jeff?”

One night Jeff’s dad helped capture a dangerous criminal. The next day newspaper headlines said Officer Blair was a hero. Jeff eagerly read the whole account. He laughed a little over the name of the man his dad had captured—Percy J. Crane! *Whoever heard of a criminal named Percy?* Jeff thought. *Butch or Lefty maybe, but Percy?* When Jeff got to school, many of the kids asked him to tell them more about the story.

About a week later, Jeff’s teacher introduced a new class member. Smiling, Miss Townsend turned to a thin, sad-faced boy. “This is Percy J. Crane, Jr.,” she said. “He’s from Illinois. He’s been in our town only a short time. I’d like each of you to make him welcome.” The teacher’s cheerful voice made Jeff think she was unaware of what had happened to Percy’s dad.

Jeff looked at Percy J. Crane, Jr. He was standing quietly, head down, eyes looking at the floor. Jeff thought about Percy’s dad—what would it be like to feel ashamed of your dad? He remembered that his own father had once said, “Don’t ever be too proud, Son. Anyone can be tempted to sin. Remember to ask God to keep you on the right path, and thank Him for His protection every day.” Jeff shivered. He realized that it could be him—Jeff Blair—instead of Percy Crane standing there.

“Mrs. Townsend, I’ll show Percy around school, and he can eat lunch with the guys and me,” Jeff offered.

“Thank you, Jeff.” The teacher smiled, and Jeff knew she was aware of more than she had shown. She knew who Percy’s dad was too.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible tells us we are not to judge others. We are to let God be the judge of what people do or think. Do you know someone who has reason to be ashamed of his parents? Do you look down on that person and think you are better than he is? Don’t be proud in that way. It’s only because of God’s grace that you’re not in that person’s place. Thank God for what He’s done for you. Then love others as God does. Don’t look down on them.

CRAFT

PAPER PLATE SHAKER

MATERIALS NEEDED

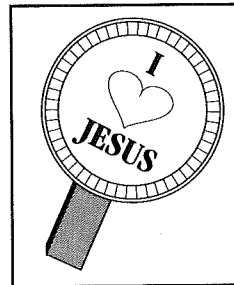
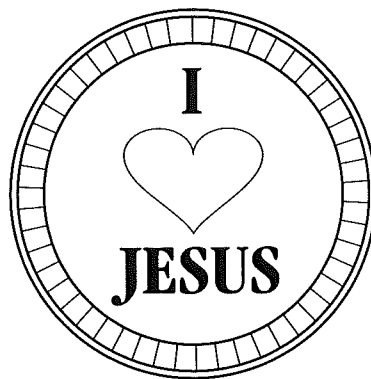
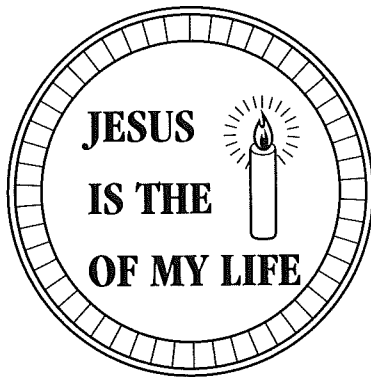
For each boy:

2 6-inch paper plates

5 to 10 dry beans

A 1- by 6-inch poster board (for handle)

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, stapler



EXAMPLE

Paper Plate Shaker

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys print "Jesus is the light of my life" in different colors on the back of one paper plate. (Draw a picture of a candle instead of spelling the word *light*.)
2. Have the boys print "I (picture of a heart) Jesus" on the back of the other plate.
3. Encourage the boys to use plenty of colors so their pictures look bright and alive.
4. Place 5 to 10 beans between the plates and staple the plates with the backs (colored sides) facing out.
5. Staple the 1- by 6-inch poster board between the two plates to form a handle.
6. Play a song the boys enjoy on a tape player. Let them keep time to the music with their shakers.

RECREATION

AMERICAN EAGLE

This is a good starting game for any number of players. All the boys except one should stand at one end of the room. The remaining boy is the "eagle." He

shouts "American eagle" and the whole group heads for the opposite end of the room, trying to touch the wall before the "eagle" can catch them. The "eagle" tries to catch a player and lift him off the floor long enough to say, "American eagle, one, two, three." If he succeeds, that player becomes an eagle. If the other boy can keep any part of his body on the floor, he is safe. Each one who is caught stays in the middle of the room and helps catch the others. The last one to be caught is declared the winner.

With a large group in a large room this game sometimes tends to drag on too long. It can be speeded up in two ways: (1) start with three or more "eagles" or (2) declare the last three (or more) to be winners instead of continuing until only one is left.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

LET'S BE ALERT!

2 Timothy 2:15

Jeff Blair was a good example for us. He would make a fine Royal Ranger because he was mentally alert in our story. Being alert is part of the Royal Ranger code. It says we are mentally, physically, and spiritually alert. Can anyone tell me how Jeff was alert? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) He was aware of who Percy J. Crane was. He quickly recognized that Percy, Jr., needed a friend. He decided to do something about it. If Jeff had not been alert, he would have overlooked the opportunity to do right, to be a friend to Percy, Jr.

Being alert is more than just being a friend to someone. It also means we must study. Jeff had studied everything he could about how his dad captured Percy J. Crane. He knew the details of the story. When Percy, Jr., was introduced by his teacher, Jeff knew right away that he was the son of Percy the criminal. Jeff did not need to ask anyone, because he had studied and knew the details. He was also alert in quickly realizing how Percy, Jr., must have felt. He thought about how he could have just as easily been in Percy, Jr.'s, place. Then he made a choice to help Percy, Jr. He was a good example for the other children in his class and for us.

As Royal Rangers we need to be alert also. That means we must study and learn all we can in school. We learn in school by listening to our teachers and doing our schoolwork every day. By being alert and listening to everything the teacher says, we won't have time to daydream or think about what we are going to do when we get outside or when we get home. If we study this way, we will be ready for whatever happens in our lives, just as Jeff was in our story.

We also need to study God's Word, the Bible, so we will be ready to meet Jesus when He comes. God's Word says:

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

This means we must read God's Word every day and study it so we will know what to do when we are

tempted to sin. The devil is a liar. If we study God's Word, we will be able to recognize when Satan is lying to us. God's Word is the truth. It will not fail. We can depend on the things we learn from the Bible. We can believe all God says in His Word. As we read and study the Bible, God will help us understand it. Knowing the truths in God's Word will help us make right choices when Satan tempts us to think or do wrong things.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Being like Jesus doesn't just happen. We work at it by learning to think and do good as Jesus did. Have you been studying to show yourself approved to God? Are you working at becoming like Jesus? If not, this is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you to study His Word and act like Him. *(Pray with the boys. Then sing an appropriate song.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Study to be like Jesus.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 5 THEME:

First Aid

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Alert

LESSON 21:

The Long Trail

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we can depend on Jesus because He will never leave us

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE LONG TRAIL

QUESTIONS:

1. Why were you feeling so tired in our story tonight?
2. Why did the trail boss stop the cattle drive?
3. How did the cowboys feel after taking a bath?
4. What should you do if you get a rash or jock itch?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE TIRED CHRISTIAN

TEXT: Hebrews 13:5,6

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you'" (Hebrews 13:5, NIV).

"Be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CRAFT STICK BOOKMARK

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

ARMY DODGEBALL

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

I MUST TELL JESUS

TEXT: 2 Peter 3:9

Date

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE LONG TRAIL

Let's go back in time to the days of the cowboys and the cattle drives. Imagine you are one of the cowboys from the Running W ranch. We are on a long cattle drive. It has been hot and dusty. We have been driving this herd of cattle for several weeks. You are getting tired of riding your horse every day. The trail boss doesn't give you any rest. You must go, go, go, all the time. You must keep the cattle moving and watch out for any strays. You are hot and tired, and the nights seem so short. You would like to complain, but no one is around to listen to you. It's just you and the cattle. Sam is riding just ahead, but he doesn't have time to talk because he is watching the cattle too. Suddenly the trail boss orders everyone to stop.

You ride up to where the cowboys are gathering to listen to the trail boss. That's when you notice the big river just ahead. The trail boss tells two men to ride around the herd as lookouts for strays and for any danger. Then he tells the rest of you to take a bath in the river. It has been a long time since you have taken a bath. You really need one. You get your bar of lye soap out of your saddlebag and take off your clothes. At first the water seems cold, but you soon get used to it. Then the water feels great. You soap yourself all over and dip under the water several times. Some of the cowboys are splashing each other. You join in the fun. Next you wash your clothes with the lye soap and rinse them with lots of water. You hang your clothes on a small bush next to the river to dry. Then you go back and play in the water. The clean, cool water feels wonderful after your hot, dusty ride.

As you look at the other cowboys, you think how funny they look. Their bodies are white, but their faces and necks are dark from the sun. You realize you must look the same way. Finally you get out of the water and start to dry. That is when you notice the rash on your legs. The rash looks really bad. What should you do? *(Let the boys answer.)*

To treat a rash, the cowboys probably used tea bags or corn starch they got from the cook. Today we can get different types of ointment from the drug store.

(Note to commanders: It is not uncommon for boys to get what is called jock itch, which is really a rash or fungus next to their private parts. They need to know how to treat it.)

CORRECT FIRST AID FOR A RASH OR JOCK ITCH:

1. Wash area with plenty of soap and water, then dry the area thoroughly.
2. Apply an antifungal cream.
3. Put on clean underclothes.
4. Repeat this procedure twice a day for 2 weeks—even if the rash goes away before the 2 weeks are up.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE TIRED CHRISTIAN

TEXT: Hebrews 13:5,6

In our Western Heritage story you were feeling really tired and would have complained if someone had been nearby to talk to. It is the same way in our lives as Christians. There are times when we just feel tired and want to give up. It may seem as if it is no use serving God because all you have are problems. You may even think God has forgotten about you. But here is what God's Word says:

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Hebrews 13:5,6).

Our Christian character trait for this unit is alert. We should be mentally, physically, and spiritually alert. When we are alert, we will think before we complain. In our Western Heritage story, when you were hot and tired, you wanted to complain about how bad things were. It would have been hard for you to say anything nice to Sam even if he had been near to listen to you. After you had a bath, you felt completely different. You would probably have bragged about how great the cattle drive was. Do you see the difference in how you felt before and after you took a bath in the river?

It is the same way in your life as a Christian. Sometimes you feel really tired and worn out. Those are the times you should not say anything. When you go through a time like this, you may think Jesus has left you. He is still with you! It's true, because His Word says, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5, NIV). It is His Word! You can believe it! You can count on the truth of His Word; it will never fail. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away" (Mark 13:31). That means that the world will come to an end someday, but God's Word will be true forever.

No matter what happens in your life, don't give up or think that God has left you. He has not. When things start going bad, and you think you can't go on much longer—remember the cowboys in our Western Heritage story. They were tired and sore, almost ready to give up. Then they came to a river and stopped—and took a bath and a swim. Then they felt better about everything. We can do this in other ways. It's hard to handle problems when we have not had enough sleep. Even little problems seem big when we're tired. A good sleep helps. Another way to deal with a problem is to talk it over with a friend, with Mom or Dad, or with your commander. Or you might go for a walk to use some energy and sing songs to Jesus. The best way is to talk to Jesus. He is our best friend. He will never hurt us. He knows us. He has power and wisdom to help us.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you ready to give up and quit? Have there been times when you doubted God was still with you? Remember that God wants us to be content with what

we have. No matter what happens, we will always have Him. He will never leave us to face our problems alone. He will always be with us to help us. Perhaps you have never asked Jesus into your life. You have never asked Him to help you and you would like to do so today. He is waiting for you to tell Him you're sorry for your sin. He wants to help you. *(Pray that God will help the boys realize their need of Him and ask Him to be their Savior and Friend.)*

CRAFT

CRAFT STICK BOOKMARK

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 large craft stick
($\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 6 inches)

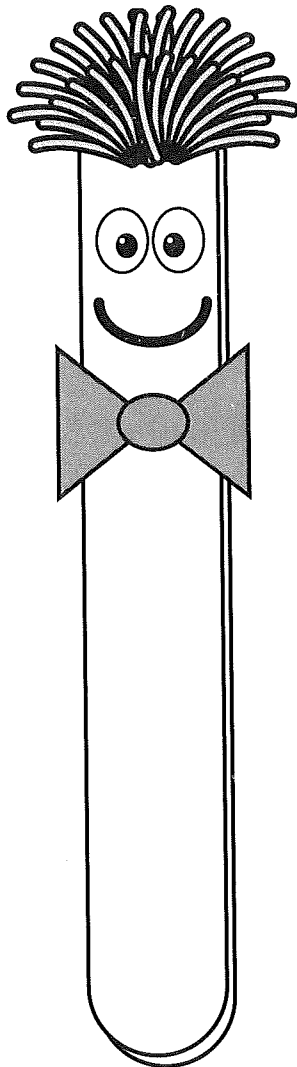
1 piece of craft fur
($\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches)

1 small piece of red felt

Shared items:
scissors, markers
or pens, craft glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have each boy glue the craft fur to one end of the craft stick.
2. Have the boys cut a small bow tie from the red felt and glue it on the craft stick 1 inch below the craft fur.
3. Have the boys draw eyes and a mouth on the stick to make a face (ears and nose are optional).
4. Tell the boys to put the bookmark in their Bibles at Hebrews 13:6 to remind them that Jesus is always with them.



Craft Stick Bookmark

RECREATION

ARMY DODGEBALL

Mark off a playing field about 15 by 20 feet. All the boys must stay inside the playing field. You, as commander, start off by throwing the ball at one of the boys. Unlike regular dodgeball, a boy is not out if he gets hit. Instead, that part of him that got hit is wounded and can't be used. For example, if a boy gets hit in the right leg he must hop around on the left leg. Once both legs are hit, he must crawl around on his hands and knees. Once a boy has both legs hit and then gets hit in the chest, he is out and must leave the playing field and assist the commander(s) in getting the other boys out.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

I MUST TELL JESUS

TEXT: 2 Peter 3:9

Today we learned the best way to handle our problems is to tell Jesus about them and ask Him to help us. This is not something new. People have been telling Jesus about their problems for many years. Listen to the words from this old hymn:

I must tell Jesus all of my trials;
I cannot bear these burdens alone;
In my distress He kindly will help me;
He ever loves and cares for His own.

CHORUS

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
I cannot bear my burdens alone;
I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.

I must tell Jesus all of my troubles;
He is a kind, compassionate Friend;
If I but ask Him, He will deliver,
Make of my troubles quickly an end.

Tempted and tried I need a great Savior,
One who can help my burdens to bear;
I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus;
He all my cares and sorrows will share.

O how the world to evil allures me!
O how my heart is tempted to sin!
I must tell Jesus, and He will help me
Over the world the victory to win.

What the song tells us is that ever since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden people have had problems and temptations. Jesus never promised we wouldn't have problems, but He did promise never to leave us. As Christians, we should expect problems in our lives. The devil will try every trick he knows to get you to sin. The devil knows he is going to hell to be tormented forever, so he wants to take as many people with him as possible. God never planned for you to go to hell. In fact, the Bible says:

"The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

God loves us so much He has provided a way for us to be saved from hell. He has given us the power (ability) to become the sons of God. We have a choice. We can obey God or we can obey the devil. It is up to us.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Who are you serving today? What choices have you made when you were tired? The next time you are tired, you may tell Jesus all your problems. He will help you because He wants everyone to go to heaven with Him. Sometimes we make wrong choices and do wrong or put off doing good, but we can tell Jesus if we're sorry for what we did or didn't do. He is always there. He always hears us. Would you like to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you to do better next time? *(Pray with each boy who responds. Assure him of God's love and forgiveness.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Jesus is always there for you.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 5 THEME:

First Aid

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Alert

LESSON 22:

The End of the Cattle Drive

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to be aware that it is Satan who tempts us to sin

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE END OF THE CATTLE DRIVE

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the trail boss do with the cattle when they reached Kansas City?
2. What did the cowboys do on their first day in town?
3. If you were a cowboy, what would you buy with your money?
4. What would probably happen if you kept playing cards with the cowboys?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

BEWARE!

TEXT: James 1:13-15, 19-21

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“Sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death” (James 1:15, NIV).

“Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (James 1:15).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

WOODEN CHUCK WAGON

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

KING OF THE SQUARE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

A ROYAL RANGER IS ALERT

TEXT: James 1:13-15, 19-21

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE END OF THE CATTLE DRIVE

Are you ready to travel back in time to our imaginary cattle drive for the Running W ranch? Here we go. Today is the day we have been waiting for—the end of the long cattle drive. Last night when we stopped, the trail boss told everyone we were less than 10 miles from Kansas City, Kansas. Today we got up excited. We could hardly wait to start the cattle on the way. By lunchtime we had reached Kansas City. All the cattle were driven into the cattle pens close to the railroad station.

Right away the trail boss talked to the cattlemen who were interested in buying cattle. By mid-afternoon he had found a buyer for the cattle. He got the money, called all the ranch hands together, and gave them their pay. You made a little over \$100 for 3 months' work. That is less than \$1 a day, but to you it is a lot of money.

The first thing you do is go to the general store and buy some new clothes. Next it's the barber shop for a bath and a haircut. You tell the barber to put on lots of that smelly stuff. Then you get dressed in your new clothes. The bath probably cost you 10 cents and the shave and haircut 15 cents, but it was worth it. Now you feel great, look clean, and smell good. When you leave the barber shop, you feel like a new man. The day is nearly over so you head for the hotel to get some good food and then a room for the night. You tell the waiter to get you the best meal they have on the menu, but you don't want any beans or jerky. Supper is beef stew with potatoes, carrots, and wonderful gravy. You decide to have a second plate because it tastes so good. For dessert you have homemade apple pie. It is so good, you think you have died and gone to heaven. You pinch yourself just to be sure. After supper you play some cards with the other cowboys. After losing \$2, you decide to go up to your room for the night. If you kept playing cards, you would probably lose all your hard-earned money. It is wonderful to sleep between clean sheets and in a real bed, after having slept on the ground for so many nights.

The next day you sleep in until almost 8 o'clock because the bed feels so good. You get up, pour some water in the basin, and wash your hands and face with the soap and water. This is really living. You think this is the way kings must feel every day. Then it's time to get some breakfast with real eggs and toast and jelly—and, of course, hot coffee.

After breakfast you go to the saddle shop to dream about a new saddle. You spend most of the morning looking over the new saddles and talking with the saddle maker. Then you head back to the hotel for a hot lunch. This is really a treat. You decide to have another piece of apple pie. After lunch you go to the boot shop to pick out a new pair of boots. You look at them for a couple of hours, trying to decide what to buy. You don't have enough money to get a new pair of boots and a new saddle. You still want to go to the gunsmith's shop. What a problem! You wish you were rich so you could buy everything you want, but you will have to make up your mind soon. The trail boss and the other cowboys will be leaving for the Running W ranch the day after tomorrow.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

BEWARE!

TEXT: James 1:13-15, 19-21

"Hey, Rodney," whispered Max. "Look over there by the bushes."

"Wow!" Rodney whispered back. "Mr. Jones must have a new watchdog. He's big, but he looks harmless."

"I think we can still take our regular shortcut through his backyard," Max said a little louder.

"But look, Max." Rodney pointed to a sign on a tree. "It says Beware of the Dog. Maybe he's an attack dog or something!"

"Sure! Just look at that baby face!" Max said, as he walked slowly toward the dog. The dog began to growl. "Nice doggy, nice doggy," Max said softly.

"Hey, Max, maybe we'd better not go any closer," Rodney warned. "That chain he's wearing looks pretty long!"

"He's as gentle as a lamb. You'll see," Max assured him. "You just have to have a way with animals, Rodney."

Suddenly the dog lunged toward Max, snarling ferociously.

"He-e-elp!" Max screamed, frantically trying to free his jeans leg from the dog's teeth.

"What are you doing in my backyard?" Mr. Jones shouted angrily as he walked toward the snarling dog. "Here, Dude! You boys should read signs more carefully." Mr. Jones said, frowning as Dude wagged his tail and trotted to his master. "You were disobeying, trespassing on my property. See that it doesn't happen again! Dude may look gentle, and most of the time he is, but he's been known to scare a few people. Warnings are given for a reason. Obey them!"

Max and Rodney were quiet as they walked home. "Max," Rodney said, breaking the silence, "Mr. Jones sounded a lot like Pastor Parker."

Max nodded. "Yeah." They were remembering the Sunday evening message. "Sin may look attractive," Pastor Parker had said. "It may look harmless. But God warns against all sin. Pay attention to His warning. Say no when Satan tempts you to do wrong."

"I guess we'd better not sneak over to Jim's house to watch that video he was telling us about," Max said. Rodney nodded. "I think you're right. Mom and Dad sure wouldn't like it."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Would you like to be like "everybody else" once in a while? That's not God tempting you to do what you know is wrong. The Bible says God never tempts us with wrongdoing. He always wants us to do right (James 1:13-15). Do you think it wouldn't hurt you to go where they go and do what they do, even though you know it wouldn't please the Lord? You're wrong. God warns that when we give in to temptation, we sin. If we keep on sinning instead of being sorry and asking God's forgiveness, it causes us to die spiritually. We go away from God's presence and stop loving Him. Sin gets hold of our lives sort of like the dog got hold of Max's jeans. Then we obey Satan instead of God (James 1:19-21). Pay attention to His warning and obey Him.

CRAFT

WOODEN CHUCK WAGON

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 body (A $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch piece of wood $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide; the top $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches long and the bottom $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long as shown)

4 wheels (wooden circles $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter)

Four $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch nails with heads

1 wagon tongue (wooden dowel $\frac{3}{16}$ inch by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches)

$\frac{1}{4}$ sheet of white construction paper

1 piece of sandpaper 2 by 2 inches

Shared items: scissors, pencils, glue, hammer(s), clear tape

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting:

1. The commander should prepare the body, wheels, wagon tongue, and sandpaper per craft illustration on page 102. Be sure to predrill the holes in the body for the dowel (tongue) and for the nails that will hold the wheels. Mark the center on each wheel where the nail should go.

2. Use poster board to prepare several templates of the top cover.

During the meeting:

1. Have each boy sand all the wooden parts to remove any splinters.

2. Have the boys trace around the template on their white construction paper and cut out the top cover.

3. Let one boy at a time hammer the nail through the wheels and into the predrilled holes in the body.

4. Have the boys glue the tongue in place.

5. Have the boys glue the top cover on the base. Use tape to hold it in place until the glue dries.

RECREATION

KING OF THE SQUARE

Designate a playing area about 10 feet square. Divide the players into two groups and place one group in the square. The other group tries to pull out the group that is in the square. The last boy remaining in the square is the king. There may be a time limit on each team to see which group can stay in the square the longest.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

A ROYAL RANGER IS ALERT

TEXT: James 1:13-15

In our Bible lesson Rodney and Max were alert. They noticed that Mr. Jones had a new watchdog. They even noticed the sign that said "Beware of the dog." But they paid no attention to it. Max insisted they could still take their shortcut through Mr. Jones' backyard in spite of his dog. Sometimes it is not enough just to be alert. We must also be obedient to what we read or see. Instead of being obedient, Max decided that Dude was harmless. He found out he was wrong. Then Mr. Jones came out and told the boys they were disobeying. They were also trespassing on his property. He told them not to do it again.

It is the same way with sin in our lives. If we don't pay attention to the first warning signs, we will get into trouble. God's Word says it will be our own fault.

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:13-15).

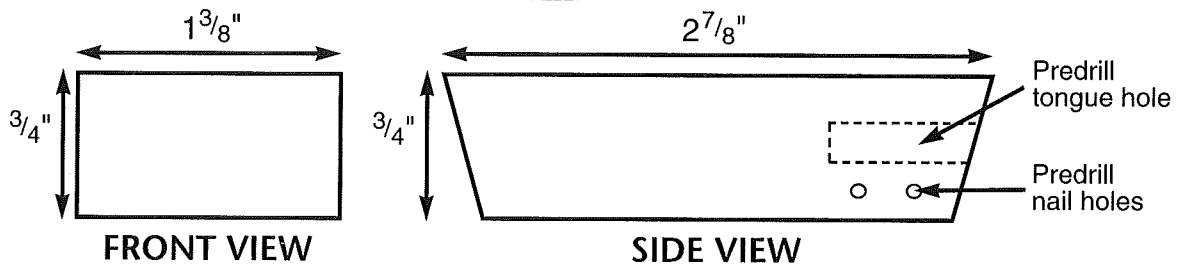
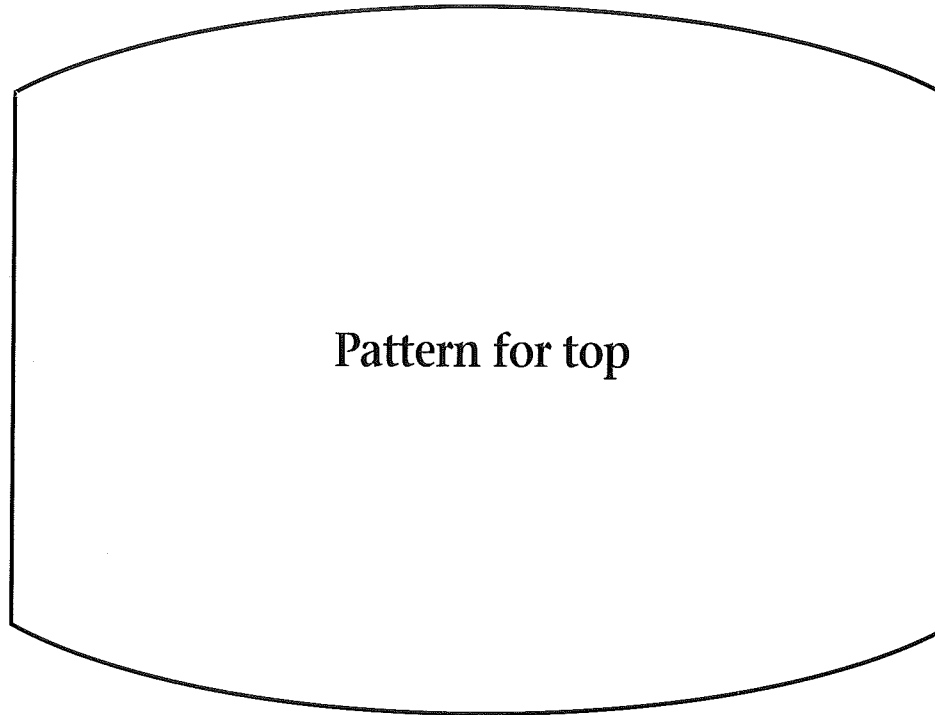
When we are tempted to sin it is our own desire to do wrong, to ignore the right, that causes us to sin. We want to do things that please us. The Bible says we do not naturally have good desires (Romans 7:18). We must be alert and recognize when Satan is tempting us to sin. Then we must decide to stand for the right, not to do the thing we know is wrong. Max and Rodney knew it was wrong to go through Mr. Jones' yard, but they did it anyway because they didn't want to take the long way around. They decided to do wrong. Every day we must make choices about whether to do what we want to or to do what we know is right.

Our Bible verse tells us what will happen if we give in and do what we want. It says, "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). Lust, the desire to please ourselves and do wrong, starts in our minds. Once the idea starts to grow, it causes us to sin. This is exactly what happened in our story today. At first sin began in Max and Rodney's minds. Then it grew as they got closer and decided to take the shortcut in spite of the dog. When they got caught, they were sorry for what they had done. They decided not to sneak over to Jim's house to watch a bad video on his VCR. They made a right choice this time, but only after they got caught for their first sin.

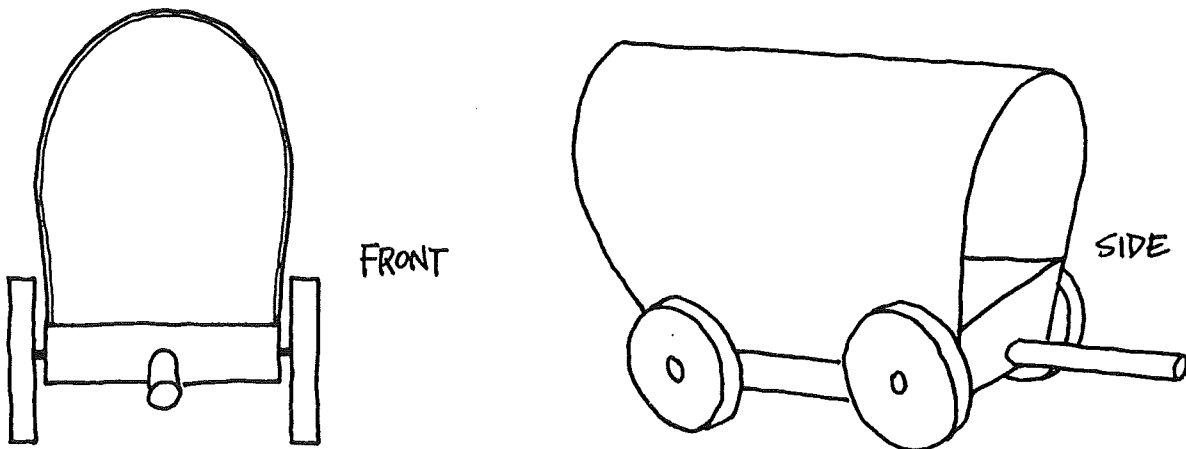
HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been giving in to temptations? When wrong thoughts come into your mind, do you keep thinking about them till you go ahead and forget about doing right and do what you know is wrong, such as lying, cheating, or stealing? Now is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you say no when Satan tempts you to do wrong. (*Pray with the boys that God will help them obey Him and choose to do right when Satan tempts them to do wrong.*)

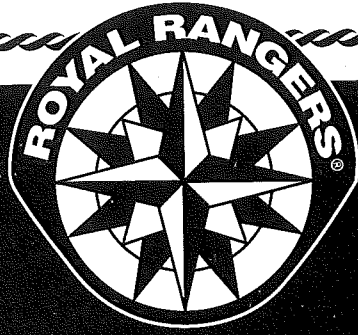
TODAY'S KEY: Beware of sin.



NOTE: Predrill holes for wheels using a nail with the head cut off.



Wooden Chuck Wagon



UNIT SIX

Health of Our Bodies

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 6 THEME:

Health of Our Bodies

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Clean

LESSON 23:

Taking Care of Your Body

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we need to put the right things in our minds so we can grow spiritually

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY

QUESTIONS:

1. Name some good energy foods and some bad ones.
2. Where can you get the vitamins your body needs?
3. What is the most important meal of the day?
4. What kinds of foods should we eat?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

TAKING CARE OF YOUR MIND AND YOUR SPIRIT

TEXT: Ephesians 4:23-25

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“Be made new in the attitude of your minds”
(Ephesians 4:23, NIV).

“Be renewed in the spirit of your mind”
(Ephesians 4:23).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COLOR A PICTURE: Dot-to-Dot Beaver

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

POISON

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

JUNK FOODS

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:22-25; 2:1-3

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY

Before we start our lesson, let's sing a song of praise to Jesus. (*Lead the boys in an appropriate song.*)

There is no one else like you. God made you special. You need to take care of yourself. You can do a lot to take care of your body, your mind, and your spirit. Here are some things that will help you become the healthiest, happiest person you can be.

Your body needs energy to work, play, or think. You get energy from the food you eat. The more active you are, the more energy, or calories, you use. For example, eating one banana would give you enough energy to sleep for 90 minutes or to ride a bicycle for only 10 minutes.

Good energy foods give energy that your body can use right away and that lasts a long time. Some good energy foods are bananas, apples, eggs, oranges, potatoes, rice, cereal, and whole wheat bread.

Candy, soda, and sugary snacks are foods that give you quick energy, but they are not good for you. They soon leave you feeling weak and hungry again.

Food provides the raw materials your body needs to grow. Some of these raw materials are vitamins. Your body needs 13 different vitamins and each one has a special job. For example, vitamin A helps your eyes to adjust in the dark and vitamin C helps to keep you from getting colds and to cause your skin to heal. The good energy foods you eat can supply all the vitamins you need. Eat fresh fruits when you want a snack, because fruit gives more vitamins than cookies or cake. Cereal and vegetables also have lots of vitamins.

Protein is another raw material we get in our food. Protein helps keep your muscles strong. It also helps you have healthy hair and blood. Some good protein foods are milk, chicken, fish, and nuts.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Starting your day without breakfast is like going on a trip without putting gas in your car. Your car won't go very far before it needs to be filled up. After going all night without food, you need to eat so you will have energy to go all day.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

TAKING CARE OF YOUR MIND AND YOUR SPIRIT

TEXT: Ephesians 4:23-25

See if you can find Ephesians, chapter 4, verse 23, in your Bible so you can read it with me.

"Be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another" (Ephesians 4:23-25).

Just as our bodies need food each day so we will have the energy to do what we want, our minds need to be renewed each day. Do you know what *renewed*

means? It means "to make new again," to give new spiritual strength.

What do you think God meant when He told us to "be made new in the attitude of your minds"? Our spirit is that part inside of us that is alive. We are first of all a spirit; we have a soul that will live forever. We live in a body that will die. God is also Spirit. The Bible says, "God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24, NIV). Our mind is made up of our thoughts, our ability to make choices, and our feelings. For us to be made new in the spirit of our mind, we must renew our thoughts, our choices, and our feelings.

The best way to renew our minds is to read God's Word. It will make our minds fresh and strong and will give us new spiritual strength for the day. God's Word is full of the spiritual food and spiritual vitamins we need to grow more like Jesus.

It is good to memorize God's Word and think about it often. Have you ever felt sad or lonely and then thought of a Scripture verse you had memorized, such as when Jesus says He will never leave you (Hebrews 13:5)? It renews your spirit, making you feel spiritually strong again. You may feel very sad because of something that happened. It may seem that no one cares about you. Then when you remember that verse, the sad feeling will go away.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Eating the good energy foods keeps our bodies healthy. What can you do to keep your mind healthy? Reading, memorizing, and then thinking about what God tells us in the Bible will keep our minds healthy. What is needed to keep our spirits healthy? If we really want to please Jesus, we need to think good thoughts and make right choices, and these will control the way we feel. If you have problems with thinking and doing wrong things, or forgetting to do the good you can, God will help you. (*Pray with the boys who indicate they want to be spiritually healthy.*)

CRAFT

COLOR A PICTURE: Dot-to-Dot Beaver

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 copy of the craft illustration on page 108

Shared items: crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys complete the picture, then color the illustration on page 108. Tell them to do their best.
2. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the best and most complete picture. Consider the ability level of each boy when giving an award. Don't reward the same boy all the time.

RECREATION

POISON

Poison is an action game for any number of players. A chair or similar object is set in the middle of the game area. All players join hands in a large circle around it. The object of the game is to pull other players toward the chair—which is “poison”—while avoiding the chair oneself. Any player touching the poison must drop out of the game. If you have a large group, have several circles going at once. The winner from each circle then competes in one circle. Or place several chairs in the center several feet apart. The last one to remain in the game is the winner.

DEVOTIONS and CLOSING CEREMONY

JUNK FOODS

TEXT: 1 Peter 1:22-25; 2:1-3

“Somebody must have decided we shouldn’t eat junk food,” Larry grumbled when he came home from school one day. “They’re taking the candy and soda machines out of the cafeteria. Now what are we supposed to do if we want something to eat between classes?”

“Won’t they put something in their place?” Mom asked.

“Well— yeah,” Larry said. “Apples, raisins, milk, and juice.”

“Good,” Mother said, nodding. “Those are better foods to eat. After all, food affects your health. Do you know there’s a Brazilian parrot that changes color, depending on what kind of fish it eats?”

“If I eat candy, will I change color?” Larry asked, laughing. “Where do you learn all these strange things?”

“I learned that when I was in nurses’ training. We were taught that we *are* what we eat.”

Larry turned on the TV and punched the remote.

“Did you know that TV works the same for the mind as it does for the body?” Mother asked. “What we ‘eat’ mentally makes a big difference in how we act toward the people around us.”

Larry turned off the TV and stared at the blank screen. “What do you mean, Mom?”

“Suppose we didn’t have TV,” Mom said. “What would you do instead of plopping yourself down in front of the TV each night?”

Larry thought about it. “I don’t know. Ride a bike. Call a friend. Read a book. I might even do homework!” He laughed.

“I think that would be considered good food, like apples, raisins, and juices,” Mom said. “Now, let’s see. You need to eat some meat too. What do you think that might be?”

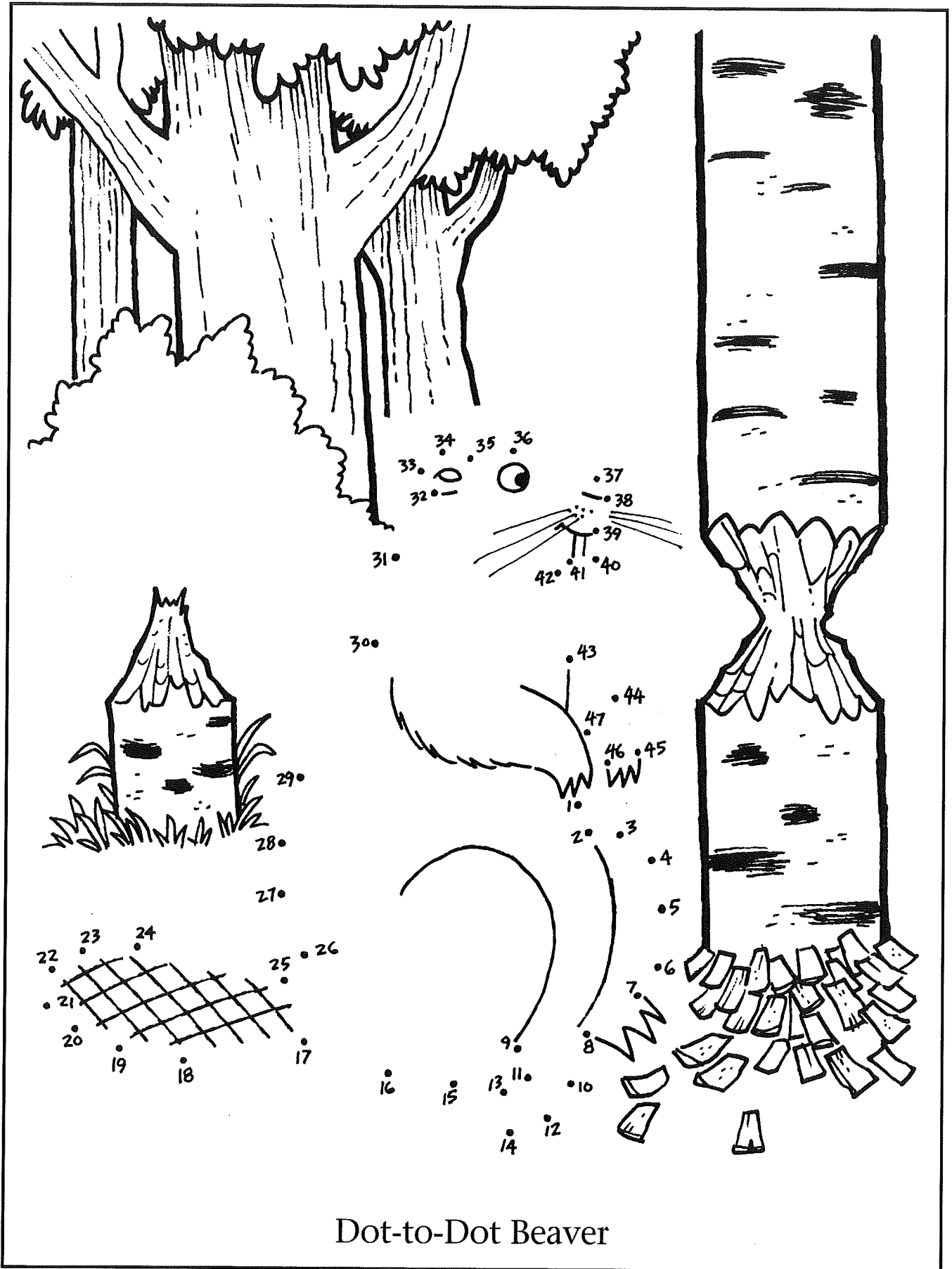
Larry shrugged. “I don’t know. What?”

“Bible reading.” Mom said. “Going to church and Sunday school helps us too.” She smiled. “Let’s both work on improving the kind of food we eat. You can start by having some cheese and crackers while you memorize your verse for Sunday school.”

HOW ABOUT YOU?

How is your diet? Are there some mental and spiritual “junk foods” you need to get rid of, such as books or TV programs that use bad language or have characters who do wrong things and act like they are good things? Are there “healthy foods” you need to add to your life, such as reading the Bible everyday? The Bible is the good energy spiritual food we need. Asking Jesus to forgive our sins and help us become like Him is the only way we can live forever in heaven (1 Peter 1:22,23). Try to eat the spiritual food you need every day.

TODAY’S KEY: Improve your spiritual diet.



Dot-to-Dot Beaver

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 6 THEME:

Health of Our Bodies

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Clean

LESSON 24:

Learning More About Raw Materials
(Minerals and Fiber)

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we need clean hearts in
order to have God's joy

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

LEARNING MORE ABOUT RAW MATERIALS (MINERALS AND FIBER)

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you need milk and cheese?
2. What does iron do for your body?
3. Name something we often get fiber from.

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

TWO BUCKETS

TEXT: 2 Timothy 2:19-22

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things" (Philippians 4:8, NIV).

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

MINIATURE WASHBOARD WITH RIBBON

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

WET AND DRY

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

TEXT: Psalm 51:9-12

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

LEARNING MORE ABOUT RAW MATERIALS (MINERALS AND FIBER)

In this lesson we will learn about two more raw materials that your body needs—minerals and fiber. Let's sing a song first. (*Lead the boys in a song.*)

Our bodies need about 20 different minerals to keep them healthy. Two of the most important ones are calcium and iron. Calcium is found in milk, cheese, yogurt, and ice cream. It helps your body grow strong bones and teeth. If you don't get enough calcium, your bones will become weak and your teeth may become rotten. Listen to this true story about Sammy.

Sammy was 22 and he lived in New York. He was studying to become a police officer. He looked healthy—until he opened his mouth. His teeth looked like triangles because half of each tooth was rotted away. It was going to cost several hundred dollars to get his teeth fixed. When Sammy was a baby, his mother gave him Coke to drink instead of milk, because he liked it. If Sammy's mother had given him the milk he needed, he would have had healthy teeth.

Have you ever felt tired all the time? Maybe it's because you don't have enough iron. That is another mineral your body needs. Iron is found in eggs, beans, green vegetables, cereal, and liver.

Fiber is something else your body needs. It is found in such foods as fruit, vegetables, and whole wheat bread. We hear a lot about fiber in television commercials for different kinds of cereals. Can you name some of them. (*Let the boys name fiber cereals.*)

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

TWO BUCKETS

TEXT: 2 Timothy 2:19-22

"I'll go get some water," said Carl, grabbing the bucket and heading for the spring. He and his parents were spending a weekend at a cabin on Rainbow Lake. They were really "roughing it." Soon Carl returned with the fresh water. "This is fun," he said.

"Since it's so much fun, why don't you go get another bucketful?" said Dad. "Here's a bucket you can use."

Carl looked at the bucket. "Dad, this thing is filthy!" he said, making a face. "You don't really want to drink out of this dirty old bucket, do you?"

"Oh, no!" Dad answered. "Mother and I will use the clean one, but I thought you might want to use this one. Since you don't care what you put in your mind, I didn't think you'd care what you put in your stomach either."

"My mind?" Carl was puzzled. "What are you talking about?"

"Mother just told me that when she was packing for you this morning, she found some dirty magazines in your drawer," said Dad quietly. "When I was a boy on the farm, we had two buckets. One was the water bucket. The other was the slop bucket, which we kept on the back porch. We put all the garbage in that bucket. Every night it was my job to carry the slop out to the pigs. We didn't even try to keep the slop bucket clean." He paused, then said slowly, "Your mind can be a water bucket or a slop bucket; it all depends on what you put into it."

"Your dad and I have done our best to fill your mind with clean, wholesome things," Mother said. "You are getting old enough to choose for yourself what you will put into your mind. We don't think the dirty magazines are healthy for your mind."

"I'm really sorry. I knew it was wrong," said Carl. "That's why I hid them. What should I do now?"

"Ask the Lord to forgive you," Dad said. "He will forgive your sinful thoughts. Then stay away from things, like dirty books or pictures, that cause you to have wrong thoughts. Stay away from the kind of people who read those things or who talk about unwholesome things. Turn off the TV set when things are on it that are not good for you. These people or TV programs will cause you to want to think or do things that don't please God."

"When bad thoughts come to your mind, make yourself think about something else," said Mother. "Sing a song, quote a Bible verse, or talk to Jesus to get rid of them. Fill your mind with good reading material, especially the Bible. Be a leader in good things. Don't follow others in doing wrong."

"From now on," Carl said, "I'm going to be as careful about what I put in my mind as I am about what I put in my stomach. I don't want my mind to be a slop bucket for the garbage from the devil!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"In a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:19-22). That means we choose whether we will be a vessel, or bucket, of honor by the things we put into our minds. What are you putting into your mind? Is your mind a water bucket or has it become a slop bucket? Memorize Philippians 4:8 and ask God to help you think in these ways. (*Say the verse and let the boys repeat it after you once. Help them find and mark it in their Bibles.*)

CRAFT

MINIATURE WASHBOARD WITH RIBBON

NOTE: This craft makes a wonderful Mother's Day present.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 miniature wooden washboard (1 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches by 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches)

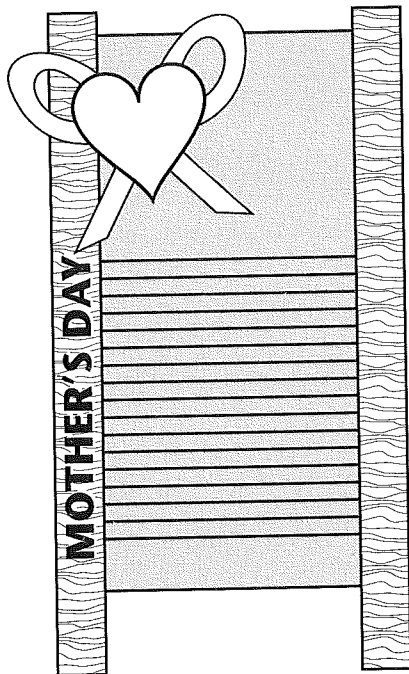
1 small wooden heart ($\frac{1}{2}$ - or $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch diameter)

A $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch ribbon 8 inches long

1 piece of magnetic tape 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long

NOTE: The washboards, hearts, and magnetic tape can be obtained at most craft stores.

Shared items: markers, glue or hot glue gun
(CAUTION: Don't let the boys touch hot glue.)



Miniature Washboard With Ribbon

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys color the wooden washboards with the markers.
2. Have the boys color the hearts with the markers.
3. Give each boy an 8-inch piece of ribbon and help him tie it in a bow.
4. Glue the bow on the upper-left corner of the washboard. Then glue the heart on top of it.
5. Give each boy a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch piece of magnetic tape and have him remove the protective paper and stick the magnet tape to the back of the washboard, across the top.

RECREATION

WET AND DRY

(Also known as Crows and Cranes or Black and White.)

Two teams with an equal number of players face each other while standing on lines dividing the playing area into thirds. One team is "dry" and the opposing team is "wet." At the leader's call of "wet" or "dry," the appropriate team attempts to run to the wall behind the opposite team without being tagged by any of them. Those tagged before reaching their goal are out. Instead of simply calling out the words *wet* and *dry*, the game may be varied by telling a fictional story in which the words occur.

DEVOTIONS and CLOSING CEREMONY

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

TEXT: Psalm 51:9-12

Our character trait for this unit is clean. It means we should be "clean in body, mind, and speech." In our Bible lesson we learned that Carl was not clean in his mind. Perhaps some of you are like Carl and have been thinking wrong thoughts or doing something you know is wrong. Here is a prayer that King David wrote when he was asking God to forgive him and cleanse him from his sin.

"Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit" (Psalm 51:9-12).

Ever since he was a little boy, King David had loved God. He knew how it felt to have God's forgiveness for his sins. He also knew the feeling of joy from having a clean heart. When David sinned, he no longer had the joy of God in his heart. He felt sorry for his sins. That is when he prayed this prayer. Let's look at his prayer.

David asked God to hide His face, or turn away, from his sins and to erase all the wrong things David had done. He knew that when God forgives us He forgets that sin. In fact, the Bible says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us" (Psalm 103:12).

Next, David asked God to make his heart clean again and help him have a right feeling, or spirit, within him again. Each of us needs a clean heart. If we have sin in our hearts, they are not clean. We too need to ask God to forgive our sins and make our hearts clean. David said, "Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow." This is something we can expect God to do when we are sorry for our sins and ask Him to forgive us. He makes our hearts as clean as new snow.

Then David asked God not to make him go away from His presence and not to take His Holy Spirit away. We too can know God's presence and have His Holy

Spirit work in our lives. Perhaps you even feel His presence here today. Don't be quick to leave or get away from God's presence. In His presence we feel the joy only He can give. When your sins are forgiven, Jesus will put His joy in your heart.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have sin in your heart that has taken the joy of the Lord from you? You need to pray this prayer of David's and ask God to forgive your sins. Who would like to ask God to forgive him and make his heart clean?

Note to commander: After prayer, lead the boys in singing "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart. . . ."

TODAY'S KEY: The joy of the Lord makes us strong.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 6 THEME:

Health of Our Bodies

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Clean

LESSON 25:

Two Things Your Body Is Made Of
(Water and Fat)

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we should take proper care of our bodies to honor God who lives in them

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

**TWO THINGS YOUR BODY IS MADE OF
(WATER AND FAT)**

QUESTIONS:

1. Your body is mostly made up of what?
2. How is fat good for us?
3. What is the best way to take care of your body?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

HOW TO GROW AS A CHRISTIAN

TEXT: Psalm 32:3

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?"
(1 Corinthians 3:16, NIV).

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CHICKEN CUP NOISEMAKER

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

DODGEBALL

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

A HOLY RESIDENCE

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 6:19,20

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

TWO THINGS YOUR BODY IS MADE OF (WATER AND FAT)

Most of your body is made up of water. You can't live without water. That is why you should drink plenty of water every day. Fruit and vegetables contain lots of water. They are a good source of water for your body.

Another thing your body needs is fat. It protects your bones and organs from injury and also helps to keep you warm. Did you ever wonder why some people can skip a meal and still have enough energy to work or play? The energy comes from the fat stored in their bodies.

Think about bears. They have a thick layer of fat on their bodies. This is one reason why they are so big. This fat is stored energy. It keeps the bears alive while they are hibernating in the winter. The fat is slowly used by their bodies during the long winter months.

Unfortunately, a lot of fat is not good for people. Being overweight will slow you down and make your heart work harder. You can keep from getting too fat by being careful about what you eat and by not eating too much. When you are about to eat a snack, ask yourself, "Do I really need this or can I wait for lunch or supper?" Exercise is a good way to use up extra fat and keep your body healthy.

One of the best ways to take care of your body is to eat regular meals and avoid snacks of junk food. You should eat different kinds of foods, such as meat, vegetables, fruit, bread, and cereal. The fresher the food is the better it is for you.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

HOW TO GROW AS A CHRISTIAN

TEXT: Psalm 32:3

Our Bible text makes a statement that sounds like a contradiction. *Contradiction* means "to imply both truth and untruth, or opposite facts in the same statement." This poem is a good example of a contradiction.

One dark night in the middle of the day

Two dead boys got up to play.

Back-to-back they faced each other

Pulled out their knives and shot each other.

Each sentence in this poem has two contradictory, or opposite, statements. How can two *dead* boys get up to play? How can they face each other when they are standing back-to-back?

Listen for the contradiction in our Bible verse as we read it.

"When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long" (Psalm 32:3).

Did you hear the contradiction in this verse? (*Let the boys respond.*) How can a person keep silent if he is

groaning all day? *Kept silence* means to quit speaking, be quiet, or not to speak a word. *Groaning all the day* means to make a moaning sound.

Most of us talk a lot every day, so why does King David talk about what we say during the day as groaning? What does he mean by "I kept silent"? When you don't pray to God every day or tell Him your problems, you are keeping silent toward Him. By not talking to God and asking Him to help you, there is no communication between you and God. All the words you speak are just a groan or rumble as far as He is concerned.

We need to tell God about all that comes into our lives—the good and the bad. He already knows what we tell Him, but He wants to hear it from us. When we pray, God hears us and does things in our lives because of our prayer. If we keep silent and don't pray, what do you suppose will happen?

Psalm 32:3 says, "My bones wasted away." That means our spiritual strength, or energy, wears out. John 15:6 can help us understand what happens to us when we keep silent and don't pray. It says, "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered [dries up and becomes useless]; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned" (John 15:6). When we don't pray, we will dry up and lose our spiritual strength. Our prayers keep us in touch with God just as talking to our parents helps them know what we need or like in our lives. Praying helps us stay alive spiritually.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Perhaps some of you have not been praying as you should and would like to change that today. If the Holy Spirit is speaking to you, raise your hand so I can pray for you. By raising your hand, you are saying, "Commander, I have not been praying as the Bible tells me I should. I don't want to dry up and become useless. I want to ask Jesus to forgive me and help me to do better." (*Pray with those who respond.*)

CRAFT

CHICKEN CUP NOISEMAKER

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 yellow plastic cup (7 oz.)

2½ feet of string

1 sponge (1 inch by 1 inch)

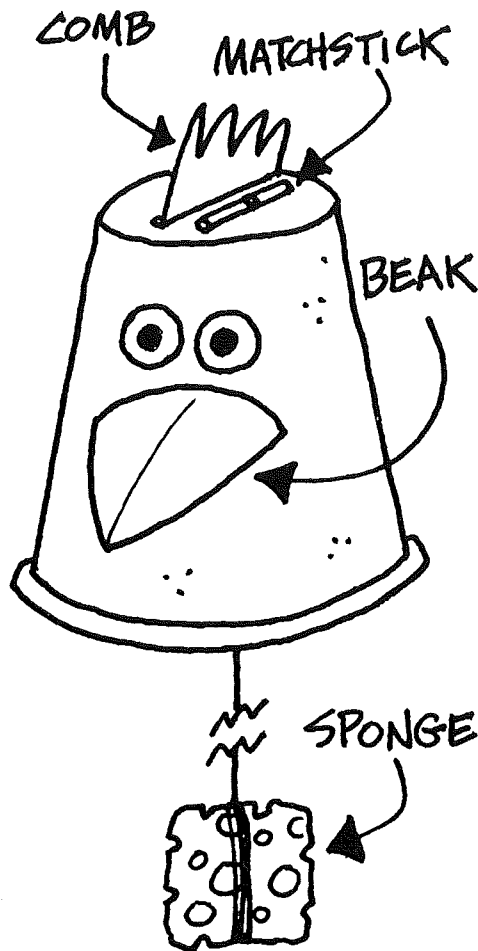
1 short piece of matchstick or toothpick (½ inch long)

1 piece of red felt (2 inches by 2 inches)

2 small craft eyes (the kind that jiggle)

Shared items: scissors, glue or hot glue gun

(CAUTION: Keep hot glue away from the boys.)



Chicken Cup Noisemaker

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys poke a small hole in the bottom center of the plastic cup.
2. Have them thread one end of the string through the hole. (Put a piece of tape around the end of the string so it can be put through the hole.)
3. Tie the end of the string hanging out of the bottom of the cup to the piece of matchstick.
4. Tie the other end of the string to the sponge.
5. Help the boys cut the red felt to form a beak and a comb (top piece) for their chickens.
6. Glue on the eyes, beak, and comb. If you use hot glue, be careful not to melt the plastic cup.
7. Have the boys wet their sponges. Then each boy should squeeze the sponge around the string at the opening of the cup. As he pulls the sponge down the string, it will make a noise like a chicken. With practice he can make it sound like a rooster.

RECREATION

DODGEBALL

This is standard dodgeball and is a favorite with boys. Mark off a playing field 15 feet by 20 feet or 20 feet by 20 feet and have all the boys get inside the playing area. The commanders will take turns throwing the ball (be sure to use a soft one). When a boy gets hit, he comes out of the playing area and helps the commanders get the other boys. If you don't have two commanders in your group, then select one of the boys to help you at first.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

A HOLY RESIDENCE

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 6:19,20

"Let's stop for some ice cream!" Kevin said as he and his friend John walked home from school.

"I'd like to, but my mom gets on my case about junk food and spoiling my dinner," said John. "There's probably a banana at home with my name on it."

"Go ahead." Kevin waved to John and turned to go into the ice cream store. He felt a little self-conscious about his body after what John had said. He also felt guilty because he knew he didn't eat properly. Kevin ordered a banana split. As he ate it, he told himself he was having a banana too, with some dressing.

When Kevin got home, his mother had good news. "I've decided to quit smoking," she said. "I went to a Bible study at church this morning, and the group discussed how our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. He must be tired of living in this smoke-filled temple!"

Kevin smiled happily. His mother had been a Christian only a short time, and he had been praying that she would give up smoking before it damaged her lungs. "Great, Mom! I'll help you all I can."

"Good." Mother smiled. "Will you go for a bike ride with me each day?"

Kevin groaned silently. It sounded like such an effort.

"One of my excuses for smoking has always been that it kept me from gaining weight," Mother said. "I'm going to eat a well-balanced diet and get lots of exercise." She paused a moment, then said, "Having a proper temple for God means getting rid of smoke, and extra weight, I think."

"All right. I can take a hint." Kevin grinned. "I'll bike with you and try to improve my diet too." He sighed as he thought of all the good snacks he would have to give up. Could he do it? "Don't expect any miracles," he told his mother.

"We'll do our best," Mother said. "We'll let Jesus handle the miracles."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says our bodies are God's temples and that our bodies should honor Him (1 Corinthians 6:19,20). Do you take good care of your body? Do you eat the right kind of food? Do you get enough sleep? Do you exercise? Keeping a proper temple for the Holy Spirit means doing the right things as well as staying away from things that hurt you, such as cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, and too much food. *(Pray with the boys that God will help them take proper care of His temple.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Honor God with your body.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 6 THEME:

Health of Our Bodies

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Clean

LESSON 26:

More About Vitamins

LESSON AIM:

To teach that obeying God's Word can change our hearts and give us spiritual strength

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

MORE ABOUT VITAMINS

QUESTIONS:

1. What is scurvy?
2. Why do we need vitamin C?
3. What foods contain vitamin C?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

CLEAN INSIDE

TEXT: Luke 11:39,40,46; John 15:3,4

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you" (John 15:3, NIV).

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you" (John 15:3).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SHUT-INS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

TOUCH IT!

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

A BIG STORY

TEXT: Proverbs 8:6-9

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

MORE ABOUT VITAMINS

Let's sing about the foolish man and the wise man.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.
 The foolish man built his house upon the sand.
 The foolish man built his house upon the sand.
 And the rain came tumbling down.
 The rain came down and the flood came up.
 The rain came down and the flood came up.
 The rain came down and the flood came up.
 And the house on the sand went FLAT!
 The wise man built his house upon the rock. (3 times).
 And the rain came tumbling down.
 The rain came down and the flood came up. (3 times).
 And the house on the rock stood FIRM!

Did you ever wonder why your mom or dad gives you vitamins? Most people don't know why vitamins are so important for our bodies. Most of us take our good health for granted. Let's go back in time to about 150 years ago.

It's the late 1840s and people are going to California to find gold. There are stories about men striking it rich and finding pieces of gold as big as a man's arm. Everyone is talking about finding the mother lode (the main vein of gold). People are hoping to get rich. Gold fever has captured the minds of many. Most of the men who set out to find gold will never make it. Over 10,000 of them died of a vitamin deficiency called scurvy. They did not have enough of the needed vitamins in the food they ate.

At that time, no one knew why the men were dying. Not all of the miners got sick and died. Some of them escaped getting scurvy because they ate a wild salad plant called miner's lettuce (winter purslane).

In another part of the country loggers (men who cut down trees in the forest) were also dying of scurvy. But in the backwoods of Maine, men learned they could avoid getting scurvy by swallowing live black ants that had eaten pine needles.

Sailors who went on long sea voyages often got sick with scurvy too. They got sores that wouldn't heal and muscles that ached. Their gums and flesh would become rotten and finally their teeth would begin to fall out.

Today we know that scurvy is caused by a lack of vitamin C, but vitamin C was not discovered until the 1920s. Before that, some people realized that eating foods like potatoes, cabbage, or citrus fruits, such as limes or oranges, would keep them from getting scurvy.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

CLEAN INSIDE

TEXT: Luke 11:39,40,46; John 15:3,4

During this unit our Christian character trait is clean. Today we are going to look at being clean inside. Let's look at what Jesus said about the church leaders of His time, the Pharisees. "Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness. Ye fools, did not he, that made that which is without, make that which is within also?" (Luke 11:39,40).

Does that sound as if the Pharisees were clean on the inside? On the outside they were the church leaders. Everyone looked to them to learn about God's laws. But Jesus said they were full of wickedness and greed on the inside. Greed is wanting more than you need. It sounds as if these church leaders were not polite, kind, and thoughtful, like the Royal Ranger Code says we should be.

Even the lawyers of Jesus' time demanded or expected too much from the people. Jesus said this about them: "Woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them" (Luke 11:46, NIV). This verse tells us how unfair the lawyers were to the people. It does not sound as if they followed the Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Jesus said they would not even lift a finger to help with the loads of rules they put on the people.

Jesus told His disciples, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me" (John 15:3,4). Notice the big difference between the disciples and the Pharisees. Jesus said the disciples were clean because of the word He had spoken. Jesus spoke words to the Pharisees also. So why were the Pharisees not clean?

When the Pharisees heard what Jesus said, they ignored it. Their hearts were not changed. The disciples heard what Jesus said and believed Him. God's Word changed their hearts—and that is what made them clean.

The same is true for us. If we believe God's Word and it changes our hearts, we will be clean. If we ignore God's Word, we will be like the Pharisees—unchanged. We need to ask ourselves, "Am I really clean inside? Has my heart changed so that I now love Jesus?"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you hear and obey God's Word? Do you let His Word get into your heart and change the way you think and act? Maybe you're not really sure if Jesus has come into your life.

(This is a good time to invite the boys to make a commitment to Jesus. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading in what you say to the boys.)

CRAFT

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SHUT-INS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

2 to 4 sheets of white construction paper

½ sheet of red construction paper

½ sheet of green construction paper

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, pencils, and glue or paste

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: The commander should trace the bird and tree from the craft illustration on page 120 onto stiff paper, such as poster board, and cut out several templates for the boys to trace.

1. Tell the boys they will make one card to take home and as many other cards as time allows to take to some shut-ins in your town.
2. Have the boys trace and cut out two birds and two trees from the red and green construction paper.
3. Have them fold the white construction paper in half and glue or paste a bird or tree on the front of it.
4. Have the boys write "Merry Christmas" somewhere on the card and then copy the following Bible verse on the inside: Philippians 4:13—"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."
5. Have the boys decorate their cards with the markers or crayons.
6. Deliver the cards to a convalescent home in your area.

RECREATION

TOUCH IT!

Divide the group evenly into two teams. Have the teams face each other about 8 feet apart. Assign each member of the team a number. The leader stands at one end of the two lines and calls out the name of a certain object in the room. Immediately all the players try to find the object, touch it with their left hand, then return to their original position in line. As soon as the team is reformed, the players number off in sequence. The first team lined up and having had each player call out his number (from "one" to the last number assigned) wins the point. There is no limit to the objects that can be used by the leader (e.g., the floor, a chair, a book, a pencil, a shoe, a tie). When the leader calls "hot stuff," the teams stay in line and immediately begin counting off by their numbers. The first team to finish wins the point. If a team breaks rank in any way when "hot stuff" is called, it loses a point. Set a goal of 15 points.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

A BIG STORY

TEXT: Proverbs 8:6-9

"Ken," Mother said as she listened to her son tell about a fight at school, "are you sure the principal said Danny could never come to school again?"

"We-e-ell, maybe he didn't say 'never,'" Ken admitted, "but he was awful mad."

Mother sighed. "Your habit of adding to a story to make it more exciting will cause trouble someday," she said.

Remembering Mother's words, Ken tried hard to stick to the facts, but soon he was back to adding a bit here and there in his stories. One day, when some boys bragged about the way their dads drove and how they managed to break the law now and then without getting caught, Ken burst out, "My dad drove 100 miles an hour one time!"

Glen Edwards was surprised. "Wow!" he exclaimed. "And my dad thinks your dad is such a great Christian!"

A few nights later, Ken was doing his homework when he heard his dad say, "I've been witnessing to Mr. Edwards, and I felt he was almost ready to accept Jesus as his Savior. Now he hardly speaks to me unless it's to say something about how much lawlessness there is in the world, even among people who claim to be Christians."

Ken's books crashed to the floor.

Ken's parents looked up. "What's wrong, Ken?" they asked.

Ken told his parents that he had bragged about Dad's driving. He told them what Glen had said about his dad. "I didn't exaggerate," he insisted. "Dad really did drive that fast."

"Did you tell them Dad was driving an ambulance and rushing a little girl to the hospital in the next town?" Mother demanded.

"N-n-no," Ken admitted. "I'm sorry. I'll tell the guys how it really happened. I'll try harder to quit adding to stories (or leaving out something) to make them more exciting." He sighed as he added, "But I've tried before."

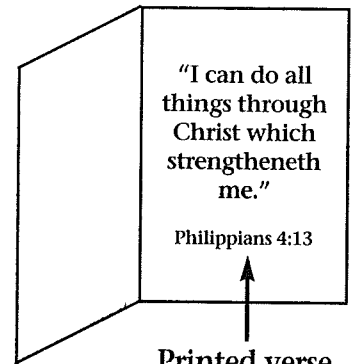
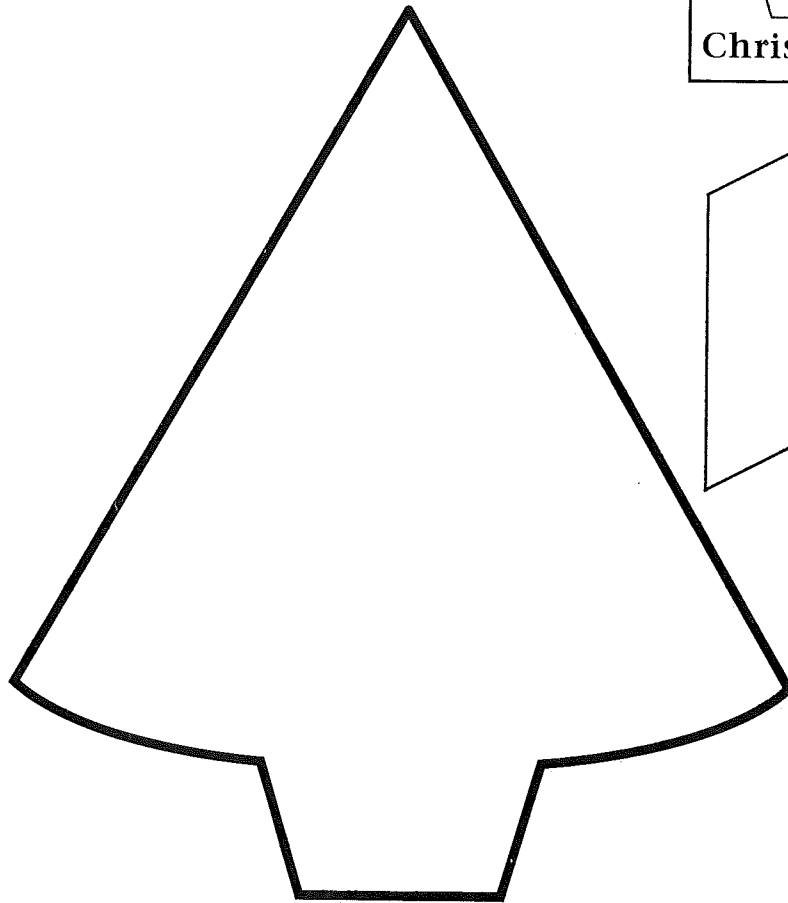
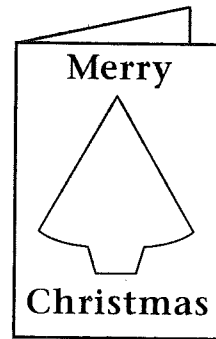
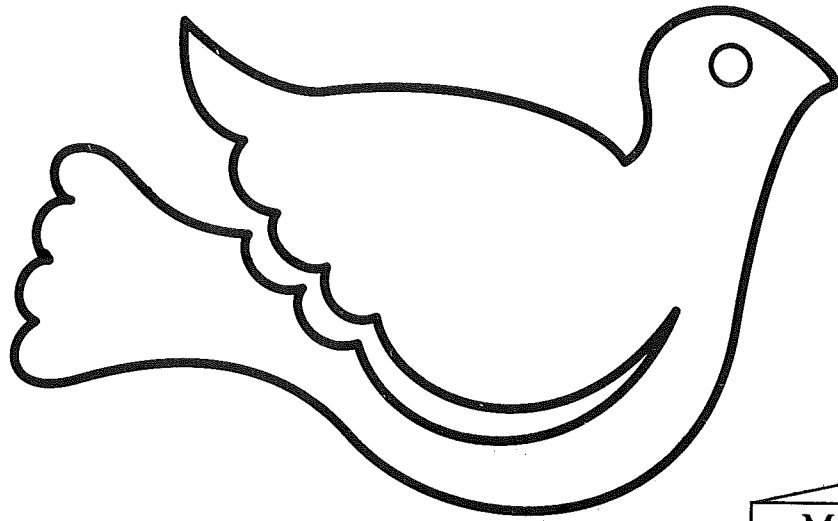
"Have you asked the Lord for help?" Dad asked.

When Ken shook his head, Dad said, "Whenever you are tempted to add to a story, ask the Lord to help you not to do it."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness" (Proverbs 8:6-9). Do you change stories to suit yourself? Do you add a little here, or take away a little there? This is really lying. The Bible says we should speak the truth and hate wickedness. We should not change anything by telling it differently than it happened. If you have added to or left out something to make it more exciting, God is willing to help you overcome this sin. Admit it to Him now and ask Him to forgive you and help you to honor Him by always telling the truth.

TODAY'S KEY: Tell it like it is.



Christmas Card Patterns

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 6 THEME:

Health of Our Bodies

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Faith

LESSON 27:

Exercise Your Mind

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to read His Word and do what it says

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

EXERCISE YOUR MIND

QUESTIONS:

1. Besides school, in what ways do you exercise your mind?
2. Why should you believe you can do something?
3. Why is it good to think for yourself?
4. When is it wrong to go along with the crowd?
5. How can a person find his own special talents?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T GIVE UP

TEXT: Hebrews 10:35-39

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded" (Hebrews 10:35, NIV).

"Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward" (Hebrews 10:35).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CRAFT STICK PLANT TRELIS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

AIR GROUND RESCUE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

TELLTALE MIRROR

TEXT: James 1:22-25

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

EXERCISE YOUR MIND

To stay healthy we need to exercise our minds. You may think this happens only at school, but we exercise our minds many different ways. Think about the last time you played a game with your friend or went for a ride on your bike or made a decision about what you would do. How about when you learned to do something new? These are all different ways that we exercise our minds.

One thing really important is to believe in yourself. If you think you can't do something, you will probably give up without trying. If you think you can do something, you are well on your way to getting it done. For example, if you want to put together a difficult picture puzzle and you say, "I can't do it!" and quit, you are right. You won't be able to do it. If you say, "Where does this piece go?" and put in one piece at a time, you will soon have the puzzle completed.

Many times you may want to do things the same way your friends do. There is nothing wrong with this, but it's good to think for yourself. Remember, if you always follow the crowd, you will find it hard to say yes when they are not doing something you know is right to do. It may seem hard for you to stand up for what you believe, but if you start thinking for yourself now while you are young it will be easier for you when you get older. Can you think of some ways you can stand up for what you believe? (*Let the boys respond.*)

Remember, what you put into your mind is what you will get out. People who work with computers have this expression: *G-I-G-O*, which stands for "Garbage In, Garbage Out." It means that if you put poor or incomplete or mixed up information in a computer, that's what you will get out. Our minds work in a similar way. If we put only poor TV programs into our minds, that is all we can expect to get out of them. Do you ever listen to what you are talking about most of the time? It is probably what you have spent most of your time doing. If you have spent a lot of time reading God's Word, thinking about Him, and other good things, that is what you will want to talk about.

Perhaps some of you think, *I am not good at anything*. This is not true. Everyone is good at something. That is why you should try as many different wholesome activities as possible. This will help you discover your own special talents.

Whatever you decide to do, don't be a quitter! Do you remember the little train that said, "I think I can. I think I can. I think I can," while it was trying to pull a big load up a steep hill? The load was too big for it, but that little train didn't give up. It kept trying and trying and trying until it made it over the top. That is the way we need to be in our lives. One big difference between a winner and a loser is that the winner keeps trying until he succeeds.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T GIVE UP

TEXT: Hebrews 10:35-39

"Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Hebrews 10:35-39).

Jesus doesn't want us to give up. The first part of the Bible text says don't throw away your confidence because it will bring you a great reward. Confidence is a belief in your own abilities or self-confidence. It can also mean having a strong belief or trust in something. That is not what confidence means in this Bible verse. Confidence in this verse means being bold about what we believe. It means we should not be afraid to tell others about Jesus, even if they make fun of us. It also means being bold enough to say no when someone asks us to do something we know is wrong and yes when someone doesn't want us to do what is right.

The great reward mentioned in the verses is the saving of our souls. It takes faith to believe that someday we will go to heaven. We must first believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins and come into our lives. We can't see Jesus and we certainly can't see heaven. We must have faith that Jesus and heaven are real. You can see the love of Jesus in many Christians. You can feel His presence when you are around them. Maybe some of you have even felt His presence while you were praying or reading the Bible. To someone who has never felt or experienced the love of Jesus, being saved doesn't mean anything. They don't understand why you believe in something you can't see. This is where your boldness, your confidence, is needed.

Have you ever met a salesman who really believed in what he was selling? That kind of person is excited about his product. He just can't wait to tell you all the details about how it works and what it can do and why it is better than anything else you can buy. His confidence rubs off on you and soon you want that product too. The best salesmen really believe in what they are selling and are very bold in telling you about it. That is the way a Christian should be. When Jesus is real in your life, you will get excited and want to tell everyone about Him.

Our Bible text also said, "If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him" (verse 38). This means God is not pleased when we give up. He doesn't want us to quit. Jesus didn't quit. If He had given up and said I am afraid to take the pain of the cross, there would be no forgiveness for our sins. Jesus loved us enough to die for our sins.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

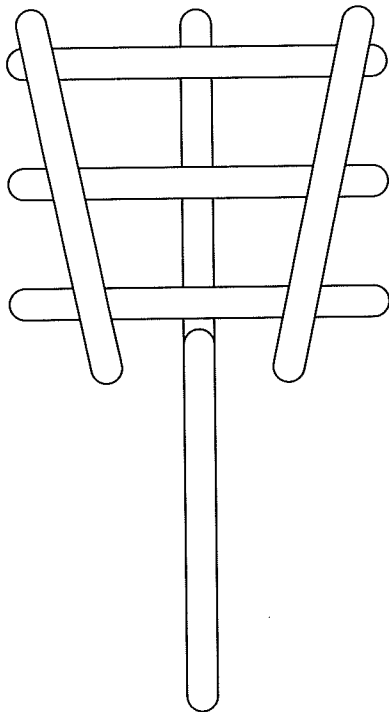
Do you have confidence that Jesus can forgive your sin. Do you believe you will someday go to heaven? Is Jesus real in your life? Have you felt His presence? Are you bold enough to tell others about Him? Have you asked Jesus into your heart? If not, why not ask Him in now? (*Pray with any boy who indicates a desire to know Jesus.*)

CRAFT**CRAFT STICK PLANT TRELLIS****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

7 small craft sticks ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches)

Shared items: crayons or markers, glue



Craft Stick Plant Trellis

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys lay three craft sticks parallel to each other, 1 inch apart. Put one drop of glue in the center of each stick.
2. Lay one craft stick over the glue perpendicular to the other sticks. Glue a second stick to the bottom end of it to form the post that will stick into the ground.
3. Have the boys glue two more craft sticks at a slight angle on top of the first three craft sticks.
4. Have each boy color his trellis green so it will match the plants.

RECREATION**AIR GROUND RESCUE**

Divide the players into teams of two boys each. Blindfold one member of each team. The blindfolded member is the "ground" element and the seeing member is the "air" element. The "ground" member is sent in search of a "lost" object by means of the directions "right" or "left" given by the "air" member. No other directions or sounds are allowed. The "lost" object may be almost anything (e.g., a bucket of water). At the signal *go*, all talking and noise must stop except for the two words of direction being given by the seeing member of each team. The first team to find the "lost" object wins. With a large group it may be better to work in shifts with a certain number of teams playing at a time.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**TELLTALE MIRROR****TEXT: James 1:22-25**

Jason climbed into the car and slammed the door. "Why do you tell Miss Betty everything I do?" he grumbled.

"I didn't tell your Sunday school teacher anything about you," Mother answered calmly.

Dad slipped the car into gear. "I know I didn't."

"Then how did Miss Betty know that I—I—" Jason stopped. His parents didn't even know about some things Miss Betty had talked about. She had looked straight at him and read in the Bible about some of his secret sins. "I—" Jason began again. Then he changed the subject. "Look at Darci's face."

"What's wrong with my face?" Darci's lips puckered.

Mother smiled and handed the little girl a mirror from her purse. "What have you been eating?"

"Chocolate cake." Darci's voice quivered. "We had 'freshments in Sunday school. It was Merri's birthday."

As they gathered around the dinner table a little later, Jason laughed. "Darci, don't you ever wash your face?"

Darci clicked her tongue. "I furrgot."

"She saw herself in the mirror, but she still 'furrgot.'" Jason laughed as his sister hurried to wash her face.

"Have you ever seen yourself in the 'mirror' of the Word of God, Jason?" Dad asked.

Jason shook his head. "My Bible doesn't have a mirror, Dad."

Dad smiled. "You can't see your face in the Bible. It's not that kind of mirror."

"I still don't think I have," Jason said.

"The Bible is like a mirror," replied Dad. "It shows us our sin when we read it."

Jason thought a moment. "Maybe, yeah, this

morning. I mean, yes, sir. But I never thought of the Bible as a mirror before."

"It doesn't do much good to see our sins if we don't do something about them," Mother said. "We're like Darci if—"

"Let's eat," Darci interrupted as she came back to the table with water dripping off the end of her nose. "My face is clean now."

"Let's all make sure our hearts are clean too." Dad smiled. "When the Lord shows us we have sinned, let's ask Him to forgive us and clean the sin from our hearts."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

When you look in the mirror of God's Word, do you see yourself doing the right things it talks about: being kind, forgiving others, obeying, being patient, loving God more than anything? Or does it show you that you are doing wrong things, such as lying, stealing, disobeying, and fighting? If it shows you sin in your life, don't forget it or try to hide it. If God's Word shows that you are doing wrong or ignoring doing right and you don't ask God to forgive you, it's like looking in the mirror and seeing dirt on your face, then forgetting it's there (James 1:22-25). Admit your sin to God and ask Him to forgive you. He wants to make your heart clean and help you live as you should.

TODAY'S KEY: God's Word shows us our sin.



UNIT SEVEN

American Indians

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN HOMES

What is the first thing that comes to your mind when someone mentions cowboys and Indians? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) If you are like most people, you probably think about covered wagon trains crossing the plains; Indian war parties with faces painted and wearing huge feathered warbonnets, riding horses, shooting bows and arrows, and attacking the settlers in their covered wagons. You may be able to imagine the wagons end to end in a big circle with the cowboys shooting at the Indians from behind the wagon wheels. The reason many people think this is how cowboys and Indians lived is because of western movies and TV shows.

Indians and white men had many wars, but few of them were like the ones shown in the western movies and TV shows. The Indians fought mainly for survival. Most Indian wars took place within a small area and involved only a few Indians from one tribe and the white men who lived nearby. Today we will learn about Indian homes.

If someone would ask you what kind of homes Indians lived in, what would you say? (*Let the boys answer.*) The tepee is probably the best known Indian home, because it was the one shown in the western movies. Only the Plains Indians used the tepee. They built it with long poles that were tied together at the top and covered with buffalo skins. The tepee has two flaps at the top which are controlled by two long polls. The flaps let out the smoke from the campfire.

The wigwam is a round or oval-shaped hut covered by leaves or bark. The Algonquin Indians, who lived in the Northeast, built their wigwams by bending saplings or small trees to form a frame that was covered by slabs of elm bark. The Iroquois, who also lived in the Northeast, built long rectangular bark houses that were called long houses. Sometimes these houses were up to 100 feet long. Several families lived together in each long house. The Iroquois also built a stockade, or fence, around their village of long houses; it was 15 to 20 feet high.

The hogan is another type of Indian home. It was used by the Navajo, who lived in the Southwest. The hogan is an earth lodge. It is made with poles, or logs, and its top is covered with earth. Other tribes who lived in the Southwest built a different type of earth lodge. They dug pits in the ground and then covered the top with dirt to form their homes.

Some Indians were Cliff Dwellers. Their ancestors built homes out of adobe, or sun-dried clay. Some of these houses were four or five stories high. These Indians were called Pueblo Indians because they lived in a village. The Spanish word *pueblo* means “village.”

Indians who lived along the Northwest Coast built large rectangular houses out of wooden planks, which they split from cedar logs. They first set posts into the ground and then tied the planks to these posts with vines. These Indians decorated their house posts with fancy carvings and painted symbols.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T BE ANXIOUS

TEXT: Philippians 4:6,7

Our Christian character trait for this unit is spiritual. It comes from the Royal Ranger Code. Can anyone tell me the statement for *spiritual* from the Royal Ranger Code? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) “A Royal Ranger is Spiritual. He prays, reads the Bible, and witnesses.” We are going to talk about reading the Bible and praying. The Bible contains many things that will help us in our daily lives. Listen to our text:

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6,7).

This verse is a good rule for us to live by. Notice the two parts to this verse. The first part is the things we must do and the second part is God’s promise to us if we do them.

Let’s look at the second part first. It promises that God’s peace will keep, or guard, our hearts and minds. This is a deep feeling of calmness that only God can give us. This type of peace allows us to sleep well at night and keeps us from being anxious, or worried, about things that happen in our lives.

Someone may say he had peace about some decision he had made, but in the next sentence he complains he could not sleep at night because he was constantly thinking about that decision. This is not God’s peace! That is the peace that the world gives, which is not really peace at all.

The first part of the Bible verse tells us what we must do if we want God’s peace to guard, or keep, our hearts and minds. It says we must, in everything, tell God all of our requests, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving. Most of us know that prayer is talking with God and telling Him everything. He already knows everything about us, so there is no reason to try to hide anything from Him. We should talk to God just as we would talk to our best friend. Jesus is the best friend we will ever have. We can’t see Him, but He is always with us and He hears every prayer. He is never too busy to listen to us.

The word *supplication* (in the King James Version) means “to make a humble request or to beg seriously.” A good way to remember what this word means is to think about someone kneeling down to pray with his head bowed, his hands folded, and his eyes closed. These are things we can do to humble ourselves before God when we pray. Supplication also means to tell God what we want Him to do for us.

We should also be thankful when we are praying. We should thank God for all the good things He has done for us and for the protection He has given us. If you can’t think of anything good God has done for you, then thank Him for life, water, food, and the air you are breathing.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you telling God all your problems and needs as you should? Are you serious when you pray? Do you mean what you say when you pray? Do you remember to be thankful when you pray? Do you feel the calm and peace that only God can give? Think about these verses when you pray. God wants us to ask for what we need. He hears every prayer and is able to take care of us. He gives us peace of mind.

CRAFT**INDIAN NECKLACE****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

Various shapes of macaroni (Ziti, elbows, small rigatoni, etc.)

A handful of Cheerios

Several pieces of plastic soda straws cut into 1 inch or longer lengths

1 string 3 feet long

Shared items: markers

**DIRECTIONS:**

Before the meeting: Prepare a necklace by alternating the macaroni, Cheerios, and soda straws.

1. Give each boy a variety of materials to use.
2. Have each boy design his own necklace. Encourage the boys to be creative.
3. When they are finished, help the boys tie the ends of the string together.
4. The boys can color the macaroni with markers if desired.
5. Be sure to have plenty of Cheerios in case the boys get hungry while making their necklaces.

RECREATION**GOOD MORNING, JOHN**

One boy is blindfolded. Another boy comes to him and says, "Good morning, John" (or whatever the child's name is). The blindfolded child then has three guesses to identify the speaker. If he guesses correctly, the boys change places and the boy who said "Good morning, John" gets blindfolded. If he doesn't guess correctly, another boy is selected to say, "Good morning, John."

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**THE ANTIQUE DISH****TEXT: 1 Peter 1:22-25**

"Here we are," Mother said as she pulled the car into a parking space. "Remember, it's important not to handle things in an antique store. They might break."

"I'll remember," Brian said.

Mother used to leave Brian home when she shopped for antiques. "You're too young," Mother had said. "Antique stores are not for children." Now that Brian was older, Mother often took him along. Brian loved to look at the colorful hand-painted plates, delicate cups and saucers, and sparkling cut-glass bowls and vases.

"Look at this beautiful cheese dish!" Mother exclaimed. "It's not expensive at all. Wouldn't it be pretty on the shelf in the dining room?"

"Could we get it?" Brian asked eagerly.

Mother agreed. She paid the shopkeeper, and they took it home.

When Mother showed the cheese dish to Dad, Brian asked, "Do we have to put it on the shelf? Can't we keep it out and use it?"

Mother shook her head. "No, I don't think so. This dish is very old. Someday it will be valuable. We might chip it if we use it, but it will last a long, long time if we put it where we can just enjoy looking at it."

"I have a riddle for you," Dad said. "What is very, very old, can be used all we want right now, and still will last forever?"

Brian thought about it. "I can't think of anything that will last forever if it's used," he said. "Give me a clue."

"I read the answer this morning," Dad said. "Look at this." He opened his Bible to the Book of First Peter. "But the Word of the Lord endureth [lasts] for ever," he read. He smiled and added, "God wants us to use it over and over, again and again."

"Oh, I didn't think of that!" Brian said. "That's a good thing to remember."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: but the word of the Lord endureth for ever" (1 Peter 1:24,25). Grass and flowers and all other things die, but God's Word will last forever. What it says will never change. We can trust it. Do you read God's Word every day, or is your Bible like the antique dish—sitting on a shelf, not being used? The copy you're using may wear out, but God's message will always remain. Learn how He wants you to live by reading His Word each day. You'll never wear it out.

TODAY'S KEY: God's Word is forever.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 7 THEME:

American Indians

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Bible Reading and Witnessing)

LESSON 29:

Indian Wars

LESSON AIM:

To teach that reading the Bible is how we develop faith and know the truth

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDIAN WARS

QUESTIONS:

1. Describe an Indian sneak attack.
2. Why did the British troops march Indian file?
3. Why did the Indians attack the settlers?
4. What did young Plains Indians do to show they were brave?
5. What is a coup?
6. How is a coup stick used?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

FAITH COMES BY SPIRITUAL HEARING

TEXT: Romans 10:17; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:8,9

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"They. . .examined the Scriptures every day"
(Acts 17:11, NIV).

"They. . .searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

COUP STICK

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HOT POTATO

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME

TEXT: Matthew 7:14,15

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN WARS

Have you ever thought how exciting it would be to go back in time 100 or 200 years and see how the cowboys and Indians really lived? There are many exciting stories and legends about the Old West: accounts of savage Indian attacks and the massacre of innocent “palefaces,” the army cavalry galloping to the rescue, and whooping redskins “biting the dust.” It is hard to tell which of these stories are true and which are not. We are going to look at some facts about the Indian wars of long ago.

Indians are famous for their sneak attacks. Indian warriors would creep up on their enemies in the early hours of the morning and attack suddenly. They would shoot flaming arrows or torches to set the sleeping village or camp on fire, then shoot arrows at the people as they ran out of their burning homes. When everyone was outside, the Indians would move in and club any survivors. Then they would scalp the men, women, and children. After that they would hurry away.

Another thing the Indians did was ambush the British troops when they marched against them. During the French and Indian War, a British officer, Major General Edward Braddock, refused to listen to young George Washington, who warned him about the dangers of being ambushed by the Indians. Braddock and his men were ambushed and defeated in July of 1755. The British and Colonial troops soon learned to march Indian file, or in a line, so they wouldn't be so big of a target. They learned the ambush, surprise attack, and quick getaway fighting like the Indians did.

The Indians did not attack without reason, like many people think. When white men first came to this country, there were few, if any, Indian wars. As the white men took more and more land from the Indians, quarrels developed. Before long, someone was killed. This would start an Indian war.

In the wide open Midwest, the Plains Indians and white man got along fine until sometime after 1850. Then the Indians were suddenly “in the way.” Thousands of people came in from the East and took most of the land for farming. White hunters killed thousands of buffaloes just for their skins. This left the Plains Indians with little food. They were forced to look for new hunting grounds or to stay and fight to keep their old ones. The Indian wars that developed from this situation account for many of the savage Indian sneak attacks that we see in western movies today.

To many Indians, war was a ceremonial game in which showing how brave they were meant more than winning the battle. Young Plains Indians were required to perform a coup (pronounced “koo”) before they could be recognized as a man. They would have to go into battle unarmed, touch the enemy, and return uninjured. Those who succeeded gained the respect of the whole tribe. Plains Indian warriors also got to count coup for killing or scalping the enemy, but the highest honor was when they used a special *coup stick* to touch the enemy and then escape without killing him. The

coup stick was a special stick decorated by the Indians, probably with braided rawhide and feathers.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

FAITH COMES BY SPIRITUAL HEARING

TEXT: Romans 10:17; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:8,9

For this unit our Christian character trait is spiritual. We are studying why it is important to read the Word of God. Reading the Bible is the key to our spiritual growth as Christians. God's Word is our spiritual food. Think about our natural bodies. If we stopped eating, we would soon get hungry. After a few days of not eating, we would get weak and sick. It is the same in our spiritual lives. If we don't spend time reading the Bible and praying, we will become weak as Christians. For our faith to grow we need to read God's Word. The Bible says:

“Faith cometh by hearing . . . the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

The faith in this verse means the trust that God puts into our spiritual hearts so we can believe what we hear in His Word, especially what it tells us about Jesus being our Savior. This faith is a gift of God. It is not something that we earn. The Bible says:

“By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8,9).

God's Word says that it's “not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” The faith needed to believe in Jesus and become saved is a gift of God. This faith that God puts into the life of every believer comes only from Him. Here is what the apostle Paul says about this faith:

“The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20, NIV).

The faith Jesus had when He lived on this earth as a man made Him able to completely defeat all the power of the devil. We can have that same powerful faith living in our hearts through trust in Jesus.

“Faith cometh by hearing . . . the word of God” (Romans 10:17). To have faith, we must hear the Word. This is not just hearing the words with our ears or understanding them with our minds. It also means hearing with our hearts—believing. After we hear the Word of God, He plants the Word in our spiritual hearts. It is this spiritual hearing through which faith comes.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you heard God's Word? Has God placed faith in your heart? Remember, this faith is a gift of God. We cannot earn it or cause it to happen by ourselves. If you believe in Jesus, it's because you have heard about Him from the Bible and God put in your heart *faith* to trust and accept Jesus as your Savior.

CRAFT

COUP STICK

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 stick 2 feet long and at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter with a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch hole through one end

1 strip of vinyl cloth ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch by 24 inches)

1 strip of vinyl cloth ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch by 15 inches)

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers

DIRECTIONS:

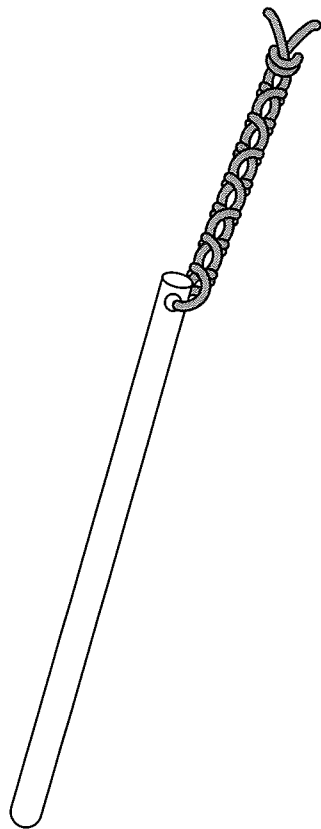
Before the meeting:

Prepare the sticks by drilling a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch hole through one end. Cut the vinyl cloth into $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (or smaller) strips. Practice making a coup stick so you will be able to instruct the boys.

1. Have each boy put one end of the short vinyl strip through the hole in the stick and tie it. This should leave 12 inches of vinyl hanging from the hole.

2. Have each boy put one end of the long vinyl strip through the hole in the stick and pull it so he has equal lengths of vinyl strip coming out of each side of the stick.

3. Have the boys braid their three strips of vinyl. To braid, hold the three strips of vinyl in your hand so you have left, center, and right strips. First, bring the left strip over and place it between the center and right strips. Next, bring the right strip over and place it between the current left and center strips. Third, bring the current left strip over and place it between the current center and right strips. Repeat this process until there is about 1 inch left. Then tie off the end with a square knot.



Coup Stick

RECREATION

HOT POTATO

Choose someone to be "It." Set enough chairs in a circle for all the boys except "It." He must stand in the center of the circle of chairs.

The boys throw a wadded piece of newspaper or a beanbag back and forth across the circle. This is the "hot potato." If "It" can catch the hot potato while it is in the air, he gets the thrower's seat, and the thrower is "It."

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME

TEXT: Matthew 7:13-15

"This picnic was fun!" Kara told Aunt Sue and Uncle Don. "I love it here. Don't you wish we could live here in the Rockies, Peter?" she asked her brother.

"It sure is nice," Peter agreed, glancing around. "Look, there are at least a dozen different paths, all leading to the picnic grounds. It's just like the city of Rome." He laughed at the puzzled expression on his aunt's face. "Last week our preacher said that in the days of the Roman Empire, you could follow any road, and it would lead you to Rome," he said. "He said that's like going to heaven too. No matter what road we take, if we are sincere and do our best, it will lead us to heaven."

"Perhaps all roads did lead to Rome, but all roads certainly do not lead to heaven," Uncle Don said. "The Bible tells us that."

"Yes," Aunt Sue said, nodding. "In the Bible, Jesus said He is the Way—He is the road, or path, that leads to heaven. He said no one can come to His Father except through Him."

"I never heard our minister say that," Kara said. "Wouldn't you think he'd know?"

"If we want to know what is right or wrong, we can't accept the word of any person—no matter who he is or how nice he may be," Uncle Don explained.

"Unless what he says agrees with what we read in the Bible, it is not true."

"I never thought about that," Peter said. "I always thought whatever our preacher said was true. I suppose he could be wrong sometimes. I guess I should check out what he says more often."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:14,15). Do you go to church and Sunday school? Do you read good books? Do you listen to a

Christian broadcast, such as “Children’s Bible Hour”?
That’s great! No matter how nice your teachers may be
or where you hear things, it’s important to make sure
that what you are learning agrees with God’s Word.
There is only one way to heaven, no matter what people
may teach. As some of the early Christians did, you
should get into the habit of reading the Bible every day
so you will know if what someone says is true.

TODAY’S KEY: Study the Bible.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 7 THEME:

American Indians

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Bible Reading and Witnessing)

LESSON 30

Indian Tools and Weapons

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God's Word will guide us to faith and life if we will read it daily

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDIAN TOOLS AND WEAPONS

QUESTIONS:

1. How did Indians get their fires started?
2. What glowed red-hot and was dumped on the tinder?
3. How did Indians make arrowheads or knives?
4. What did Indians use to tie things together?
5. Why don't Indian arrowheads get loose from the arrow?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

FAITH BRINGS LIFE

TEXT: Hebrews 11:6; James 2:19; 1 John 5:4

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" (Hebrews 11:6, NIV).

"Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

BOW AND ARROW

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

FILL THE BOTTLE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

DEAD MAN'S REEF

TEXT: Psalm 119:129-135

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN TOOLS AND WEAPONS

Let's travel back in time again. Imagine what the Indians lived like before white people first discovered them. To do that we will need to go back almost 200 years. The year is 1800 and America's western border is the Mississippi River. Very little is known about the mysterious lands beyond the boundaries of the young United States.

As we visit some of the Indian tribes in the West, we are amazed by the artwork on their tepees and by the tools and weapons they are using. We begin to ask questions and take a closer look at how their tools are made.

"How did you get your fire started?" we ask. The Indians show us two different ways to start a fire. The first is the friction method. A piece of wood with a hole in it is placed on the ground. Then the pointed end of a stick, known as a drill, is placed in the hole. The stick is then twirled rapidly, which produces sawdust that gets really hot and begins to glow. This sawdust is then dumped on a pile of dry tinder, such as wood chips. The Indian then blows on the tinder until it bursts into flames. Another Indian uses a bow to twirl the stick. He loops the string of the bow around the stick and uses a rock with a hole in it to hold the top of the stick. As the bow is moved back and forth the stick twirls rapidly and makes the glowing sawdust needed to start the fire.

The second way of starting a fire is called percussion. An Indian takes a piece of flint and another stone with iron pyrite in it. He strikes them together. This makes sparks that cause the tinder to glow. Again the Indian blows on the glowing tinder until it bursts into flames.

Next we ask, "How did you make your knives and arrowheads?" The Indians are happy to show us. They first take a piece of stone, such as flint that splits easily, and strike it with another rock until they have several large chips of flint. Next, they hold one of the chips in their hand and press it against a bone or antler to break off a small piece of flint. This is known as pressure flaking. While using a special piece of leather to protect their hands, they continue to break or flake off small pieces until the flint chip has the shape of a knife or arrowhead and has a very sharp edge.

Our next question is, "How do you tie your arrowhead to the arrow or your knife to its handle?" If you have ever tied a rock onto a stick with a string or a piece of leather, you know it soon gets loose and falls off. The Indians' tools are held on tightly. You wonder why they don't get loose. The Indians are quick to explain that they use wet animal sinew to tie things together. They wind the wet sinew as tightly as possible. As the sinew dries, it shrinks and becomes even tighter and as hard as wire.

Perhaps you are wondering, "What is animal sinew?" Sinew is a tendon, a tough cord that attaches muscles to bones or other parts of the body. All muscle fibers end in tendons or sinews.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

FAITH BRINGS LIFE

**TEXT: Hebrews 11:6; James 2:19;
1 John 5:4**

Our Christian character trait for this unit is spiritual. We are studying why it is important to read the Word of God.

Our text for last week was, "So then faith cometh by hearing . . . the word of God" (Romans 10:17). We learned that this verse is not talking about hearing only with our ears, but also with our hearts. It is through spiritual hearing that faith comes. We also learned that faith is a gift of God, not something we can get by ourselves. Listen to our text:

"Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

The writer of this book said in this verse, "Without faith it is impossible to please God." He didn't say we might be able to please God without faith. He said if we don't have faith, we cannot please God. We need to know how to get faith. Remember, faith is supernaturally given by God to every believer. Since faith is a gift of God, we don't need to struggle to get it. All we need to do is spiritually hear God's Word and receive Jesus into our hearts. When you receive Jesus, you receive Him through supernatural faith. To please God, we must use that faith to believe in Him.

Many people say they believe in God, and they may even say that He answers prayer. But unless they have acted on their beliefs, those beliefs are only in their heads, not in their lives. They have not asked God to help them act on what they believe. For example, we can say that we believe that God is real, that He will meet our needs, or that the promises in the Bible are true. But it is when we act on those beliefs that we discover whether we have faith. And if we do not, we ask God to give us faith, to help us believe in Jesus Christ in our hearts, to believe with our very lives that God will keep the promises in His Word.

Faith is deeper than simply believing; it is trusting. The devils believe in God and tremble (James 2:19), but they certainly don't trust in Jesus Christ in their hearts. It is not enough to simply say we believe, to think in our minds, *Oh, sure that's true*. There comes the time when we must act on what we say we believe. Then God puts faith in our hearts to accept His promise that His Son saves us:

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9,10).

When you spiritually hear the Word and accept Jesus as your Savior, you are born again. God puts faith in Jesus into your heart. This faith is what brings you eternal life.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been born again? Do you have faith in Jesus in your heart? (*Give the boys a chance to respond.*) Today is the right time to give your heart to Jesus. (*Pray with the boys.*)

CRAFT**BOW AND ARROW****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

1 small green twig (18 inches long by at least $\frac{3}{16}$ inch in diameter) with a notch cut $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from each end

1 piece of string with loops at each end (16 inches long)

3 or 4 soda straws (used for arrows)

1 copy of the quiver (see craft illustration on page 138.)

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, tape

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Prepare the green twigs by cutting to length and cutting notches in each end. Tie the loops in both ends of each string and test with the sticks you have made. (NOTE: You may need to adjust the length of the string or the notches in the stick.)

1. Have the boys color their quivers (craft illustration on page 138).
2. Have them cut out, fold, and glue their craft illustration to make a quiver for the arrows.
3. Have the boys cut a notch in the end of each soda straw. You can cut out feathers and glue them on if desired.
4. Let the boys have fun shooting their arrows. You may want to have some targets for the boys to practice shooting at.

RECREATION**FILL THE BOTTLE**

Give each player an empty soda bottle (you could use a paper cup, but the bottle is more challenging), a straw, and 10 beans. At a signal, each player tries to get all his beans into the bottle by sucking each bean up from the table with the straw and dropping it into the bottle (or cup). Caution the boys about trying to suck the bean up the straw. The first player to put all the beans into a bottle (or cup) is the winner.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**DEAD MAN'S REEF****TEXT: Psalm 119:129-135**

"Uncle Milt said I could take his boat out all by myself," Steve said proudly. "Want to come for a ride?" His sister Judy nodded, and they got into the boat. Steve started the engine. Minutes later, they were laughing and shouting as the wind blew through their hair.

"Aren't you supposed to use this map?" Judy asked, offering it to her brother. "I heard Uncle Milt explain it to you. Aren't we getting too far out?"

"A little, I guess." Steve shrugged. "I'll just swing around and head back. I don't need the map."

Suddenly there was a jolt, followed by a crash! The engine sputtered and died. "We must be stuck on a reef," Steve said. "I didn't see it. Let me look at that map." He studied it a moment. "Oh," he groaned. "Here's where we are—at Dead Man's Reef. Why do you suppose they call it that? Hey! This boat is leaking!"

"Oh, Steve," Judy whispered. "What'll we do? We'll never be able to swim all the way to shore." She looked at Steve with fearful eyes.

Suddenly Steve heard a sound—a motor! A Coast Guard launch was pulling up. Soon they were safely on board.

That evening, they sat in their uncle's cottage with heads bowed. "We're really sorry, Uncle Milt," Steve said. "We've wrecked your boat. I don't know how we'll ever pay for it."

"My insurance will cover a lot of it," Uncle Milt told them. "Your father says you'll have to cut your visit short and return home now so you can work to pay for the rest. I'm sorry about that. But you might have lost your lives. Why didn't you look at the map?"

"I thought I could get along without it," Steve admitted. "Now that it's too late, I see how wrong I was."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Psalm 119:129,130). Do you realize that you need a "map" to guide you through life? David said God's laws are wonderful. That's why we obey them. They help us to do right. The Bible gives us understanding about every part of our lives. It tells us how to please God and how to treat others. Knowing and doing the right things is what makes our lives happy. God's Word, the Bible, serves as a map or guidebook to do right. Are you using it? Do you read it each day? It will point you to Jesus, the only way to heaven. It will also teach you to be honest, pure, loving, patient, and much more, as it guides you in your Christian life.

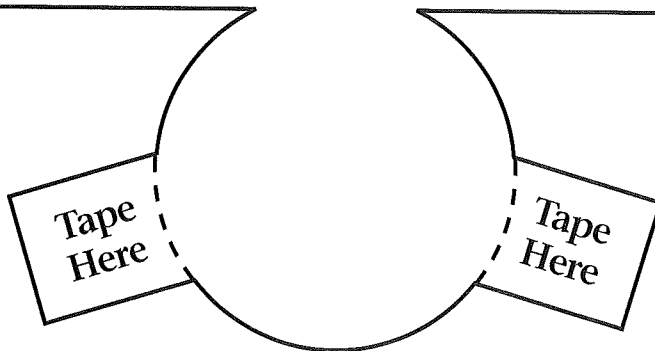
TODAY'S KEY: Read the Bible daily.

Tape
Here

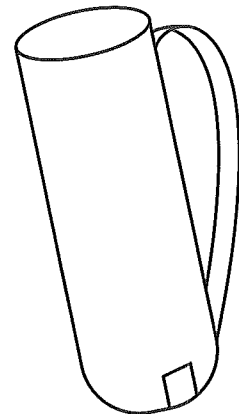
STRAP Tape to side of case.

Tape
Here

Tape
Here



Quiver



MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 7 THEME:

American Indians

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Bible Reading and Witnessing)

LESSON 31:

Indian Arts and Crafts

LESSON AIM:

To teach that knowing and believing the Bible will lead us to God

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the traders take to trade with the Indians?
2. What kind of skin did the Blackfoot use to make things?
3. What items did the Northwest Indians have to trade?
4. What did the Navajo Indians have to trade?
5. What trade item was treasured by the Indians?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T DOUBT

TEXT: Mark 11:22,23

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17, NIV).

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

SAND PAINTING

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

TOUCH AND TELL

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

STUDY TO KNOW

TEXT: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS

Let's take another imaginary trip back in time. Imagine we are traveling with a group of traders. We will be going deep into unexplored land to trade with the Indians. It is the early 1800s and very little is known about the land west of the Mississippi River.

The traders have lots of items to give the Indians in exchange for furs and other Indian crafts. Some of the most popular items are beads, buttons, and curtain rings (to decorate fingers and ears). There are also ruffled shirts, red fabrics, red-handled knives, and red paint. The Indians love red-colored items, and they especially like to color their bodies with red paint.

As we travel along the North Plains, we come upon a Blackfoot Indian village. You are amazed by the artwork on their tepees. A dark band along the top with round spots represents the sky and stars. Another dark band along the bottom also has spots. These spots stand for a mushroom-like growth which the Blackfoot call star-dust. Many beautiful designs are on the rest of the tepee. We tell them we come to trade. These Indians have moccasins, tobacco bags, and other containers made out of buffalo hides. Some are decorated with beads and quills and are really beautiful.

Next we travel to the Northwest and come upon a village with a huge totem pole in the middle. You are surprised by the detailed carving and paintings on both the totem pole and the meeting houses in this Indian village. The artwork is very detailed. You wonder how the Indians learned to carve and paint such beautiful designs. These Indians have lots of items to trade. The first is a cedar-bark basket that has a colorful red, black, white, and yellow design woven with colored grasses. Next, they show you some basketwork that also has beautiful designs woven into it. They have wooden dishes that have been carved to look like seals or other animals and then painted with colorful designs. Another item that catches your interest are the spoons and dippers made out of horns from the bighorn sheep. Shells are set into the surface of the spoons and dipper. These Indians also have many wooden masks that have been carved out and painted to look like the raven, bear, wolf, owl, or other animal.

The next morning we leave and head south to visit the Navajo Indians. After a long journey, we finally arrive. The earth lodge, or hogan, that the Navajo live in seems plain compared to the painted dwellings of the Northwest Indians. But the Navajo have some very beautiful things to trade. Their handwoven blankets are striking. Making the beautiful designs must have taken hours of work. Then the men bring out their silver work. Concho belts made out of 6 to 12 oblong silver coins, silver bracelets with beautiful designs, necklaces made out of beads, silver squash blossoms, and silver pendants. You marvel at the detailed handwork of the Navajo and wonder if what you brought to trade will be good enough for the Indians. You soon find that the ruffled shirts and red cloth are treasured by these Indians.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T DOUBT

TEXT: Mark 11:22,23

We have been studying about why it is important to read the Bible. We learned that faith is a gift of God. We also learned that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). We must spiritually hear the Word, by reading or listening, in order to get faith. Remember, faith is a gift of God, "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). Faith is important. Listen to our Bible text:

"Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:22,23).

In this verse Jesus said, "Have faith in God." He also said if we don't doubt in our heart, we shall have whatever we ask for in prayer. That is a big promise and God has given us the faith to believe it. Can anyone tell me how we get faith? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) We have to read the Bible and spiritually hear the Word. The faith that God places in our heart, when we spiritually hear the Word, is supernatural. We can't get it by ourselves.

Think about some of the things that Jesus said while He was here on earth and how they came true. A leper came to Jesus and said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth His hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed" (Matthew 8:2,3). During a big storm His disciples were afraid. Jesus said to them, "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm" (Matthew 8:26). Notice what Jesus said, "O you of little faith." The blind man came to Him and said, "Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight" (Mark 10:51,52). Notice that Jesus said, "Your faith has made you whole."

Jesus knew what He was talking about when He said if we don't doubt in our hearts, but believe what we ask for will come to pass, it will. Jesus knew His Father, who always heard Him when He prayed. If you trust Jesus, His Father will hear your prayers and answer them.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have faith in Jesus in your heart? Have you spiritually heard the Word? Do you believe the Word that you have heard today? If not, then you can ask God to forgive you, and help you to believe and to place faith in your heart. He wants you to believe Him, to trust Him.

CRAFT

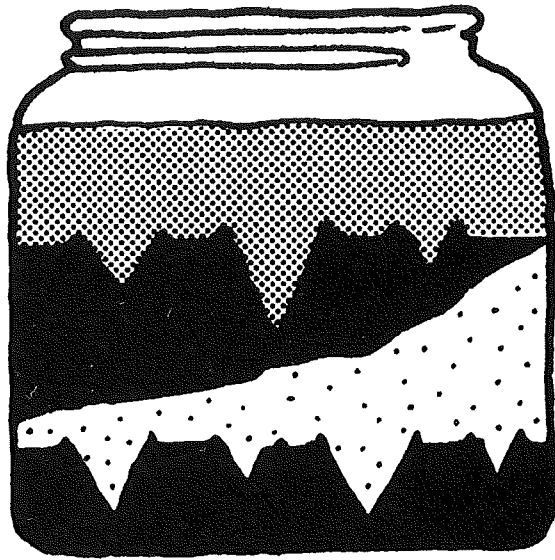
SAND PAINTING

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 small glass jar with a lid (baby food jars work fine)

Shared items: pencils, different colors of sand, glue



DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Take one cup of sand (or table salt) and mix in a small amount of food coloring until the sand reaches the desired color. You may want to mix the food coloring with a small amount of water first (try it both ways and choose the one you like best). Repeat the process, using a different color, until you have different colors of sand. You may need to mix up more than one cup of each color of sand. Practice making a sand painting before the meeting.

1. Give each boy a glass jar and a pencil. Pour sand into paper cups and place them in front of the boys.
2. Instruct the boys to pour a small amount of one color of sand into their jars. Next, pour a second layer of a different color of sand. Use the pencil to make designs in the sand. A good sand painting will have four or more layers of different colors of sand.
3. Let the boys create their own sand painting.
4. When finished, fill the jar until the sand is rounded above the rim of the jar and then glue the lid on the jar.

RECREATION

TOUCH AND TELL

Cut a 4-inch hole in the top of a closed cardboard box. Cover the hole with a cloth. Place several objects, such as a sponge, rock, crayon, pencil, pen, walnut, apple, clothespin, wood block, stuffed toy, in the box before the meeting. Let one boy reach into the box and pick one item (without removing it). He must tell the other boys all about it by explaining if it is soft or hard, light or heavy, rough or smooth, big or small, and then he must guess what it is. After he guesses, he takes the item out of the box and gives it to the commander. Let the other boys take turns picking an item, telling all about it, and then guessing what it is.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

STUDY TO KNOW

TEXT: 2 Timothy 3:16,17

"Well, Greg, what's on your schedule for tomorrow?" Dad asked as he sat down in an easy chair.

Greg turned off the TV and picked up the paper. "Oh, tomorrow afternoon we have a church party." He looked at the comic page while his dad took off his shoes. Then, handing Dad the newspaper, Greg added, "We're having a Bible quiz at the beginning of the party. Maybe I'll just go late."

"Oh? You used to enjoy quizzes," Dad said. "Why don't you like them now?"

Greg leafed through a sports magazine. "Joel always wins. They're no fun anymore."

"Do you know what chapters the quiz will cover?"

"Yeah," Greg replied, "but it doesn't matter what chapters they are—Joel will know everything in them. That guy really knows his Bible. The other day in science class Joel and our teacher got into quite a discussion about creation. Joel did really well. He quoted verses from the Bible and talked about why he believed it was true. He really knew what he was talking about."

"Good for Joel!" Dad said.

"Yeah." Greg nodded. "I've heard him do the same kind of thing in history class. I wish I knew the Bible like that." He sighed and began looking at magazine pictures.

When Greg looked up, Dad was watching him. "How do you suppose Joel learned so much?"

Greg shrugged.

"Well," Dad said, "I don't think it came from reading magazines or newspapers or watching TV. If you want to know the Bible, you have to study the Bible."

Greg looked at Dad thoughtfully. Then he looked down at his magazine. Putting it down, he got to his feet. "Excuse me, please." He grinned at his dad. "I have to go study a couple of chapters in my Bible. If Joel can do it, I can do it!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you wish you had as much Bible knowledge as your pastor or your Sunday school teacher or even a friend? You can—but not without study. Listen carefully when God’s Word is taught in church and Sunday school. Read it every day. Study it by yourself. Knowing the Bible is more important than just being able to answer all the quiz questions. Paul told a young man to study the Bible because it is able to bring us to ask forgiveness for sin. It causes us to be saved through believing in and accepting Jesus. “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:14-17). Knowing the Bible will make us truly wise and productive.

TODAY’S KEY: Study the Bible.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 7 THEME:

American Indians

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Bible Reading and Witnessing)

LESSON 32:

Indian Religion

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to read His Word so we will believe in His Son

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDIAN HERITAGE

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you think the Indians believed in God?
2. Why did the Indians think the earth was their "mother"?
3. What are some things the Indians believed that are not true?
4. What was the Sun Dance and how was it done?
5. What are some things we believe that are not true?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

POWER TO BECOME SONS OF GOD

TEXT: John 1:12; Philippians 2:10,11

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12, NIV).

"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PLASTIC EGG SHAKER

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HOOP AND JAVELIN

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

KEEP THE LIGHT ON

TEXT: Psalm 119:97-105

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN RELIGION

Our theme for this unit is the American Indian. We learned about Indian homes, wars, tools and weapons, and arts and crafts. We made several Indian items for crafts. Today we are going to learn about Indian religion.

The Indians believed in a supreme being, but they did not refer to him as God like we do. The Cherokees called him Yowa and thought that his name was too sacred to be spoken aloud. The Shoshone called him Duma Appah (“our father”) and thought of him as the creator. Some of the Shoshone Indians sang a prayer song to Appah every morning. They thought their words were carried by the sun’s rays to where Appah lived in the sky.

The Indians thought the earth was their “mother” because it helped them to survive. They didn’t think anyone could own the land, as the white settlers believed, because it was part of nature; like the sun and the sky. They also considered the land as “spirit” or “medicine” that gave them daily life and protected them in battle. For example, the medicine men made powder or paste out of special plants and herbs that healed the wounds of warriors and helped cure sick people.

The Indians also believed many things that were not true. For example, although the Shoshone believed Appah created the world, they thought he had help from the animal nation. It was thought that the coyote took on human form and then created man. In addition, there were tales about “little people” that the Shoshone, called Nunumbi. As the story goes, the Nunumbi would use sticks or stones to kill animals, and they would shoot invisible arrows into people they did not like.

Some Indian warriors took part in religious ceremonies to help them be strong and brave in battle. One of these ceremonies known as the Sun Dance was endured by Sitting Bull of the Sioux, in 1876, just before the famous Battle of Little Bighorn (also known as Custer’s Last Stand). In the Sun Dance the warrior first gets a skinny tree and places it in the middle of his village. Next, he ties two long leather thongs to the top of the tree. Then he takes two small wooden hooks and drives them into his chest and attaches them to the leather thongs. Finally he leans back until the tree bends from his weight. He dances around the pole in a trancelike state until the hooks pull through his skin. The warrior proudly shows the painful scars from this ritual.

These beliefs seem strange to us now because we know they are not true. Have you ever thought about some of the things we believe that are not true? The Easter bunny, Santa Claus, removing warts by rubbing them with some item and then burying it, lucky socks (or belt, etc.) for playing sports. If we could go back in time about 200 years, the Indians of that time would probably have thought that what we believe now is strange too.

The important thing is for us to recognize just what is true. God’s Word is true. It says our God created the world and everything in it.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

POWER TO BECOME SONS OF GOD

TEXT: John 1:12; Philippians 2:10,11

Our Christian character trait for this unit is spiritual. We are studying why it is important to read the Word of God. One thing we have learned is that to get faith, we need to read the Word. “Faith cometh by hearing . . . the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Today we will find out that Jesus has given us the power to become sons of God.

The Bible says, “As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:12).

If you believe in Jesus, then the Bible says He has given you the power, right or authority, to become a son of God. The authority He has given us is in His name—Jesus.

The Bible tells us that “at the name of Jesus every knee should bow” (Philippians 2:10). Everything on earth, in the sky, and in the water, and every person of every race will admit that Jesus is Lord—the Son of God.

God has given Jesus charge over all people and He can give eternal life to as many as believe on Him (John 17:1,2). The name of Jesus is both powerful and authoritative.

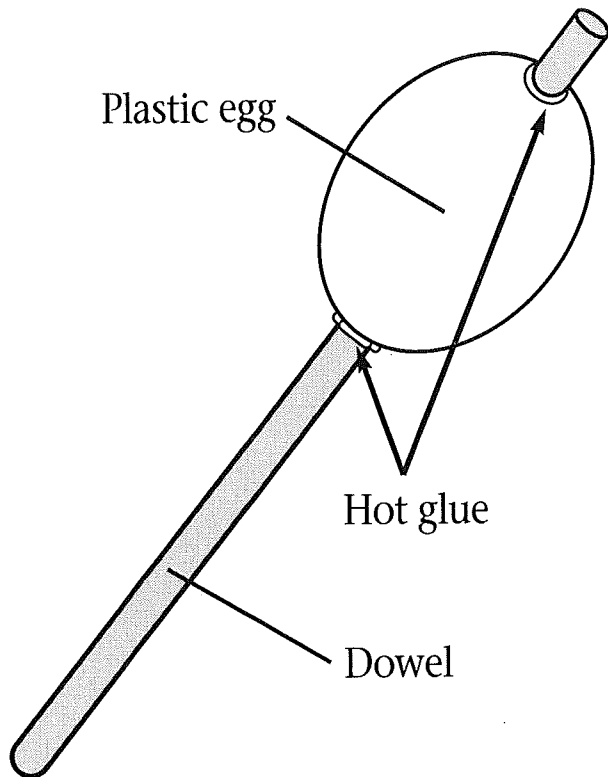
Jesus has given us the right to become sons of God. This means we do not become sons of God by our own choice; He authorizes it, He okays it. There is authority in the name of Jesus! There are three things that must happen before we can use the authority of Jesus’ name.

1. We must hear the Word, by reading or studying the Bible.
2. We must believe the Word. This is the same as believing in Jesus, because Jesus is the Word.
3. We must obey the Word. If we really believe in Jesus, we will ask forgiveness for our sins and we will obey His commandments.

Once we have heard the Word, believed the Word, and obeyed the Word, we are okayed to use the name of Jesus and expect our prayers to be answered. There is power and authority in the name of Jesus.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Can anyone tell me the three things we must do before we can use the powerful name of Jesus? (*Let the boys answer.*) Jesus has given us the right to become sons of God. Have you become God’s son? If not, you can do that now. Raise your hand if you want to be God’s son. (*Pray with any who respond. Go over the steps of salvation with each: Admit you are a sinner, believe Jesus is God’s Son who died for our sins, confess your sin, and ask Jesus to forgive you.*)



CRAFT

PLASTIC EGG SHAKER

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 semi-flexible plastic egg

1 wooden dowel $\frac{5}{16}$ inch by 9 inches (boys will cut it during meeting)

5 to 10 BBs (shot)

Shared items: markers, hacksaw, hot glue gun, empty boxes to catch loose BBs

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Prepare the plastic eggs by drilling a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch hole through the ends of the egg. It helps to start at the round end and come out the more pointed end. Purchase enough 3- or 4-foot wooden dowels, $\frac{5}{16}$ inch in diameter, so each boy will be able to cut his own handle.

1. Have each boy cut a piece of dowel 9 inches long out of the $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch wooden dowels.
2. Have the boys hold their plastic eggs over the empty box and insert 5 to 10 BBs through one of the holes in the egg. Caution the boys to hold their finger over the other hole so BBs don't fall out.
3. Have them insert their 9-inch dowel rod through the egg. It is easier to start from the round end so the dowel comes out the pointed end.

4. The commander should then hot glue the eggs to the sticks. Caution the boys that the glue is hot so no one gets burned.

RECREATION

HOOP AND JAVELIN

Before the meeting: Prepare one or more sets of hoops and javelins. Each hoop should be 12 inches or larger in diameter and at least 1 inch wide. It can be made from a variety of materials (wooden hoops are best, but a 1-inch by 3-foot strip of poster board works nicely). The javelin is made out of a small, straight tree limb $\frac{1}{2}$ inch or more in diameter and 4 to 5 feet long.

Playing the game: This is a game of skill that many Indian boys played to sharpen their hunting skills. Have the boys line up behind a line and give the first boy a javelin. The commander or another boy then stands 10 to 15 feet in front of the line of boys, about 5 feet to one side, and rolls the hoop parallel to the line the boys are standing behind. The boy with the javelin throws it at the rolling hoop in an attempt to make it pass through the hoop. That boy then runs and gets the javelin and hands it to the next boy in line. Alternate suggestion: You can let each boy try three times before passing the javelin to the next boy.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

KEEP THE LIGHT ON

TEXT: Psalm 119:103-105

"Son, come here, please," Mom called from Pete's room.

"What is it, Mom?" Pete asked as he skidded to a halt in front of her.

"This!" Mother was holding up Pete's Bible. "It's all covered with dust."

"Sorry, Mom," Pete said. "I keep forgetting to dust that shelf by my bed. I'll do it soon."

"That's not what I meant, Pete. How long has it been since you've read your Bible?"

Pete shrugged. "I need a Bible for Sunday school, but I use the one I keep in the den downstairs. Anyhow, since we go to church on Sundays—twice—I hear enough about God to last me all week."

Mom didn't say anything more until that night. She followed Pete to his room at bedtime, switched on the light, and then shut it off again. "Mom!" Pete said as the room once again became dark. "I can't see what I'm doing."

"The light was on for a minute," Mom said, "I'm sure you can remember where things are. Can't you just make do with the light you got then?"

"No, I can't," Pete grumbled as he reached for the switch and turned the light on again. "Once it's off, it doesn't do anything for me. Don't turn it off, okay?"

"But, Pete," said Mom softly, "isn't that what you've been trying to do with God?"

Pete was puzzled.

"You told me that by going to church twice on Sundays, you learn enough about God to be able to skip reading your Bible during the week," said Mom. "But it doesn't work that way. Oh, it does help, just like having light in your room once helps you remember where things are, but it's not enough. You need to read God's Word every day so you can grow as a Christian."

"By not reading my Bible, I 'turn off the light' of God's Word, huh?" Pete asked. "Well, can I leave my light on extra long tonight? I want to 'turn on' my other 'light' too."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you think that by going to church you can get through the rest of the week without reading God's Word every day? Every day you need to "turn on" the light of God's Word for spiritual direction, just as Pete needed to. When we read God's Word, we realize what wisdom it has for us. That's why David said, "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth. Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:97-105). God's laws are sweeter than honey. They give us understanding of God's love and show us how to get to heaven. That is wonderful to know. We can learn all this by reading and studying God's Word. The Bible tells us how much God loves us. We can show our love for Him by reading it!

TODAY'S KEY: Read God's Word daily.



UNIT EIGHT

**Nature
Study**

INSECTS

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 8 THEME:

Nature Study—Insects

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Honest

LESSON 33:

What Are Insects?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we obey Him by being honest

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT ARE INSECTS?

QUESTIONS:

1. How many legs do most insects have?
2. How many body parts do insects have?
3. What are the feelers, or antennae, used for?
4. How big are most insects?
5. Name some insects you have seen.

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DOUBLE PAY

TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 4:7-12

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Be careful to do right in the eyes of everybody"
(Romans 12:17, NIV).

"Provide things honest in the sight of all men"
(Romans 12:17).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PLASTER CAST

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

BREECHES BUOY RELAY

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

BEING HONEST MEANS WE DON'T LIE

TEXT: Psalm 119:163

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

WHAT ARE INSECTS?

Most of you have seen many different kinds of insects, such as flies, beetles, ants, butterflies, bees, fleas, and grasshoppers. Some insects are very small and others are quite large. It is fairly easy to tell the difference between insects and other types of animals, because most insects have six legs and a body that is divided into three separate parts, or sections.

Insects are called arthropods, which means they have a soft body that is enclosed in a hard shell. Have you ever stepped on a bug? If you did, the soft part would squish out and leave the hard shell behind. The shell is the insect's skeleton. It protects the soft body from injury.

Another thing that can help us tell an insect from other animals is its size. When compared to most animals, insects are small. Some insects are so tiny that you need a magnifying glass to see them, but most are about the size of the end of your finger or a little bigger. Some are giant-sized, however. The atlas moth, for example, has a wingspan of 12 inches.

Almost all insects have a pair of feelers growing out of their heads that we call antennae. Most of the insects you see will have wings. Some have extra feelers growing out of their abdomens. The feelers, or antennae, are used for smelling, tasting, and feeling. The antennae are very important. They help insects that do not see well to move at night or in dark places. Antennae also help insects sense things, such as changes in the air temperature.

You might think spiders are insects, but they are not. If you look closely at a spider, you will find it has eight legs instead of six and two parts to its body instead of three.

Many insects, such as bees and caterpillars, have simple hairs all over their bodies. These hairs are sensitive to touch and help the insect find its food. Some caterpillars have very hard, bristle-like hairs that keep predators, or enemies, from swallowing them.

Most insects use their mouth parts to taste liquids, but butterflies also use their front legs. When a butterfly steps into sweet water, it immediately starts to drink with its mouth parts.

A week later, Brandon's family was sorry to hear that Mr. Walsh died. His son picked up the dogs and took them to his farm. Brandon tried to find another job, but he was unable to do so.

A couple of days before Brandon's class was to leave for Funland, a letter came for him. "Look, Mom!" Brandon yelled as he took a check for \$20 dollars from the envelope. "It's from Mr. Walsh's son. He says he's sorry he forgot to pay me when he picked up the dogs."

"But Mr. Walsh already paid you," Mother reminded.

"I guess his son didn't know that," Brandon replied. "Now I've got my money for Funland."

"Do you plan to keep that money?" Mother asked softly.

"Well, I asked the Lord to give me the money so I could go, and here it is!"

"Do you really think the Lord sent it to you, Brandon?" Mother asked. "Do you think it would be honest to keep Mr. Walsh's money?"

Tears filled Brandon's eyes. He shook his head. "I guess it wouldn't," he admitted. "I'll have to give this back."

Mother hugged him. "I know it's hard, Brandon. But you never lose by being honest."

Brandon felt sad when he woke up on the morning his class left on their trip. But as the day passed, he was surprised at the peace he felt in his heart in spite of his disappointment. He would go to Funland another time. Then he could enjoy himself with a clear conscience.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit" (1 Thessalonians 4:7,8). Do you sometimes want to keep things that don't belong to you? If you asked Jesus to be your Savior, He has called you to live a holy life. It is dishonest to keep something that belongs to someone else. God tells us not to steal. To be holy, one thing we must do is be honest. Sometimes little things can be very important in your future. One wrong choice, one lie, one instance of shoplifting, can be the first step on the wrong road. Making a right choice results in peace and satisfaction. God is keeping records. He knows if you are obeying His instructions.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DOUBLE PAY

TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 4:7-12

With only 3 weeks left before his class trip to Funland, Brandon was worried. He knew his parents didn't have money for the trip. But when he came in from school one day, Mother met him with a smile. "Mr. Walsh, next door, wants you to take care of his dogs," she said. "He's going to the hospital for some surgery." She handed Brandon \$20. "He's paying in advance." Brandon whooped for joy. He was halfway to Funland!

CRAFT

FELT MOUSE WITH CANDY CANE

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 candy cane (multicolored)
- 1 piece of red felt (6 inches by 3 inches)
- 1 piece of green felt (6 inches by 4 inches)
- 2 small craft eyes (the kind that jiggle)

- 1 brown craft pom-pom (¾ inch round)
- 12 inches of black string
- Shared items: scissors, markers or pens, glue

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: The commander should copy the body and ears from the craft illustration on page 152 onto poster board and cut out several templates for the boys to trace.

1. Have the boys trace the ears on the red felt and the body on the green felt and then cut them out.
2. Have the boys cut the slots for the ears in the green felt and then push the red felt (ears) through one slot and out the other slot.
3. Have the boys fold the black string into a loop 2 inches long and glue it to the nose of the mouse along with and under the brown pom-pom. When the glue dries, cut the string loops to form the whiskers.
4. Glue on the eyes and then push the candy cane through the loop formed by the red felt ears beneath the mouse.
5. The mouse can be a reminder that sin can nibble at us, so we don't realize right away the damage it can do.

RECREATION**BREECHES BUOY RELAY**

Choose two or more teams of at least four boys each. The object is to get the whole team to the other end of the playing area by means of a "wristlock seat" carry. Number the members of each team. At the signal *go*, boys 1 and 2 form a wristlock seat and carry boy 3 to the far end of the meeting room. Boy 1 remains while boy 2 and boy 3 return for boy 4. Boy 2 remains while boy 3 and boy 4 return for boy 5, and so on. The first complete team to reach the other end of the room by this means and then sit down are declared the winners. The race may be run in reverse so that each team ends up in the same position as at the start.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**BEING HONEST MEANS WE DON'T LIE**

TEXT: Psalm 119:163

In our story today Brandon was ready to keep some money that didn't belong to him, but when his mother asked him about it, he decided to do the right thing: give the money back. He was being paid twice for the same job. Do you think it was hard for him to give that

money back? Do you think you would have done the same thing if you were Brandon? The Royal Ranger Code says a Royal Ranger is honest; he does not lie, cheat, or steal. Do you think Brandon lived up to our Royal Ranger Code? (*Let the boys answer.*) He did, and that is what each of us should do.

James was 8 years old when he made a choice to be honest. He was a Buckaroo just like you. It was a Saturday. James was at Skate Town for roller skating with his Royal Ranger group. All the boys were having a good time when James decided to go to the snack bar for something to drink. As he was about to enter the snack area, he saw a \$10 bill on the floor. He picked it up and thought, *I'll be able to buy all the soda and candy I want.* Just as quickly he thought, *This belongs to someone.* On his own, James went to the manager of Skate Town and turned in the money.

A little later a girl came crying to the owners of Skate Town. She had lost her money. When they asked her how much, she told them \$10. They gave her the money James had found. That made her happy. The next week at Royal Rangers the senior commander gave James a canteen for being honest. That commander was really proud of James. He honored James in front of the other boys for choosing to do right, to be honest.

The Lord is also proud of you every time you are honest. He will reward you when you get to heaven. In the Bible the Lord says this about lying:

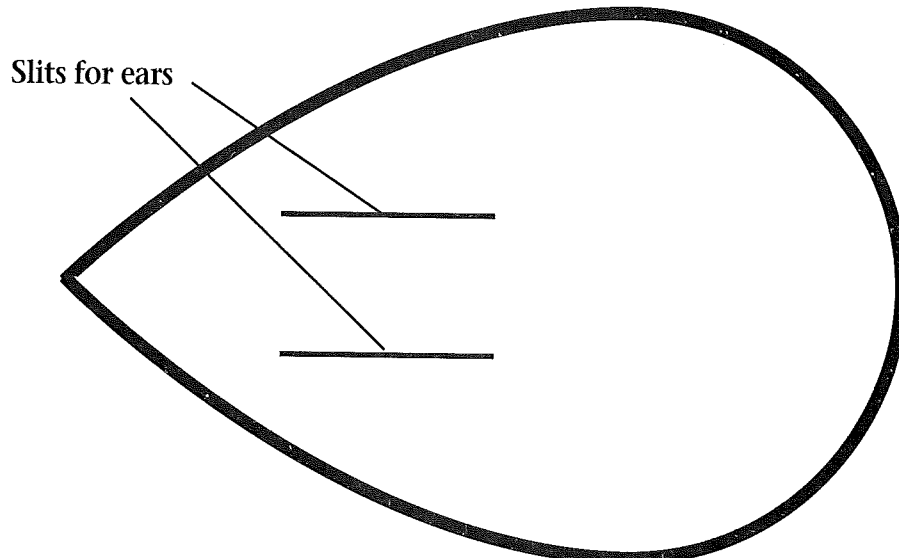
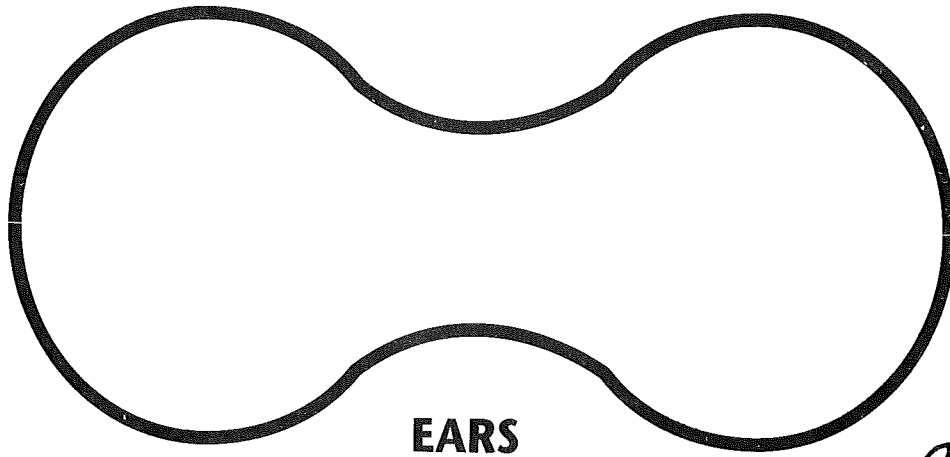
"I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love"
(Psalm 119:163).

The psalmist, perhaps a Levite priest, wrote these words. He said God hates and abhors lying. The word *abhor* is another word for hate. These are some strong words against lying. God hates lying so much He had the psalmist say it twice in one sentence. No matter how we are tempted, we can always say yes to the truth and be honest. God makes us able, freeing our will from sin, to choose what we want to do. Remember, God gave each of us the power to become the sons of God just because we believe on Jesus' name. We have the power to choose what we are going to do. If you want to be a son of God, you must always choose to tell the truth and be honest.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you always been honest? Do you tell the truth every time you are tempted to protect yourself by lying? If not, today is the right time to choose to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you be honest and tell the truth whenever you are tempted. (*Pray with the boys that God will put within their hearts a strong desire to be holy and always tell the truth. Thank Him for loving us enough to forgive our sin of lying and to help us want to be truthful. Lead the boys in an appropriate song.*)

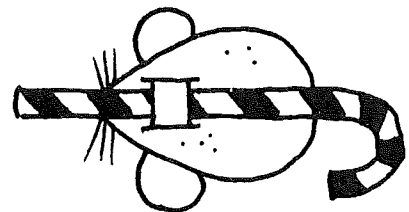
TODAY'S KEY: Be honest.



MOUSE BODY



Example



Bottom View

Felt Mouse With Candy Cane

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 8 THEME:

Nature Study—Insects

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Honest

LESSON 34:

The Mystery Insect

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we are honest because we love Him

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE MYSTERY INSECT

QUESTIONS:

1. What is mystery insect number 1?
2. What is mystery insect number 2?
3. What is a nymph?
4. What does molting mean?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART

TEXT: Luke 8:15; 1 John 2:15

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"We are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men"
(2 Corinthians 8:21, NIV).

"Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men"
(2 Corinthians 8:21).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

LEATHER BUCKAROO SLIDE or

PICTURE TO COLOR: Roping a steer

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

KICK THE CAN

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE TEST

TEXT: Psalm 7:3-11

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE MYSTERY INSECT

Before we learn about the mystery insect, let's sing a song of prayer to the Lord, "Give Me Oil in My Lamp."

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,

Give me oil in my lamp I pray;

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,

Keep me burning till the break of day.

Chorus: Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King of kings!

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King.

Make me a fisher of men, keep me seeking,

Make me a fisher of men I pray;

Make me a fisher of men, keep me seeking,

Seeking souls till Jesus comes one day.

Can you guess the name of this week's mystery insect? It starts life in the water or mud as an egg. When the egg hatches, out comes a larva called a nymph. It is one of the ugliest and greediest things in the world. The nymph has two big eyes, one on each side of its head, and a long thin body. It also has a long bottom lip with hooks or very sharp jaws on it that act like pincers. When the nymph sees something swimming by, it snaps out its lip and hooks it. Then the nymph quickly gobbles up its prey and keeps looking for something else to eat.

Still can't guess its name? Here are some more clues. It may live underwater for up to a year before it stops eating and climbs out of the water. During the year, it grows bigger and bigger and molts several times. *Molting* is when the nymph grows too big for its skin and sheds it for a bigger one. When the nymph finally does climb out of the water onto a plant stem or twig, it stands very still. The skin splits open down the back, and off flies a beautiful winged adult insect.

Here are some more facts about this mystery insect. It has a dreadful-sounding name, but it doesn't breathe fire. It has a blue or green body and four wings and it darts about very quickly. By now you should have guessed. It is a dragonfly.

Another insect that goes through several phases of eating, growing, resting, and molting is our second mystery insect. It is green or brown and lives on the ground instead of in the water. You might think this insect chews tobacco because it spits a black liquid out of its mouth if you bother it. It has two strong back legs and can jump very far, but it's not a cricket. Of course, it is the grasshopper.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART

TEXT: Luke 8:15; 1 John 2:15

The Royal Ranger Code tells us a Royal Ranger is honest: He does not lie, cheat, or steal. Being honest is against our sinful nature, the part inside of us that wants to do wrong and pass up opportunities to do good. There is always a struggle between the good and bad inside of us. We know it is wrong to lie, cheat, or steal, but something inside makes us think, *No one is looking* or *No one will know* or *Everyone else is doing it*. These thoughts are the lies of Satan. We must say no to them in Jesus' name and live by the Royal Ranger Code every day.

The Royal Ranger Code is based upon God's Word, the Bible. Let's look at what the Bible has to say about being honest. In Luke 8:15 Jesus is telling what happens when the Word of God is planted in good soil.

"On the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15).

Jesus refers to an "honest and good heart" as good ground for His Word, but that is not all. The key point here is "having heard the word, keep it." It is not enough to just hear the commandments "You shall not steal" or "You shall not kill." We must keep (or obey) them. Obeying God is what will cause us to have an honest and good heart.

Do you really want to know what's in your heart? Ask yourself, "What do I love?" If you think about it, you will realize that what you spend your spare time doing is what you really love. What you want to do most of all when no one is telling you what to do is what you love. The Bible tells us the most important commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" (Luke 10:27). If we really love the Lord, we will want to spend our time with Him.

The problem with most of us is that we love the things of this world more than we love God. The last thing we want to do is read God's Word or pray. If this is the way you feel, ask yourself, "What do I really love?"

The Bible says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15).

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you take time to read God's Word and pray every day? Do you spend all of your time doing only what you want to do and never giving God any time? It's time to ask yourself, "What do I really love?" If God is not first in your life, you need to be sorry and ask Him to forgive you. Then ask Him to give you an honest and good heart and help you love Him more than anything else.

CRAFT

LEATHER BUCKAROO SLIDE or PICTURE TO COLOR: Roping a Steer

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 piece of leather (4 inches by 3 inches or larger)
- 1 brass fastener (same as the one that comes with the Buckaroo slide)

A Roping the Steer coloring sheet on page 156 to color (alternate activity)

Shared items: pencils, sharp scissors (two pairs), ink pen(s), red fine-point permanent marker(s), leather stamps, leather hole-punch ($\frac{1}{8}$ "), hammer, hard surface, and sponge; crayons

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Test the directions by making a handmade leather slide as an example. Since enough shared items for all are usually not available, let only four boys make a slide at a time. Arrange for several adults to help with this activity. The other boys can color the coloring sheet picture. They will make the slide next week. (See the illustration on page 159.)

1. Before you start, tell the boys that only four boys can work on the slide at one time and they must share the tools and markers. Do not allow the boys to get rowdy or out of control. Warn the boys that the markers are permanent, that the ink can't be removed.
2. Have each boy take off his Buckaroo slide, remove the brass fastener, then trace around it carefully with ink on his piece of leather.
3. Next, have the boys cut out their leather with the sharp scissors.
4. Help each boy use the sponge to wet the leather and stamp an image onto it with the leather stamp (leather stamps are available at craft stores). Be sure he gets it aligned correctly and help him keep it from moving while he hammers it.
5. Have the boys use a pencil to copy the word *BUCKAROO* onto their leather just like it is on their slide.
6. Have them punch the $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch holes and insert the brass fastener.

RECREATION

KICK THE CAN

The player selected as "It" places the can on a base position and stands next to it. With his eyes closed, he counts to 100 by 5s while the players hide. Then "It" goes looking for them. If "It" sees a player in hiding, he calls the player's name. That player is caught and returns to base. "It" continues to look for the other hiding players, but he also keeps a close watch on the can on base position. If any player sneaks from his hiding place and gives the can a hard kick, the hiding

players may change hiding positions and the players already caught by "It" may again hide. When the can is off base, all players are safe and remain so until "It" has replaced the can on base. Then "It" looks for the hiding players again. After all players have been caught, the player who was caught first becomes "It" for the next game.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE TEST

TEXT: Psalm 7:3-11

"Here's \$10. That should be enough," Mother said as she put money and a shopping list into Joey's hand. "You may keep the change."

After Joey finished getting the items for his mother, he headed for his favorite candy shop. "I thought this was \$1.27," he mumbled when he pulled out the change, "but it's \$5.27! Mrs. Clemens gave me the wrong amount. Great! I'll buy some candy and save the rest for Saturday when I go to the amusement park with Steve."

After Joey got home, he worked on his model car while his mother ironed and listened to her favorite radio preacher. "I'd like to close my message today with a true story about integrity," the speaker said. Then he told about a pastor who noticed he had been given too much change by a bus driver. As he rode along, he was tempted to put the extra money in his wallet without saying anything. He knew that would be wrong. As he left the bus, the man returned the extra money to the driver. "You made a mistake on my change," he said.

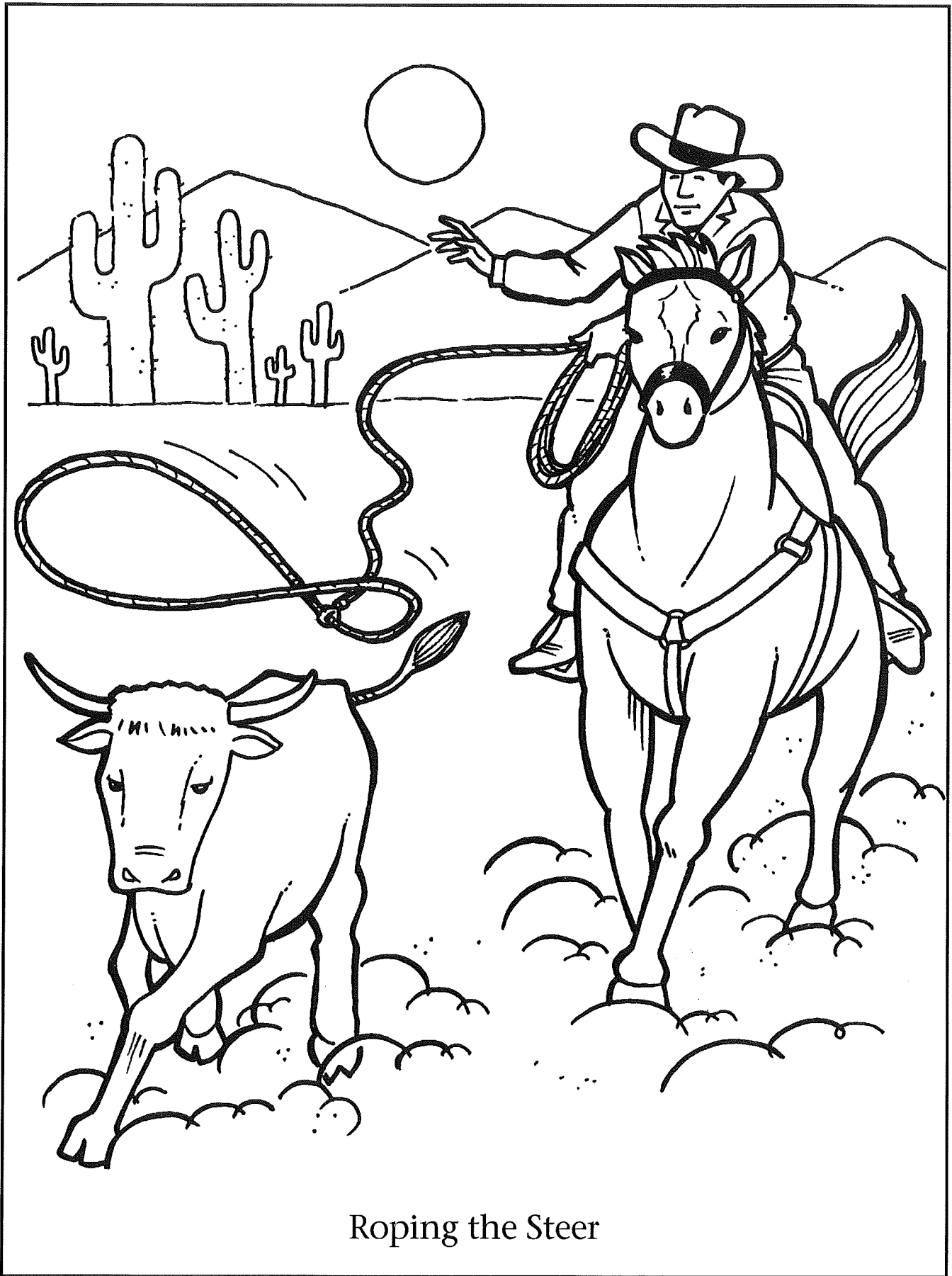
"That was no mistake," replied the bus driver. "That was a test. I visited your church last Sunday when you were preaching on honesty. I wanted to see if you practice what you preach. I think I'll come to hear you again."

Wow, Joey thought, Maybe God is giving me a test too. I'm going to take that extra money back to the store right now!

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever had the idea that no one would know when you did something dishonest? Be careful. You never know who may be watching you—perhaps even testing you—to see if you will act the way Jesus would. When you cheat, lie, don't do your work, or always pass up opportunities to do good, you displease God, and you are a poor testimony for Him. Let's say this prayer of David's together. Bow your heads and say it after me. (*Let the boys repeat this prayer after you.*) "O Lord my God, if I have done this and there is guilt on my hands—if I have done evil to him who is at peace with me or without cause have robbed my foe—then let my enemy pursue and overtake me" (Psalm 7:3-5). Lord, if I have done wrong and cheated anyone, forgive my sin. I want to please You. (*Lead the boys in a song, such as "I Love Him Better Every Day."*)

TODAY'S KEY: Always be honest.



Roping the Steer

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 8 THEME:

Nature Study—Insects

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Honest

LESSON 35:

Where Do Insects Go in the Winter?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we are honest by not lying

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHERE DO INSECTS GO IN THE WINTER?

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do we have so many flies?
2. What should you do when you see a fly?
3. Where do the beetles go during the winter?
4. Why do people catch the ladybird beetles?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

A POEM IN YOUR POCKET

TEXT: Colossians 3:8-10

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The soul that sins is the one who will die"
(Ezekiel 18:20, NIV).

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PLASTER CAST

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

SIMON SAYS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE ALARM

TEXT: Romans 13:7-14

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

WHERE DO INSECTS GO IN THE WINTER?

During the spring, summer, and fall, you see insects everywhere. Have you ever wondered what happens to them during the winter? They all seem to disappear. But they don't.

Houseflies and mosquitoes find places to hide during the winter, such as attics, cellars, barns, or unused houses. Sometimes they stay in caves or holes in the ground or any other place that gives them protection from the cold. The females carry their eggs inside of them. The eggs will hatch when spring comes and a lot of new flies and mosquitoes will be born. Each female fly can lay 100 eggs at one time and most of these eggs will hatch by the next day. It takes about 2 weeks for the eggs that hatch to grow into adult flies. One female fly can lay up to five batches of eggs before she dies. That's why there are so many flies. Female mosquitoes that live through the winter will lay one group of eggs in the water and die a short time after that.

Wood-boring beetles make deep holes in wood or the bark of trees and crawl into them. Other types of beetles dig into the ground, where it is warmer. The beetles are barely alive during the winter. Did you ever see football players pile on top of one another? That is the way ladybird (or ladybug) beetles gather. They pile up by the thousands in tree stumps or under rocks and leaves and stay like that all winter. In California, people go up high in the mountains where millions of ladybird beetles spend the winter and take truckloads of them to sell to farmers, because the ladybird beetles eat many plant pests that harm their crops. Still other beetles, such as the fireflies, hatch out of their eggs at the end of summer. They spend the winter as larva, which look like short worms.

Grasshoppers and crickets lay eggs in the ground and then die. The grasshopper lays 20 to 100 eggs in one hole. The cricket lays several hundred eggs—each egg in a separate hole. In the spring the eggs hatch and out come hundreds of crickets or grasshoppers.

Katydid and praying mantises also lay eggs and then die. The katydid lays its eggs in rows along the branches of trees or on edges of leaves. The praying mantis squeezes out a foam liquid that looks like bubbles onto a branch and lays its eggs inside of the foam. In the spring young katydid or praying mantis nymphs hatch. They are called nymphs because they must molt and shed their skins several times before they become adults.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

A POEM IN YOUR POCKET

TEXT: Colossians 3:8-10

"Mom! Mom!" called 8-year-old Kyle after school one day. "I wrote a poem, and I got the best grade in the room! Listen!" Kyle read his poem with great feeling.

"In winter I go to the icy pond.

I make a snow fort with a snowman beyond.
I think the snow is pretty on the ground.
I like the trees and the whistling sound."

"Why, Kyle, that's beautiful!" Mother said. "I'm very proud of you. I'll put it on the refrigerator for Daddy to see."

When Kyle's father came home, he also liked the poem.

The next day Kyle came home after school with another poem. He read it to his mother.

"Keep a poem in your pocket
And a picture in your head,
And you'll never feel lonely,
At night when you're in bed.
The little poem will sing to you,
The little picture bring to you
A dozen dreams to dance to you,
At night when you're in bed."

"That's good!" Mother said. "Is that really yours?"

"Uh, s-sure," Kyle stammered. Then he hurried to his room, leaving his mother's thoughtful look behind him.

The next afternoon Mother was looking for a poem to use at the ladies' meeting at church. As she leafed through some books, she saw Kyle's last poem! After school, she showed Kyle what she had discovered.

"Oh, Mom," Kyle said tearfully, "I did copy the poem. I felt terrible all day! My teacher thinks I wrote it too."

"Kyle, tomorrow you'll have to tell your teacher what you did," Mother told him.

Kyle nodded. "I need to tell God I'm sorry too," he added. "Then I will stop feeling so miserable inside. I'm going to tell Him right away."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; and have put on the new man" (Colossians 3:9). Have you told lies that make you feel miserable? When we ask Jesus to be our Savior, He gives us a desire to be like Him. Jesus cannot lie. When you lie, you know God is not pleased with you. That's why lying makes you feel bad. Confess your lies to God and to the people you have wronged. This is the first step in breaking the habit of lying. It will also make you think twice before lying again.

CRAFT

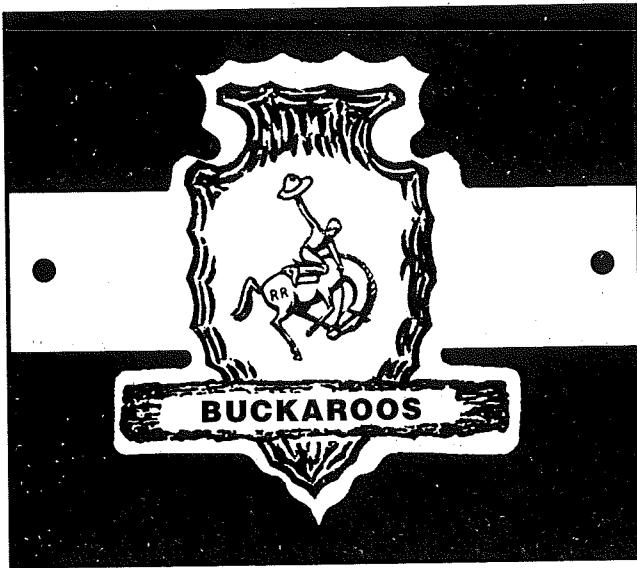
LEATHER BUCKAROO SLIDE or PICTURE TO COLOR: WRANGLER BOOTS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

A Wrangler Boots coloring sheet on page 160 to color (alternate activity)

Shared items: crayons



Leather Buckaroo Slide

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: This is the second week for this craft. Let four or more different boys make the slide this week. Since enough shared items for all are not usually available, let only a few boys make a slide at one time. See the instructions for making a leather slide on page 155. The other boys can color the picture for this week.

RECREATION**MASTERPIECES**

Give each boy a piece of paper and a pencil. Then announce: "We are going to test our ability at creative art." Turn out the lights. Have all the boys try to draw a picture of the church (or a school, a house, or some specific building). Prompt them along the way about what to include, such as windows, doors, a steeple. Have them include a few special features, such as a man opening the front door, a Christmas wreath in the window, or a bell in the steeple. When they have all finished, turn on the lights and have the boys pass around their "masterpieces." Judge the best, and award a simple prize appropriate to the situation, such as watercolors or a paintbrush.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**DON'T LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT****TEXT: Acts 5:1-6**

Our story from the Bible is about two people whom God struck dead because they lied to the Holy Spirit. As you listen to this story, think about what will happen because of lying. Even though we may get away with it, or think we have, remember that one day each of us will stand before God. Then we will have to give an account for everything we have said. Every lie will be made known, unless it has been confessed to God and has been covered by the blood of Jesus. Here is our Bible story.

"A certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost [or Spirit], and to keep back part of the price of the land? While it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him" (Acts 5:1-6).

Let's take a close look at what happened so you can understand why God killed Ananias. This was a time when many of the Christians were selling their houses and land and bringing the money to the apostles so they could use it to feed and care for the Christians who were in need. Ananias sold something he owned and brought only part of it to the apostle Peter. That was okay. No one *had* to sell his property. Keeping part of the money was not a sin. But Ananias wanted everybody to think he had given all the money from selling his property. Keeping part of the money and telling Peter he was *giving all* of it was a lie. God punished Ananias by killing him because he tried to lie to God.

Boys, you can't fool God. He knows what is in your heart. Someday He will judge each of us according to what we've done. If we are not honest, God will know. He knows how we really feel and think in our hearts and minds. We cannot let sin remain in our hearts if we love God. We must ask Jesus to forgive us and make our hearts clean again. We have to choose between telling the truth and telling a lie. God won't keep us from lying, but He knows when we do.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you said no to Satan when he tempted you to lie so you wouldn't be punished for something you did? Have you been totally honest in what you do or say? If not, now is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you keep from sinning. If you would like me to pray for you, please raise your hand. *Note to commander:* After prayer, lead the boys in a song of praise, such as "Praise the Name of Jesus."

TODAY'S KEY: Be honest. Don't lie.



Wrangler Boots

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 8 THEME:

Nature Study—Insects

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Honest

LESSON 36:

Some Strange Things Insects Do

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we don't hurt others with our words

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

SOME STRANGE THINGS INSECTS DO

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do ants give their young to the blue butterfly larva?
2. How did the toe biter get its name?
3. Where does the codling moth's larva make its home?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

STOLEN WORDS

TEXT: Proverbs 18:1-8

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The words of a gossip are like choice morsels"
(Proverbs 18:8, NIV).

"The words of a talebearer are as wounds"
(Proverbs 18:8).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

BIRD WATCHERS: Find the hidden birds and color the sheet

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

CROSS STICKS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

LIARS WILL SUFFER GOD'S JUDGMENT

TEXT: Revelation 21:7,8

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

SOME STRANGE THINGS INSECTS DO

The first unusual insect we will talk about is the large blue butterfly. It lays eggs on wild thyme plants. When the eggs hatch, out comes white larvae; they look like short worms, but are really caterpillars. The larva begins life like any other caterpillar that eats leaves. After it has grown to a certain stage, it falls off the leaf and lands on the ground. It doesn't try to climb back onto the plant. It waits for a passing ant to find it. If no ant ever passed by, it would die. When the ant checks it out, the larva gives off a sweet liquid that ants love. Soon after that the larva hunches its back, and the ant carries it back to its nest. The ants are so crazy about the larva's sweet liquid that they give the larva their own ant larva to eat. The caterpillar larva stays with the ants all winter, eating young ant larva. In the spring it leaves the ant nest as a beautiful butterfly.

A strange insect that lives in Australia is called the toe biter. It is called toe biter because it can pierce human flesh with its beak. It is really a water bug known as the water boatman or back swimmer. This insect lives on or under the water and swims upside down. The toe biter is easy to spot because it uses its two long back legs to push itself. It eats other insect larvae and tadpoles in a strange way. The toe biter grabs its prey with its two front legs, but it doesn't eat with mouth parts like other insects. Instead, it stabs the prey with its beak and injects a poisonous digestive juice. Soon the poisonous juices dissolve the tissues inside the prey and turn them into liquid. This liquid is then sucked out by the toe biter.

One insect you will never want to find is the larva of the codling moth. The codling moth lays its eggs on fruit trees. One of the fruit trees the codling moth likes is the apple tree. When the eggs hatch, the larvae, or caterpillars, crawl inside the apple to eat until they are ready to turn into a cocoon. This riddle will help you remember the codling moth: What is worse than biting into an apple and finding a worm? (*Give the boys a chance to respond.*) Finding half a worm, of course.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

STOLEN WORDS

TEXT: Proverbs 18:1-8

"Mom!" Todd called as he ran in from school. "Did you hear the fire sirens today?"

Mother looked up from her work. "Yes, I did. According to a radio report, it was at a place close to your school. Do you know if there was much damage?"

"No, not much," Todd replied. "We're pretty sure who started it. I told my teacher about Danny Blaine—you know—the things his mother told you about him starting fires and going to the firehouse so often. I overheard her when she was here the other day. Danny was called to the office, and he was crying when he came out."

"Todd!" Mother gasped. "When Mrs. Blaine came to ask me to pray for Danny, she didn't expect you to listen in and go tell! You had no right at all to that information. You certainly had no right to tell it to anyone else. Why did you do it?"

Todd began to cry. "I'm s-s-sorry. I guess I wanted to feel important," he admitted.

"But how does Danny feel?" Mother asked. "How must Mrs. Blaine feel? Pretty sad, I'm afraid. Other than the few things you overheard, did you have any reason at all to believe Danny might have set that fire?"

Todd shook his head.

"The Bible says, 'Thou shalt not steal,'" Mother said. "You stole words out of Mrs. Blaine's mouth. The sad part is that words can't be replaced. You can't totally undo the harm you have done."

"Is there anything I can do, Mom?" Todd asked.

Mother sighed. "I guess all you can do is go to Danny and his mother and apologize," she said. "Let's go now."

As they were leaving the house, Todd's friend, Marshall, came running up the walk. "Did you hear the news?" he called. "A short circuit caused that fire today."

"Oh, great!" Todd said, relieved. "That's good news! Danny will be glad too. Come on, Mom. Let's hurry and tell him!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Did you know that money and objects aren't the only things that can be stolen? Have you ever stolen words? Think about this the next time you are tempted to listen in on a conversation not meant for your ears. The Bible says, "The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly" (Proverbs 18:8). Words may not leave marks on a person's body. When someone tells something that hurts another person, the pain and marks are on the inside. No one sees them, but hurtful words cannot be taken back and are usually not forgotten by the injured person. Think of this the next time you are tempted to repeat something that would hurt someone else. Ask yourself if God would be pleased with what you're about to say. If the answer is no, don't say it.

CRAFT

BIRD WATCHERS: Find the hidden birds and color the sheet

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 Bird Watchers coloring sheet on page 164

Shared items: pencils and crayons or markers

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: The commander should find all 11 birds in the coloring sheet picture and highlight

them with a marker. Be ready to check the boys' work and assist them if needed.

1. Have the boys locate all 11 birds, circle them with a pencil, then color the sheet with crayons or markers.

Note to commander: If all your boys did not finish making a handmade leather Buckaroo slide, have those boys complete theirs today.

RECREATION

CROSS STICKS

This is a deceptive little game, but one that will interest the boys. Have everyone seated in a circle. Take two sticks or pencils and explain to the boys that you are going to "receive" and "pass" the sticks properly. They must watch carefully and try to do it right when it is their turn. If they do it correctly, they may remain seated. If they do it incorrectly, they must stand. Those who make mistakes will have two more chances. If they miss then, they are "out" and must sit on the floor.

The leader starts out, "I pass these sticks 'crossed' (or 'uncrossed')," speaking to the player on his right. That player then turns to the next person and says, "I received these sticks. . . , and I pass them to you. . . ." The trick is that it makes no difference if the sticks are crossed or not; it is whether or not the speaker's legs or feet are crossed. At first it is best to make both the legs and the sticks correspond, in order to confuse the boys more. Little by little a few will catch on. Make sure they keep the secret to themselves. It is helpful to have one or two who also know the trick so the boys can see it done properly once in a while. Remember: it doesn't matter whether or not the sticks are crossed. Only the legs of the speaker count.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

LIARS WILL SUFFER GOD'S JUDGMENT

TEXT: Revelation 21:7,8

One of the things God hates is a liar. You may have heard that it is okay to tell a little white lie, but this is not true. Lying is a sin that can keep us out of heaven. God's Word plainly tells us all liars are going to hell. Listen to our text:

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful,

and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Revelation 21:7,8).

Lying is part of our sinful nature, the part inside us that wants to do wrong, that doesn't care to do good. This sinful nature fights against God's Spirit in our lives. Once we are saved, we have two natures inside of us. One is our old sinful nature and the other is our new nature given by God. Jesus clearly tells us how this new nature begins in our lives. "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again" (John 3:3, NIV). Jesus also said, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5, NIV).

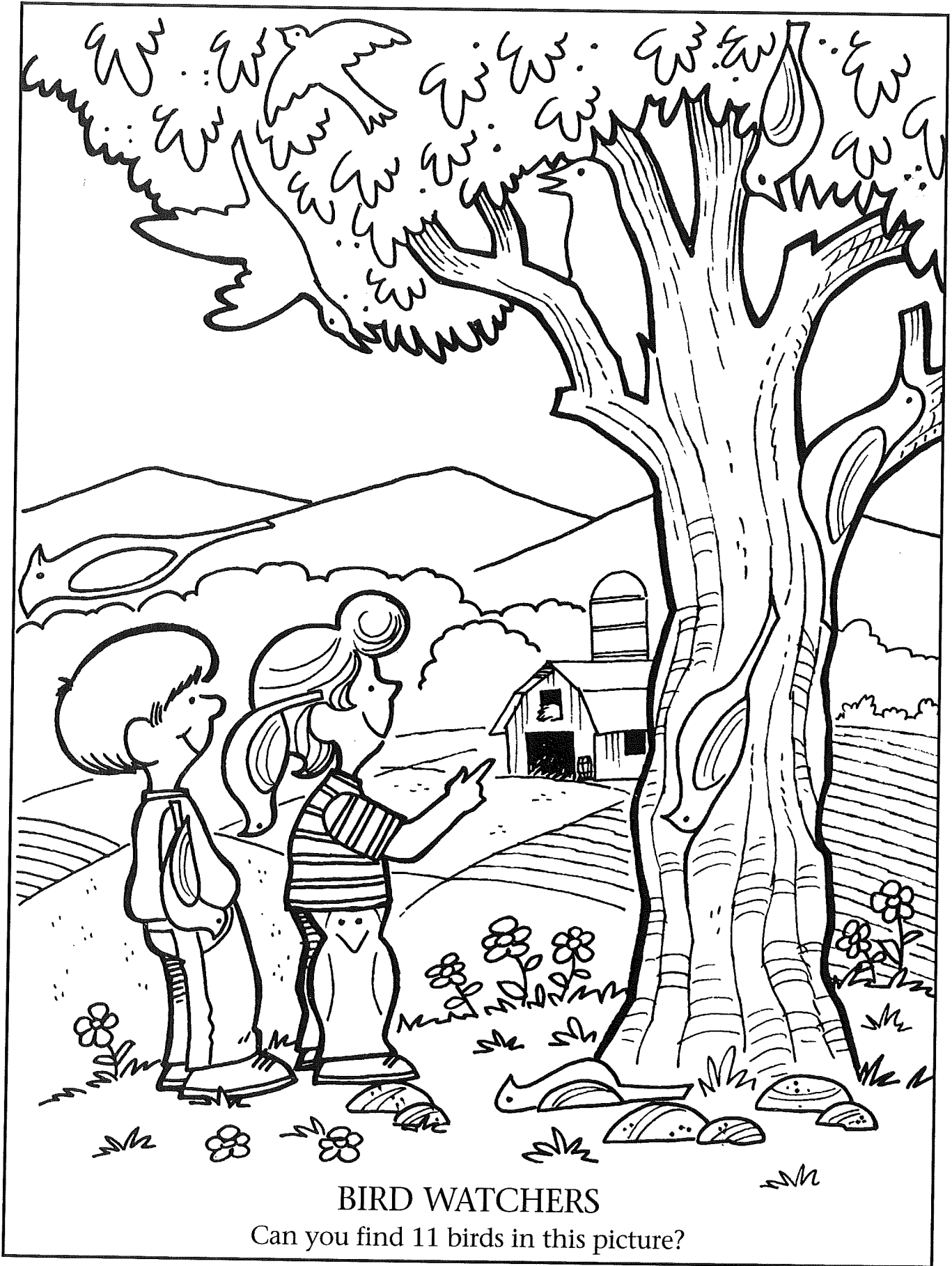
Our old sinful nature wants to lie, but God's Spirit within us wants to tell the truth. We must choose which nature or Spirit we will obey. Once God's Spirit is born inside our spirit, we have the victory over sin in our lives. Jesus has given you the power to become a son of God. Although we have been given the power, or right, or ability, to live a life free from sin, it is up to us to use that power to defeat Satan and our old sinful nature. We can have victory over sin. That is what Jesus meant when He said, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" (Revelation 21:7). Plan to be a son of God. Be an overcomer.

Listen to the list of people who will not be in heaven. They are "the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars" (Revelation 21:8). If you are afraid, or an unbeliever, or a liar, then you are not a son of God. Only those who overcome—those who admit their sin, ask God to forgive them, and live to please Him—will inherit all things and become a son of God.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you want to be a son of God? Do you have fear or unbelief or lies in your heart that you want God to forgive? Today is the time to decide you want to live for God. Ask Him to forgive you and fill your heart with His love and with His Spirit. He will do it if you are sorry for your sins and ask Him to forgive you. Then you are a son of God. If you keep on living to please Him in the things you say and do, you will also be a son of God in heaven.

TODAY'S KEY: Be an overcomer and a son of God.



BIRD WATCHERS

Can you find 11 birds in this picture?

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 8 THEME:

Nature Study—Insects

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Honest

LESSON 37:

Ant Farmers

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God is pleased when we are sorry and honestly admit our sin and ask His forgiveness

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

ANT FARMERS

QUESTIONS:

1. What are ant cities called?
2. What is the one thing a queen ant does?
3. Name two types of farmer ants and tell what they raise.
4. Can you name some other special ant jobs?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T BE LAZY

TEXT: Proverbs 6:6-11

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise" (Proverbs 6:6, NIV).

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise" (Proverbs 6:6).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PINWHEEL

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

CATCH THAT FLASH

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE PRIZE

TEXT: Isaiah 59:1,2,12,13

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

ANT FARMERS

Have you ever gone on a picnic only to have a lot of ants show up to eat your food? That's because ants are almost everywhere. Most ants live underground and have large nests. If you were able to look inside the nest, you would find thousands of ants living together. The nest has many rooms that are connected by tunnels. You might think of it as an ant city. The ants that live in the same nest are called a colony.

Each colony will have at least one queen. She is much larger than the other ants. The only thing the queen does is lay eggs. Except for a few ants that have special jobs, all the rest of the ants in the colony are workers. They are called that because they know how to work and show it. They are a good example for us to follow.

Some ants live in trees. They have a special guard ant that uses his head to block the entrance to the ant nest. His head is flat on top and looks like the bark of the tree. This guard ant will open the door only for ants from its own colony.

Last week we learned about the larva of the large blue butterfly and how the ants feed it ant larvae in exchange for the sweet liquid it gives. Other ants are farmers. These ants keep herds of ant cows—which are really aphids. Aphids live on leaves of plants like the rosebush. The ants take good care of their ant cows. They even milk them by rubbing the aphids with their feelers. The aphids give off a sweet juice called honeydew. If you ever look for aphids on rose leaves, you will probably find ants taking care of them.

Still another type of farmer ant cuts pieces out of leaves. They carry the pieces into their underground homes. They chew up the leaves until they are soft and then spread them out in a large room. Then they plant fungus in the chewed-up leaves. When the fungus grows, they eat it for food.

Some ants have two stomachs. Only one of the stomachs is real. The other is used to store or carry food for other members of the ant colony. One such ant is called the honeypot ant. It stores honeydew collected from the ant cows in its extra stomach. The honeypot ants get so big and fat they can hardly move. If you could open up an ant nest, you would find the honeypot ants just hanging from the ceiling. In the winter when there are no ant cows to milk, these honeypot ants feed the other ants.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T BE LAZY

TEXT: Proverbs 6:6-11

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a

little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: so shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man" (Proverbs 6:6-11).

The ants are a good example for us to follow because they are hard workers. Our text today talks about a sluggard, a really lazy person.

When you put off things you should do, you are really being lazy. A lazy person will try to get out of doing something by just putting it off until he either forgets about it or someone else does it for him. This is not what God wants us to do. God wants us to be hard workers like the ants.

Instead of putting things off, we should do them as soon as possible and get them out of the way. If you make this a habit, you will find you have plenty of time to do the things you want. Then your mind is clear to think about other things.

Listen to a story about Joe. He had developed a habit of putting things off until the last minute. He would always say, "I'll do it in a minute."

One Saturday Joe's parents decided to teach him a lesson. He had been planning for weeks to go on a fishing trip with his uncle Bob, and today was the big day. Uncle Bob arrived right on time, but Joe's parents told him he couldn't go until he had done his chores and finished his homework.

"I'll do it in a minute," Joe told them.

Joe's parents were firm. "Finish your chores and homework, or you can't go," Dad said.

"Don't worry. I need to pick up some bait. If you get your chores done by the time I get back you can still go with me," Uncle Bob said.

Joe quickly did his chores, then hurriedly scratched down some answers on a sheet of paper. He didn't care if his homework answers were correct or not. Just as he finished, Uncle Bob pulled into the driveway. This time Joe was free to go.

When they got to the lake, Joe was eager to start fishing. They took their poles and the tackle box down to the lake. Uncle Bob started cleaning his fishing rod.

After a few minutes, Joe asked, "Where is the bait?"

"I'll get it in a minute," Uncle Bob said.

Joe waited for what seemed like hours. He kept asking, "Uncle Bob, when are you going to get the bait?"

Every time Joe asked, Uncle Bob gave the same reply.

Finally Uncle Bob went back to the car to get lunch and the bait. When Uncle Bob came back without either one, Joe got angry.

Uncle Bob said, "Don't worry, I'll get them in a minute."

Then Joe realized what Uncle Bob was doing. "You're trying to teach me a lesson, aren't you?"

"That's right, Joe," Uncle Bob said. "Your parents told me how you put off things. They asked me to show you how it feels."

Joe was silent for a long time. Then he asked, "What can I do about it, Uncle Bob?"

"The first thing is to ask Jesus to forgive you for being lazy and then ask Him to help you change that bad habit," Uncle Bob said. "Would you like to pray with me?"

After they finished praying, Joe said, "I'm going to change the way I do things. Starting tomorrow I'll do things as soon as I'm told."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you put things off until the last moment? If so, now is the time to ask God to forgive you. Make up your mind to do your work right away and to do it well. This is a choice you make. Learning to be on time and not putting things off is a big step in becoming the strong Christian God wants you to be.

CRAFT

PINWHEEL

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

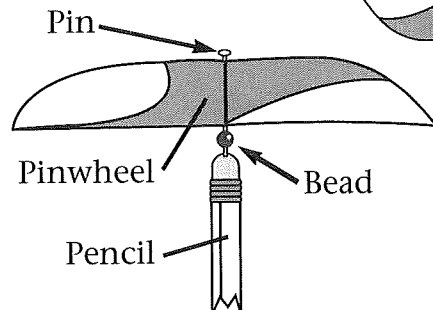
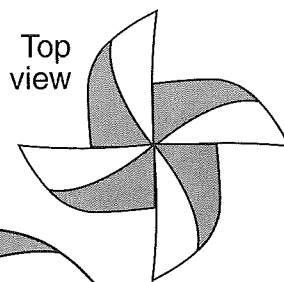
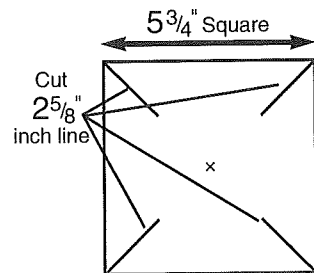
1 piece of paper $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches square

1 pencil with an eraser

1 small bead

1 straight pin with a large round head

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers



DIRECTIONS:

1. Draw a $2\frac{5}{8}$ -inch line from each corner toward the center of the square. Mark the center with an X.
2. Have the boys first color their pinwheels. Encourage them to use different colors for each of the four quadrants.
3. Have the boys cut on the lines from each corner ($2\frac{5}{8}$ inches).
4. Have the boys fold each of the four flaps to the center and run the pin through them and then through the center of the pinwheel.
5. Have the boys place the small bead on the pin that comes out the back of the pinwheel, then stick the pin into the pencil eraser.
6. Now let the boys have fun with their pinwheels. See which way they will turn the fastest: by blowing on them or by moving them in the air.

RECREATION

CATCH THAT FLASH

One player is given a flashlight. The other players stand in the center of the room with their hands joined. All the lights are turned off. After a few seconds the leader calls, "Catch that flash!" Everyone releases hands and hunts for the boy with the flashlight, who must remain in the room and flash his light at least every 10 seconds. Urge him to take chances. He must be stopped and held to be caught. The boy who goes the longest without being caught is the winner.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE PRIZE

TEXT: Isaiah 59:1,2,12,13

On his way to the grocery store Scott passed by Mac's Smoke Shop. His parents never allowed him to go into this store even though it sold other things besides smoking supplies. They said he could just as well buy what he needed someplace else.

As Scott looked in the store window, he noticed a cute puppet—and it was on sale! Scott checked his pockets. He had brought his savings along, intending to buy a book. He decided he'd rather have the puppet. "No one needs to know where I bought it," he whispered to himself, looking around for anyone who might know him.

On the way home, Scott began to wonder how to explain where he got the puppet. Then he had an idea. He hid the bag under the porch steps before going into the house.

That afternoon, Scott went to a school picnic. When he got home, he brought in the puppet and showed it to his mother. "I won it in the marathon race," he explained.

"My! Were all the prizes so nice?" Mother asked. Scott mumbled a reply and hurried to his room to play with the puppet. He didn't enjoy it as much as he had thought he would.

One day Scott's cousin Mark came over while Scott was playing with his new puppet. "Where did you get that?" Mark asked.

Scott felt scared. Mark had been at the picnic. He had won the race Scott claimed to have won. Not knowing what to say, he didn't say anything.

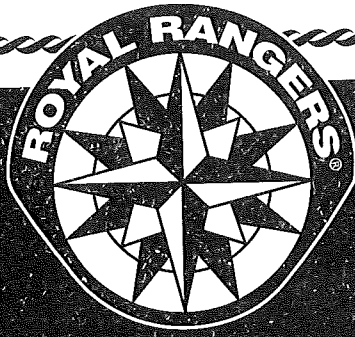
"Where did you get the puppet?" Mark asked again. When Scott still didn't answer, his mother looked up from her work and answered for him. Soon the truth came out.

After Scott had been punished for disobeying and for the lie he used to cover up, Mother reminded him of Numbers 32:23. "No matter how clever we think we are, Scott," she said, "our sins will be found out."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear” (Isaiah 59:1,2). When you do something wrong, are you tempted to try to get out of it by telling a lie? Does that one lie lead to another? You may think God can’t hear you or help you now. If God seems far away and uncaring, it’s not because He is far away. It’s because your sin has come between you and God. Stop right now and admit what you have done. God knows everything. He knows about your sin. God is waiting for you, and He will forgive you. Ask the people you have wronged to forgive you too. Even if you have to be punished, you will feel much happier. Raise your hand if you would like for me to pray with you now. *(Pray with any boys who respond. Assure them that God loves them and will forgive those who are sorry for their sins.)*

TODAY’S KEY: You cannot hide sin.



UNIT NINE

Courageous Missionary

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 9 THEME:

Courageous Missionary

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courageous

LESSON 38:

Dr. Livingstone and the Dark Continent

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to do everything as unto Him and with all our heart

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT IS A BIRD?

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was David Livingstone?
2. Who was Mr. Stanley and why was he looking for Livingstone?
3. Why was Africa once called the Dark Continent?
4. What are some of the exciting things you remember about our story today?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHO'S YOUR BOSS?

TEXT: Colossians 3:23-25

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"It is the Lord Christ you are serving"
(Colossians 3:24, NIV).

"Ye serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:24).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PAPER BAG MASKS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

RED ROVER, RED ROVER

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

DO IT HEARTILY, AS UNTO THE LORD

TEXT: Colossians 3:23-25

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

DR. LIVINGSTONE AND THE DARK CONTINENT

We will travel back in time to a faraway land known as the Dark Continent, which is full of mystery and intrigue (secrets). The year is 1871 and the mysterious land is Africa, but our story is really about one of the greatest missionaries and explorers of all time, David Livingstone.

People in Europe and America believe that Dr. Livingstone is lost because they have not heard from him for 5 years. He left on a trip to explore Africa and find the source of the Nile River. About 2 years ago a man named Henry Stanley went to Africa to find out if Livingstone was still alive. He took some supplies in case Livingstone needed them.

Stanley took 192 men and 6 tons of equipment. Everything had to be carried on foot. It was a long, hard journey and there were many dangers. After traveling for 4 months, their path was blocked by unfriendly Africans who would not let them pass. Stanley's group joined some Arab slave traders and tried to fight the Africans. The Arabs soon ran away in panic. Several of Stanley's men were killed. Many others ran away. Stanley and his men ran to a nearby town and got ready to defend it. Only 54 of his men were left. The Africans closed in but didn't attack, and after 4 days they left.

After a short rest, Stanley took a different way to go around the African forces. Finally, after many more dangers, Stanley arrived in the town of Ujiji. It took him 8 months to get there. Dr. Livingstone had arrived in Ujiji only 13 days earlier. When they first met, Stanley said, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

"Yes," said Livingstone. With a kind smile, he lifted his cap slightly.

Dr. Livingstone was in desperate need of food and supplies. Most of his supplies had been stolen and he had not received any mail in several years. He was also very sick, but Mr. Stanley could not convince him to leave Africa. Stanley stayed with him for 4 months and helped him search for the source of the Nile River, but they did not find it.

A year later, after being sick for quite some time, Dr. Livingstone died. His servant Susi found him kneeling at his bedside praying. Susi finally realized Livingstone was dead when he did not move for several hours. His friends and servants loved him so much, they buried his heart under a mvula tree in Africa. They preserved his body with raw salt, calico, and bark, and carried it 800 miles to the coast so he could be taken to England and be buried there among his own people.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

WHO'S YOUR BOSS?

TEXT: Colossians 3:23-25

Bob pounded his fist into his pillow again and again. The whole thing was unfair! He was sent to his

room for saying a bad word. His father said those same words, and no one punished him.

Hearing noises, Bob glanced out his open window. Three men were working on the road in front of his house. "What do you say we have another little break?" suggested one.

"Sure thing, boss," answered the tallest one. The two men went to sit in the shade of a nearby tree, but the third, a dark-haired man, kept working. Soon the tall man came back and tried to persuade him to join them.

"I've already had my break this afternoon," answered the dark-haired man as he pushed his shovel.

"We all have, but Harry says to take another one. You know the foreman left him in charge," argued the tall man. "He's the boss this afternoon."

"I don't think he has authority to give us extra time off though," said the third man. "Mr. Grant said he wanted the job finished today. We'll have to work hard to get it done."

"You're crazy to turn down a chance to loaf on the job—especially when the boss invites you," the other man said.

"Maybe it seems foolish," the dark-haired man said pleasantly, "but it wouldn't be right for me to take something that isn't mine—time or anything else. Mr. Grant's my first boss, and I do my work for him."

Wow, what a man! Bob thought as he turned from the window. *That guy keeps on working even when his boss sets a bad example for him.* Then a new thought struck him. *I should do the same thing when it comes to using bad language. Even though my father and other people say bad words, I should do what my "first boss" wants—and that's God.* Bob dropped to his knees. "Dear Lord," he prayed, "please help me to use only language that pleases You, even if others don't—including my dad."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23,24). It's hard to do what's right if someone you love and respect is being a poor example. But remember that, first of all, you serve Christ. Do what He approves of, not what others are doing—even if they are family, teachers, or friends. You will receive a reward for what *you* do, not what anyone else does.

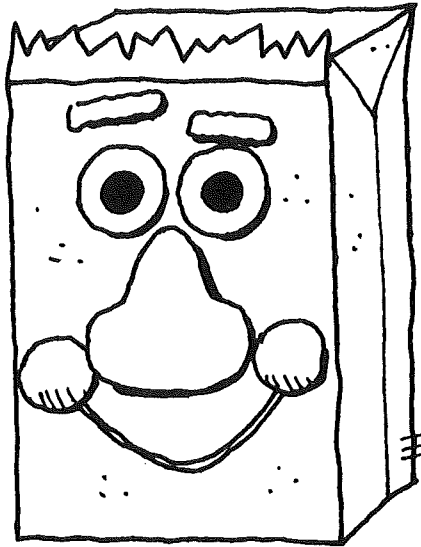
CRAFT

PAPER BAG MASKS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 brown paper bag big enough to fit over the boy's head
Several different colored sheets of construction paper
Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, glue or paste

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Have the boys cut a nose, mouth, eyes, and eyebrows out of colored construction paper.
2. Have the boys glue or paste them on their flat paper bags.
3. Have the boys glue on the whites of the eyes and cut a small hole at eye level in their bags.
4. Have the boys cut a jagged strip of paper and glue it on the top of their bags to form hair.
5. Have the boys color or decorate their bags to make them unique.

Select boys to play the parts of Livingstone, Stanley, Africans who attack Stanley, and Africans who are Livingstone's friends. Read the Western Heritage story again as the boys act out the parts.

RECREATION**RED ROVER, RED ROVER**

Divide the boys into two teams and have them stand about 15 feet apart. Select one boy from each team to be the captain. Choose one team to start. Each boy on that team will hold hands or wrists tightly. The captain of that team will call out, "Red Rover, Red Rover, send [boy's name] right over." Where "boy's name" is, name any player from the other team. That boy will start running and try to break through the other team's line. If he breaks through, he picks any boy, except the captain, and both boys return to the other team. If, on the other hand, the boy does not break through, he then joins that team. Watch the play carefully so that no one gets hurt and so that each boy gets a chance to try and break through. The game is over when the only person left is the captain and he fails to break through the line.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**DO IT HEARTILY, AS UNTO THE LORD****TEXT: Colossians 3:23-25**

Dr. Livingstone put everything into his work. He would not leave Africa because it was the land he loved and wanted to die for. Besides being a great explorer, he was also a great missionary. He loved the African people and did everything he could to lead them to Jesus. Many Africans became Christians because of Dr. Livingstone's work. In fact, you might say that he gave his heart for Africa. This is why the Africans buried his heart in Africa and carried his body to the coast. Dr. Livingstone did everything heartily as unto the Lord. God's Word says:

"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons" (Colossians 3:23-25).

Our Bible tells us to do everything "heartily," or with all our heart, unto the Lord. The word "heartily" means to do it with enthusiasm, enjoyment. This is the way Dr. Livingstone lived. It is the way we should live also. The most important commandment we have from the Lord says, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30).

The Lord will reward us if we love and serve Him. The Bible says, "You will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward" (Colossians 3:24, NIV). We must serve and obey Him in order to get the reward.

The Bible also says, "He that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons" (Colossians 3:25). We choose what we are going to do. God will never force us to love Him. We decide we will obey God's commandments or we will not obey.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

What choices have you made? Have you given your life to Jesus? Are you doing your best to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength? Do you do your chores, the dishes, your homework, cleaning your room, playing ball, and anything else as unto the Lord? If not, today is the right time to ask Jesus to forgive you and help you obey Him.

TODAY'S KEY: Choose to serve God.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 9 THEME:

Courageous Missionary

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courageous

LESSON 39:

The Mysteries of Africa

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God can change our hearts and help us to be what He wants

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE MYSTERIES OF AFRICA

QUESTIONS:

1. What is Mumbo Jumbo?
2. What did Dr. Livingstone believe about the Africans?
3. Why did Livingstone want to explore Africa?
4. What are some of the places Livingstone discovered?
5. Who helped Livingstone begin his explorations?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT MAKES A GREAT MAN?

TEXT: Philippians 4:11-13

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13, NIV).

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

PAPER FROGS

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

PULL OVER

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

I BLEW IT ALREADY

TEXT: Romans 7:15-25

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE MYSTERIES OF AFRICA

In 1840, when Dr. Livingstone first decided to become a missionary to Africa, very little was known about that mysterious continent, which is why it was called the Dark Continent. There were many stories about the strange habits of Africans. They were considered pagans (a person who worships idols) by the missionaries. Their music, dancing, and life-style were quite different from ours and many of them would not accept either Christian or civilized ways.

Have you ever heard the words “mumbo jumbo”? It means a bunch of words that don’t make sense. Many years ago, Europeans used this as the name of an idol worshiped by the Africans. The Africans believed Mumbo Jumbo had power to protect them from evil spirits and to scare the women into obedience. But it was the way the Africans worshiped their idols that became known as mumbo jumbo to the rest of the world. Their religious ceremonies included dancing, singing, and music. Perhaps you have seen pictures of their dances or heard about drums made out of hollow logs that could be heard for miles.

Dr. Livingstone believed that Africans, along with all other men and women, came from the same ancestors—Adam and Eve. He thought their strange customs and pagan (ungodly) ideas came from being shut off from civilized nations. He also thought it was unnecessary to understand the Africans’ language and how they thought before the gospel could be preached to them. He wasn’t concerned about his own comfort. He said, “I still prefer poverty and mission service to riches and ease. It’s my choice.”

Dr. Livingstone also had a strong desire to explore the unknown areas of Africa. During his 32 years as a missionary, he made four big exploring trips into the center of Africa. As a missionary he didn’t have money to explore as he wanted to, but he met two wealthy Englishmen, Mr. Oswell and Mr. Murray, who were in Africa to hunt big animals. They paid for the trip. During that first exploration of South Africa, they discovered Lake Ngami. Two years later Livingstone and Oswell discovered the Zambesi River. On his second trip, Livingstone started from the center of Africa and went to the west coast. Then he crossed Africa from west to east. There were many hardships, but there were also many discoveries, such as one of the highest waterfalls in Africa. The Africans called it *Mosiwa Tunya*, meaning “smoke that thunders.” He named it Victoria Falls, after Queen Victoria of England.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

WHAT MAKES A GREAT MAN?

TEXT: Philippians 4:11-13

When we think of all of the things Dr. Livingstone did during his lifetime, it is easy to understand why he is considered one of the greatest African missionaries

and explorers of all time. One thing that really helped him become a great man was his faith in God and the belief that the blood of Jesus can cleanse everyone’s sin.

Livingstone’s parents taught him about Jesus. He asked Jesus to forgive his sins. Everything was like new. He had no more guilt and he felt a great love for God because of what He had done in his life. Because of God’s love, he decided to give his life helping people. That’s why he went to medical school.

Dr. Livingstone’s belief in God was the reason for everything he did. It was the key that helped him become a great man. That same key (belief in God that changes your life) is available to you today. If you truly believe that the blood of Jesus can wash away your sin and guilt, then you should love Him with all your heart and do everything you can to serve Him, just as Dr. Livingstone did.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. . . . I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:11,13). Livingstone gave his life in serving others. He lived this verse. Have you given your life to Jesus yet? Have you asked Him to forgive you your sins and come into your heart? Why not do it right now while God is speaking to your heart? He will give you strength to live for Him.

CRAFT

PAPER FROGS

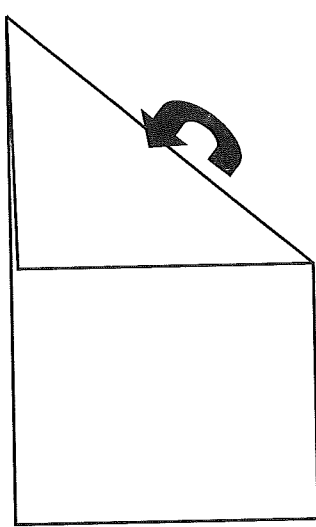
MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:
1 index card (3 inches by 5 inches)
Shared items: crayons or markers

DIRECTIONS:

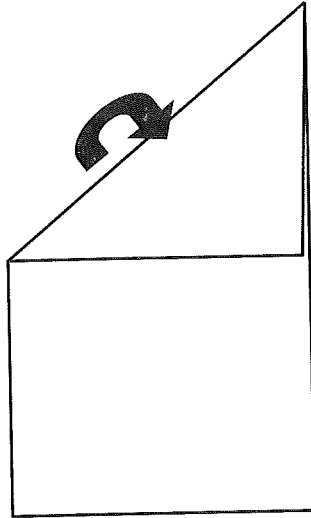
Before the meeting: Make the frog so you will be able to teach the boys how to do it.

1. Have each boy color his card green or brown.
2. Tell him to fold his index card following your directions. You must keep good control of the meeting so all the boys are paying attention to your directions.
3. When complete, have the boys color the frog’s mouth red.
4. When properly made, this frog will jump when a person presses its back down, then quickly lifts his finger.



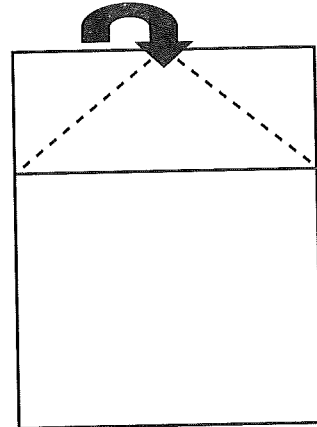
1

Fold to left
and reopen



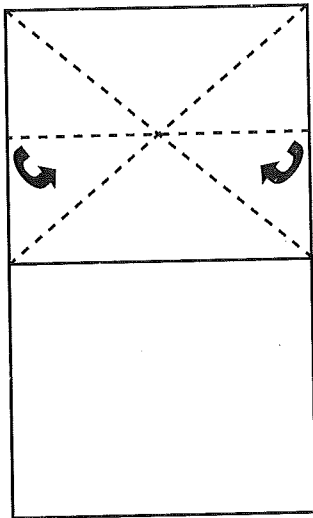
2

Fold to right
and reopen



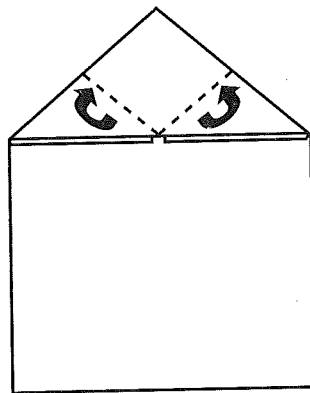
3

Fold down
and reopen



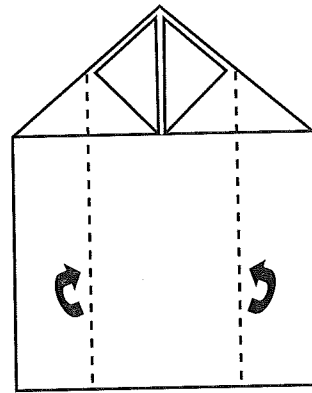
4

Tuck centers in
as you fold down



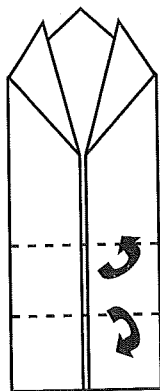
5

Fold corners up



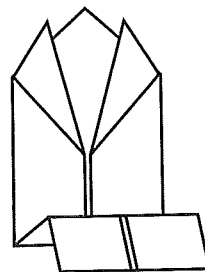
6

Fold sides
toward center

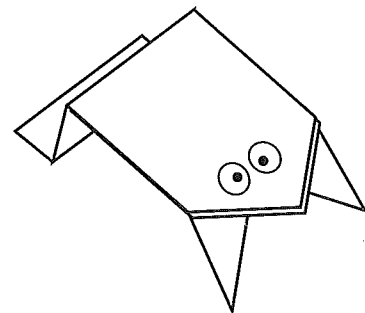


7

Fold forward
then back as
shown



8



Top view of frog

RECREATION

PULL OVER

Two teams line up facing each other with a chalk line drawn between them. At the signal *go*, members of each team try to pull their opponents across the line. When a player has been pulled across, he automatically becomes a member of that team and joins in pulling his former teammates across. The game lasts until all players are on one side of the line or until a time limit has been reached (the side with the most players is the winner). Players giving in too easily should be disqualified. Allow no pulling of clothing.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

I BLEW IT ALREADY

TEXT: Romans 7:15-25

Tammy took her pen and wrote carefully on a piece of paper, "I promise never to fight with my brother David again." Then she took a piece of tape and fastened the paper on her door so she wouldn't forget what she had written. All went well for 2 hours, because David was at his friend's house. Then he came home.

"You dummy!" David yelled at Tammy. "You were riding my bike, weren't you? There's a scratch on it!"

"I rode it," Tammy admitted, "but I didn't scratch it."

"You did too," David screeched.

Before Tammy knew what was happening, she and her brother were having a fight.

Tammy was mad at herself. "I promised myself never to fight with David again. I've already broken my promise," she told Mother. "It'll never work, so why bother trying?"

"You sound like the apostle Paul," said Mother. Tammy looked at her mother in surprise. "The apostle Paul?"

"Yes," Mother said, nodding. "He wrote that he often did the things he knew were wrong and didn't do the things he knew were right. It was because his old sinful nature was still active within him."

"What did the apostle Paul do about it?" Tammy asked.

"He understood that doing right comes only through Christ," Mother replied. "It's not something we can do by ourselves, Tammy. There are ways you can improve your relationship with David, but saying you will never fight with him again doesn't work for a couple of reasons. You may be trying to do it on your own and it sounds like you're trying to live in the future as well as today. You and your brother are both human. Instead of saying, 'I will never fight with my brother,' why not try doing something nice for him each day? I think the result would be less fighting."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you set impossible goals for yourself, such as "I'll never be bad again"? We all have a sinful nature within us. We are human just as the apostle Paul was. We want to do right, but don't do it. The things we don't want to do, that's what we do (Romans 7:15). It's the struggle between our old nature (the part in us that wants to do wrong and forget about doing right) and God's Spirit in us. God will help us as we keep trying to do what He wants. Christians do not do what is right all the time; we fail. Recognize that you cannot make a change in your life without the Lord's help. Be hopeful in your goals, make sure they are reasonable, and rely on Jesus to help you achieve them.

TODAY'S KEY: Change comes through the Lord.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 9 THEME:

Courageous Missionary

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courageous

LESSON 40:

The Dangers of Africa

LESSON AIM:

To teach that Christians need to put aside anything that would "slow" their commitment to Jesus

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE DANGERS OF AFRICA

QUESTIONS:

1. Why were the Africans hunting the lions?
2. What happened to Dr. Livingstone when he tried to kill the lion?
3. What was Dr. Livingstone thinking when the lion attacked him?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DIE FOR?

TEXT: Acts 7:54-60

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7, NIV).

"God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

MODELING CLAY LIONS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HAND WRESTLE

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE RACE OF LIFE

TEXT: 1 Timothy 2:3,4; Hebrews 12:1,2

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE DANGERS OF AFRICA

Dr. Livingstone had a famous incident in Africa with a lion. It happened shortly after he moved into the Mabotsa mission. About a year earlier he had started a mission of his own. He chose Mabotsa. By the end of the year he was able to begin living there with an African Christian named Mebalwe, who served as his assistant.

There were many lions in the area, which made the Africans of Mabotsa nervous. One day the lions killed nine sheep near the village in broad daylight. The Africans left their work and went to hunt the killers. When Dr. Livingstone heard about it, he went to help. By the time he arrived, the Africans had found the lions. They had formed a circle around the lions and were attacking them with their spears. The lions broke through the circle and escaped.

Soon after that, Dr. Livingstone suddenly came upon a lion in his path. He shot and wounded the lion, but while he was reloading his gun it attacked him.

Dr. Livingstone looked around just as the lion leaped at him. They fell together to the ground. Growling close to Livingstone's ear, the lion shook him like a dog shakes a rat. Dr. Livingstone was in shock from the shaking. He turned and saw the lion, who had one paw on Livingstone's head, looking toward Mebalwe, his assistant. He was trying to shoot the lion. Mebalwe's gun misfired. The lion ran and attacked Mebalwe. Another man then tried to spear the lion. He left Mebalwe and caught the man. Then the bullets with which Dr. Livingstone had shot the lion finally worked. The lion fell dead.

It was a very narrow escape. Dr. Livingstone was seriously injured by the lion. Although his arm was broken, he didn't get sick from the bite. But Dr. Livingstone was the only doctor around and there was no hospital in the jungle. So he told Edwards, one of the men with him, how to set the bone and sew up the skin. It was very painful for Livingstone, because they had no anesthetic to deaden the feeling in his arm.

One man who wrote about David Livingstone asked him what thoughts went through his mind when the lion attacked him. Livingstone told him he was wondering what part the lion would eat first!

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DIE FOR?

TEXT: Acts 7:54-60

Our Christian character trait for this unit is courageous. It is part of the Royal Ranger Code and means we should be brave in spite of danger, criticism, or threats. Dr. Livingstone was a brave man. He was not afraid of the lions, even after being attacked by one. He told Edwards how to sew up his shoulder even though it was very painful for him. Perhaps you can

think of some other brave men who were not afraid of danger.

Can you name a Bible character who was brave? (*Let the boys respond.*) A man named Stephen was very brave. Stephen was the first Christian martyr—someone who was killed because he believed in Jesus. Stephen's story is found in the Book of Acts. He was arrested because he told the priests and people about Jesus. Here is what happened then.

"When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, and said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep" (Acts 7:54-60).

Stephen was not afraid to die for what he believed. In fact, he followed Jesus' example by asking God to forgive the men who were killing him. Stephen was brave enough to tell the people they had killed God's Son. I think Stephen is a good example for us today as Christians. We should be willing to suffer for Jesus rather than go along with the crowd. Jesus is looking for people who are not afraid to serve Him. Remember, fear is of the devil, but 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you willing to be brave for Jesus? When someone asks you to do something you know is wrong, do you go along because you are afraid to say no? It is time for you to decide if you are going to take a stand for Jesus or not.

CRAFT

MODELING CLAY LIONS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 piece of modeling clay

1 sheet of waxed paper (12 inches by 18 inches)

Shared items: pencils for making eyes in figures

DIRECTIONS:

1. Before passing out the modeling clay, give each boy a sheet of waxed paper and instruct him to keep the modeling clay on the paper.

2. Give each boy a piece of modeling clay and ask him to form lions and spears and any other items that remind him of the Western Heritage story.
3. Have the boys act out the lion attack of the story.

RECREATION

HAND WRESTLE

Contestants toe opposite sides of the same line. On a signal they shake hands and try to pull their opponent over the line. The first player to pull his opponent off balance is the winner. Do not allow the boys to pull clothing.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE RACE OF LIFE

TEXT: 1 Timothy 2:3,4; Hebrews 12:1,2

"Grandpa!" Cory called as he burst into the house. "Our school is sponsoring a big race, and I'm going to run in it!"

Grandpa Jones chuckled as he looked up from reading his Bible. "You'd better slow down, or you'll be worn out before the race starts," he teased.

"It's in 4 weeks," Cory said, "and I can't wait! First prize is \$20. That would buy a lot of candy!"

Grandpa looked concerned. "If you're serious about running, you'd better cut down on junk foods," he said. "I ran a few races in my college days, and I remember the coach emphasizing the importance of a good diet."

"My gym teacher said the same thing," groaned Cory. "I guess I see his point. But how can I ever live without candy bars and sodas and taco chips for 4 long weeks? Couldn't I have them just once in a while?"

"I think you're looking at it the wrong way," replied Grandpa. "There's no law against a runner eating candy or taco chips before a race. It's just that if you're really serious about winning, you'll want to cut out anything that doesn't help you reach your goal."

Cory thought for a moment. "I really do want to win that race," he said finally. "I guess candy and snacks aren't as important to me as the prize. There's really no sense running if I don't do everything I can to try to win."

"That's an important truth," Grandpa said, nodding. "It can be applied to spiritual things too. Sometimes I hear you complain because you can't do some of the things your unsaved friends do, Cory. If we really want to reach the goal—that of becoming like Jesus and serving Him—we won't mind doing without a few harmful or unnecessary activities in order to please the Lord."

"I see what you mean," Cory said thoughtfully. "I need to start being as serious about serving the Lord as I am about winning that race!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:1,2). Cory decided not to let junk food keep him from doing his best in racing. Are there things that keep you from doing your best as a Christian? Places you want to go? TV programs you want to watch? Friends who want you to join them in activities your parents disapprove of? Some things may not, in themselves, be sinful, but if they keep you from serving the Lord, they're wrong. Make up your mind to get serious about serving God. Stop doing those things that get in the way.

TODAY'S KEY: Say no to doing wrong things.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 9 THEME:

Courageous Missionary

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Courageous

LESSON 41:

The Bakwena and Chief Bubi

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to work for the reward He has for us

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE BAKWENA AND CHIEF BUBI

QUESTIONS:

1. Why was the Bakwena tribe called "mighty hunters"?
2. How did the Bakwena tribe treat their women?
3. How did Dr. Livingstone make rain?
4. How did Dr. Livingstone get the Africans to work for free?
5. How was the work good for the Africans?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE BURIED TREASURE

TEXT: Matthew 6:19-21

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven"
(Matthew 6:20, NIV).

"Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven"
(Matthew 6:20).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

CRAFT STICK POT HOLDER

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

PING-PONG BLOW

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THE WORKS OF A MAN

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 3:11-15

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE BAKWENA AND CHIEF BUBI

The Bakwena tribe lived in southern Africa. They built the round style of huts you may have seen in some books about Africa. The Bakwena women did most of the hard work, such as building houses and tilling the ground. The men would sit around talking or sewing when they were not out hunting. Dr. Livingstone tried to make them feel ashamed for treating the women so mean, but they replied, "Oh, it makes them strong. It is good for them." The men were brave and great hunters, often killing a lion with nothing but a spear in one hand and a cloth wound around the other arm to thrust into its mouth. They would sit quietly while Dr. Livingstone sewed up their wounds.

The tribe was suffering because it had not rained for a long time. The village witch doctor was also the rainmaker, but he was not having any success. Livingstone told Chief Bubi he could make rain by digging a canal from the river to water their plants. This idea pleased Chief Bubi and his tribe. Even the chief's own doctor helped dig the canal. He worked hard, laughing at the sly foreigner who could make rain. With only one spade, the men used sticks sharpened to a point for digging the long canal.

This was the first time a missionary had gotten the tribe to work without getting paid. At one point during the work, some men from another tribe came to visit. They said the Bakwena should demand payment for their work, so they did. Dr. Livingstone told them he was just being kind to show them how to do such work; he said they should pay him for the training. Since they were dissatisfied, he would just stop the canal. Then he left them. They were sorry they had gone too far and begged him not to stop showing them how to work. The chief himself said Livingstone must not think of leaving them alone; they were just acting foolishly. Dr. Livingstone didn't have any more problems with the tribe, and they finished the canal.

The tribe was amazed when water began to flow through the canal to their fields. Dr. Livingstone said he had had to consider their future. It was important to get the men to work. Just giving to them without making them feel they had earned what they got would have been bad: It would just make them want more without working for it.

If a person has to work for what he gets, he will feel that he has earned it.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE BURIED TREASURE

TEXT: Matthew 6:19-21

As Julie and Jerry were digging in the sand at the edge of the river, Julie called, "Hey, look! Here's something gold. Maybe it's some treasure."

"Let's dig it out carefully," Jerry said. A few minutes later he was holding a gold watch in his hand.

The children decided to take it to Mr. Poole's jewelry store to see if he knew how much it was worth. After Mr. Poole looked at the watch, he nodded. "Mrs. Johnson bought this watch for her husband shortly before she died," he said. "Let me clean it before you take it to him."

"You know," Jerry said as he watched Mr. Poole, "we thought we had found some buried treasure at first."

"Mr. Johnson will think so too." Mr. Poole smiled. "Tell him 'hello' for me. It has been a long time since I've seen him. Mrs. Johnson was a Christian. She attended our church, but her husband wouldn't have anything to do with Jesus and never even visits church anymore."

When Jerry and Julie went to Mr. Johnson's house, he was very surprised to see his watch. He was pleased that Mr. Poole had cleaned it. "Hmmm. Fine man, Mr. Poole," he said. "He goes to the same church where my Sarah went."

"Oh, we go there too!" Jerry said.

"You do, eh? Is that why you kids did an old man such a great favor?" Mr. Johnson wanted to know.

"We're doing what we know is right," Julie said. "It's not because we go to church, it's because we belong to Jesus."

"That sounds like something my Sarah would have said," Mr. Johnson said softly. Then he offered them a reward for the return of his watch.

"No, thanks," Jerry said, refusing the money Mr. Johnson held out. "I know what we would like—would you please be our guest for church on Sunday?"

"How can I say no?" Mr. Johnson smiled. "You just don't know what a special treasure this watch is to me."

As the children headed home, Julie sighed. "Wasn't that neat? If Mr. Johnson receives Jesus as Savior, that will be the real treasure."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

What do you think is the very best treasure you could find in this world? If you have Jesus, you have found the best treasure! The Bible tells us, "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:20,21). If you do what you can to help others know Him, you are finding more treasure—treasure that will last for eternity. Any work or kindness we do for Jesus results in treasure in heaven for us.

CRAFT

CRAFT STICK POT HOLDER

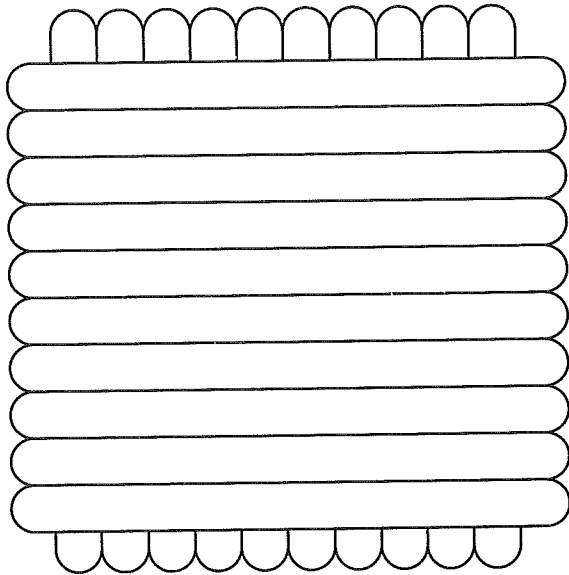
MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

20 small craft sticks ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches)

1 sheet of waxed paper (12 inches by 18 inches)

Shared items: crayons or markers, glue



DIRECTIONS:

1. Give the boys the waxed paper first and have them lay it on the table to prevent any glue from getting on the table.
2. On top of the waxed paper have the boys lay out 10 craft sticks side by side to form a $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch square.
3. Have the boys run a bead of glue down the middle of each craft stick.
4. Have the boys lay 10 more craft sticks on top of and perpendicular to the craft sticks with glue on them.
5. After the glue sets, have the boys color the pot holders with markers or crayons.

RECREATION

PING-PONG BLOW

Divide the group into two teams. The teams stand on opposite sides of a table. Place a Ping-Pong ball in the center of the table. The object of the game is to blow the ball off the opponents' side of the table.

Hands must not be used in the game. Each time the ball goes off the opponents' side of the table, the team scores one point. Set whatever point total you wish.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

THE WORKS OF A MAN

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

Today we learned from Dr. Livingstone that if a person has to work for what he gets, he will feel that he has earned it. That is what God wants us to do as Christians. He wants us to work so we can earn a reward when we get to heaven.

However, our salvation is not a reward. It is a gift given to us by God.

We are not talking about our salvation here, we are talking about our works. Works is what we do by obeying God's Word after we are saved. The Bible says this about our works:

"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward" (1 Corinthians 3:13,14).

Every time we read and obey what the Bible tells us, such as "Love one another," "Be patient," "Be kind," "Obey your parents," "Help those in need," "Love God," and many other commands, we are laying up treasures in heaven. Our good works for God are like gold and silver. When we are disobedient or don't do what God's Word tells us to do, our works are like wood, hay, or stubble. These things will be burned up by fire in the day of judgment. We will receive a reward for everything that is not burned up by the fire.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you putting treasure in heaven by your good works? Have you been disobedient to God's Word or are you building gold, silver, and precious stones by obeying God's Word? Today is the right time to give your life completely to Jesus, to ask Him to forgive you for your sins and help you do good things for Him in your life as a Christian. (*Pray with the boys that God will give them strength to do good.*)

TODAY'S KEY: Work hard today for tomorrow's reward.



UNIT TEN

**Moved
By A
Mission**

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 10 THEME:

Moved by a Mission

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

An Overcomer

LESSON 42:

The Evils of Slavery

LESSON AIM:

To teach that it is wrong to want something enough to cause others harm to get it

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE EVILS OF SLAVERY

QUESTIONS:

1. What are some of the evils of slavery?
2. What did Livingstone discover on his exploration of the Zambesi River?
3. Why did the Africans go to war?
4. What did the Africans get in exchange for the slaves?
5. What did the slave traders do with the slaves?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T BE GREEDY

TEXT: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil"
(1 Timothy 6:10, NIV).

"For the love of money is the root of all evil"
(1 Timothy 6:10).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

GREED MAZE

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

STALKING

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

I WISH IT WERE MINE

TEXT: Luke 12:13-15

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THE EVILS OF SLAVERY

On his first visit home Dr. Livingstone told the people of England about Africa. He also wrote a book called *Missionary Travels*. This got the people of England so excited they asked him to go back to Africa and explore the Zambesi River. The government of England gave him a steamboat and a large crew of men to help him. During this exploration of Africa, he discovered one of the great slave routes.

The year was 1859, and Dr. Livingstone had just discovered Lake Nyasa. That is where he met a group of slave hunters. They were mean-looking men, carrying long guns. The Arab leaders tried to sell several young children as slaves to Dr. Livingstone. When they learned he was English, they seemed afraid. During the night they ran away.

Livingstone and his men of Makololo were not slaveholders. When they met men who had been made slaves, the Makololo men wanted to kill the slave traders. If they had freed the slaves, it would not have helped them. They would soon have been captured by nearby villagers and sold as slaves again. Some of the African chiefs sold their own people as slaves. The chiefs made excuses for this by saying they sold only people who were criminals. But orphans also disappeared suddenly.

The chiefs were tempted to sell their people because of the money they got. They had no money of their own for buying things made in other countries, such as rings, pottery, and cloth. The slave traders would give the chiefs 4 yards of cloth for a man, 3 for a woman, and 2 for a child.

The slave trade caused many wars among the Africans who became greedy for the things the traders had. They made war just to capture prisoners so they could trade them for goods from the slave traders. Dr. Livingstone wrote that many people's lives were ruined because of slave trading. It was a terrible evil for the people of Africa.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T BE GREEDY

TEXT: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Some Africans were greedy. They wanted the things the slave traders had. They would fight and kill their neighbors just so they would have something to trade. Today people still want things, and many are willing to hurt others to get them. Jesus doesn't want us to be like that. He doesn't want us to be greedy. Listen to what God's Word has to say about this.

"Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare. . . . For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves

through with many sorrows" (1 Timothy 6:6-10).

To want things is natural, but God is not pleased when we want things more than we want Him. The Bible says we should be content (satisfied) with what we have and not covet, that is, really want, what other people have. In fact, one of the Ten Commandments says, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house . . . or anything that belongs to your neighbor" (Exodus 20:17, NIV).

The desire for things comes from our sinful nature, the part inside us that ignores doing good and wants to do wrong. A greedy desire for, or the love of, money (which we use to buy things) is wrong. The Bible says the love of money is what causes all evil. A trap is used to capture a wild animal. That is what the love of money is to those who want to be rich. It is a trap that will cause people to do foolish and harmful things. That is what we do when we love money more than we love God.

The Bible also says that if we are eager for the things money can buy, then we have turned away from our faith in Jesus and have brought ourselves many problems. Do you know what it feels like when someone hurts your feelings and you begin to cry? That is the kind of grief or sorrow the love of money will bring.

You may be thinking, *Not me, I don't love money, or I don't see anything wrong with having nice things that I want*. Be careful! Satan likes to make us think we are stronger than we are or he makes sin look better than it is. He doesn't want us to know it's like a beautiful fishing lure—it disguises a very big hook. It is his way of tricking us into loving things more than God. Don't let him do it!

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Does God have first place in your heart and life? Are you satisfied with what He gives you? Is having money or things more important to you than anything else? If so, you need to give your heart to Jesus and put Him first in your life. You can do that today by being sorry for your sin and asking Jesus to forgive you.

CRAFT

GREED MAZE

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 craft illustration for this lesson

Shared items: crayons

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys find the way past the "greed" traps to being happy on the craft illustration on page 192. Encourage them to color the maze after finding the correct path past the greed traps.
2. Give a small prize, such as a sticker, for the boys who can explain why the things in the maze are traps.

RECREATION

STALKING

One boy sits blindfolded in the middle of a circle. On a signal, another boy tries to sneak in and touch him. If he succeeds, he sits in the center. If the boy in the center hears him and points to him before he is touched, he goes back to the outside of the circle.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

I WISH IT WERE MINE

TEXT: Luke 12:13-15

When Rick saw Greg's hand shoot up at show-and-tell time, he felt jealous. Greg always had something new to show. This time it was a new baseball mitt—the very one Rick had been admiring in Barman's store window. Rick wished that mitt were his! All day he kept thinking about that mitt. It wasn't fair! Greg's father was rich, and Greg got everything he wanted. Why couldn't Rick have what he wanted just once?

As Rick left school that afternoon, he was surprised as he passed the baseball field. Close to the backstop lay the mitt. Rick picked it up, glancing around to make sure no one saw him. He'd return it to Greg in the morning, but tonight—just tonight—he'd pretend it was his.

That evening Rick had a great time playing catch with his brother. When Dad asked where he got the

mitt, Rick stammered a bit. "Uh . . . well, one of the guys loaned it to me for the evening."

In the morning Rick "forgot" to take the mitt to school. When Greg asked if anyone had seen his mitt, Rick didn't say anything. A week passed, and still the mitt lay in his room. It was such a dandy—but Rick couldn't play with it. Dad might ask questions again. Since it would be embarrassing to return it to Greg now, Rick just shoved it to the back of his closet. That's where Mother found it.

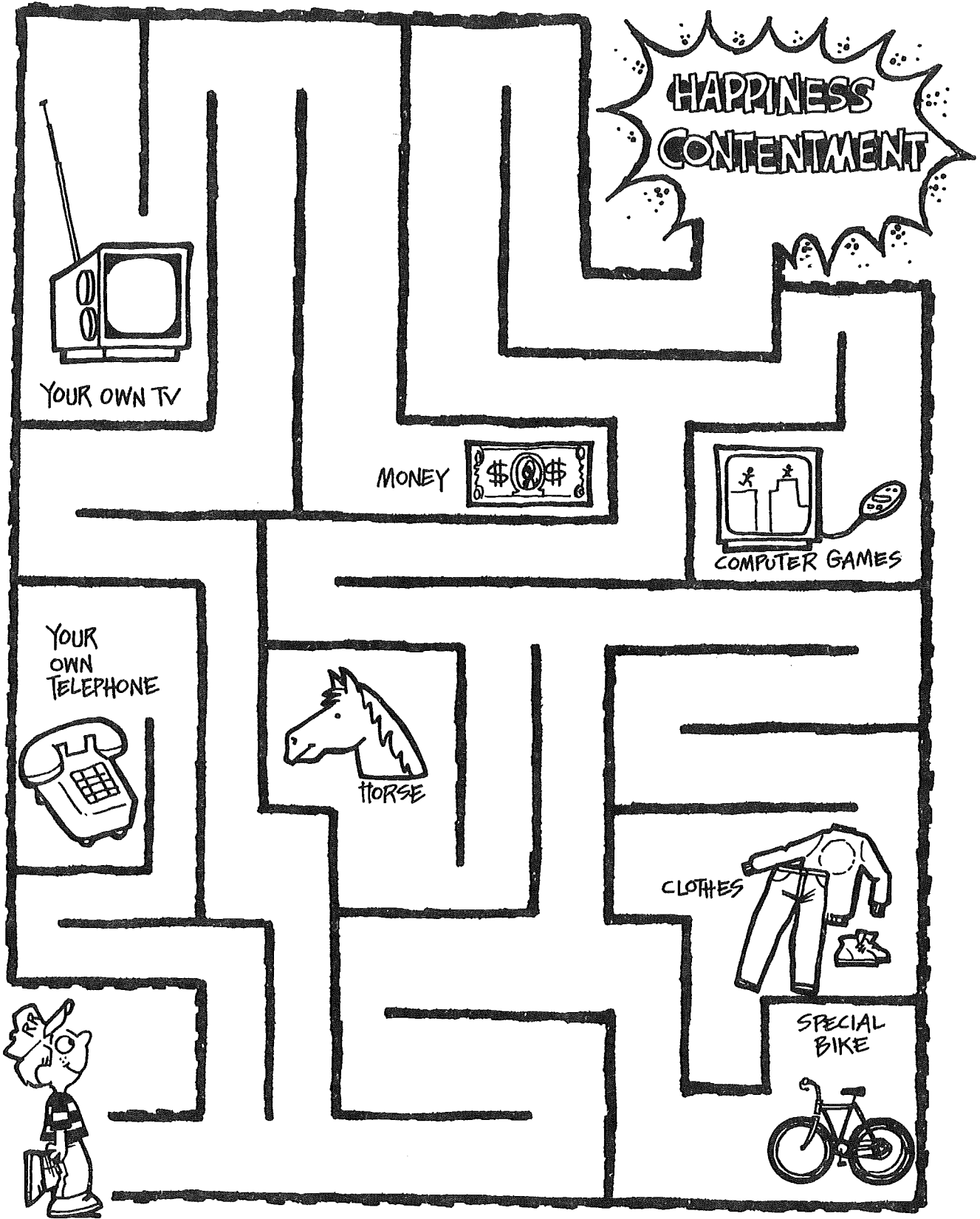
Mother asked Rick about the mitt. "I—I just wanted it so much," Rick said. "I never meant to keep it. I just wanted to try it out."

"But you did keep it, didn't you?" replied Mother. "Now you'll have to go to Greg and ask him to forgive you. Honey, the real trouble is with your heart. Down deep in your heart, you wanted something that wasn't yours. You coveted it. Instead of asking God to forgive you and make you content, you went on thinking about the thing you wanted. This led you to lie and to steal. You need to ask God to forgive you."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). That's a warning to be on guard against greed. Life is more than just having things. Does someone have something you really want? Do you keep longing for it and wishing it were yours? Careful! God says you must not covet it. Admire it, yes—but then turn your mind to other things. Friends, family, and God are more important than things.

TODAY'S KEY: Don't covet.



Follow the right path to stay out of the "greed" traps and reach happiness.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 10 THEME:

Moved by a Mission

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

An Overcomer

LESSON 43:

How Dr. Livingstone Freed the Slaves

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God blesses those who choose to obey Him

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT IS A BIRD?

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Dr. Livingstone set up a base camp?
2. What did Dr. Livingstone fear would happen if he freed the slaves?
3. What did Dr. Livingstone and his men do?
4. What were the black slave drivers doing?
5. What happened when the slave drivers saw the Englishmen?
6. What did the slaves do when they were freed?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE CHOICES WE MAKE

TEXT: Romans 8:6-8,13

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of . . . eternal life" (1 Timothy 6:12, NIV).

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life" (1 Timothy 6:12).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

FINGER PAINTING

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

SPOON CARRY RELAY

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

A RIGHT CHOICE

TEXT: Psalm 119:1-8

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

HOW DR. LIVINGSTONE FREED THE SLAVES

During the Zambesi expedition Dr. Livingstone set up a base camp in the town of Tete. He could leave most of his supplies in Tete while he and his men explored the lands in the center of Africa. He didn't want to carry more supplies than he needed. It would have taken several hundred men to carry all of the supplies into the jungle. When the supplies ran low he would simply return to the base camp and get more.

On one of the trips, they stopped in a village to get new carriers for their supplies. They were told a Portuguese slave-party (Portuguese men with a group of slaves) on its way to Tete would soon pass through the village. Dr. Livingstone and his men wondered what they should do. If they helped free the slaves, the angry Portuguese slave-party might destroy their supplies in Tete. On the other hand, the slave trade was hurting the good work Dr. Livingstone was doing. They decided, regardless of the consequences, to do what they could to stop the slave trading.

Soon the slave-party, a long line of chained men, women, and children, came around the hill and into view. The black slave drivers carried guns and wore finery. They marched proudly in the front, middle, and rear of the line; some of them were blowing loud notes on long tin horns. They seemed to feel that they were doing a great thing. The moment they saw the English, they ran off into the forest. Only the chief of the party remained.

The captive slaves knelt and loudly clapped their hands to say thanks. Soon the women and children were cut free. It was more difficult to free the men: Each had his neck in the fork of a stick 6 or 7 feet long. An iron rod was attached at both ends across their throats. With a saw, found in the baggage of a churchman, one by one the men were freed. The women were told to take the meal they were carrying and cook breakfast for themselves and the children. They seemed to think this was too good to be true; but after a little encouragement, they made a splendid fire with the slave-sticks and fastenings. They had worn these through many a sad night and weary day. Two of the women had been shot the day before for trying to untie their leather strips. This was to keep them from trying to escape. One woman's baby had been killed because she could not carry her load and the baby. And one man had been killed because he had fallen down, too tired to walk farther.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE CHOICES WE MAKE

TEXT: Romans 8:6-8, 13

In our story Dr. Livingstone and his men had to make a choice about freeing the slaves. They were afraid if they did help the slaves, the Portuguese would destroy their supplies to get even. The slave trade was hurting the good work Dr. Livingstone was doing. The Africans were fighting and killing each other because of the slave trade.

Just like Dr. Livingstone, we have to make decisions, or choices, about many things in life. The most important choice we will ever make is asking Jesus to forgive our sins and come into our hearts. Even after we have given our hearts to Jesus, we must still make choices every day. God's Word says, "The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. . . . If you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live" (Romans 8:7,8,13, NIV).

Paul said, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31). He meant that he put to death his sinful nature every day. He did this by choosing to do right and please God. This is something we must all do if we are going to be ready when Jesus comes back for His church. We must kill, or put to death, our sinful nature every day by choosing to do what the Bible tells us to do.

God's Word tells us, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life" (1 Timothy 6:12). When we fight someone physically, we use all the strength and energy we have because we want to win. This is the same way we fight against our sinful nature. We must use all the strength and energy we have to overcome our sinful desires and make right choices. We choose to obey, to be patient, to be kind, and in many other ways please God. The battle we fight as Christians is in our minds. It is in our minds that sinful thoughts first come.

Has anyone ever told you to count to 10 before you speak when you get angry? This is a good rule to follow because it gives you time for your body to settle down and your mind to think before you speak. Then, instead of saying the first thing that comes into your mind, you can put to death evil thoughts by choosing not to say something in anger. Instead of getting really mad inside because someone has done something that hurt you, you learn to forgive. This is not an easy thing to do. When someone has hurt us badly, we must not allow ourselves to keep the angry thoughts that come into our minds. If we refuse to keep angry thoughts, we are choosing to live the way God wants us to.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have a hard time forgiving someone who has hurt you? Are you letting those angry thoughts that come into your mind control what you do or say? If you are, it is time to ask Jesus to forgive you. Fight the good fight of faith by choosing to throw out sinful thoughts.

CRAFT

FINGER PAINTING

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 sheet of finger paint paper (shiny on one side)
- 4 sheets of old newspaper (to protect the table)
- 1 small craft stick

Shared items: finger paint, plastic cups

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys spread out the newspaper on the table.
2. Put the finger paint paper on the newspaper, shiny side up, and wet it thoroughly. Smooth out the wrinkles.
3. Pour small amounts of finger paint into the plastic cups so each group of boys will have access to finger paints.
4. Have the boys apply finger paints in small amounts on the paper and spread them around.
5. Create other colors by mixing several colors together.
6. They can erase by wiping with a paper towel or clean cloth.
7. Keep the paints moist by adding small amounts of water when needed.
8. Let the wet finger painting dry thoroughly after it's finished.
9. The craft stick is used to write the following Bible verse on the finger painting when it is finished:

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life"
(1 Timothy 6:12).

RECREATION

SPOON CARRY RELAY

Set up the playing area outdoors with a bucket of salt or sugar at the starting line and two plastic cups about 10 to 15 feet away. Divide the boys into two teams and have them stand behind the starting line. Give the first boy in each line a plastic spoon. The object of the game is for the boy to carry a spoonful of salt or sugar from the bucket at the starting line and dump it in the cup for his team and then run back and hand the spoon to the next person in line. The first team to fill their cup is the winner. The faster the boy tries to run, the less salt or sugar he will have when he gets to his cup. Encourage the boys to go slowly.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

A RIGHT CHOICE

TEXT: Psalm 117:1-7

"Hey, Steve! How many raffle tickets do you want?" George asked as the boys walked home from school.

"None," Steve replied. "I don't buy raffle tickets."

"I'm not asking you to buy any," George said.

"How many do you want to sell? Our class is supposed to sell them to earn money for our class project, you know."

"It doesn't seem right to sell them to other people when I don't believe in them myself," Steve replied.

George frowned. "If you don't sell tickets, you won't be doing your share, Steve," he scolded. "Let me know tomorrow how many you'll take."

Steve sighed. Should he give in and sell the tickets? Other kids in his class were Christians, and it didn't seem to bother them. Maybe he should "do his share" as George said. He really agreed with Dad that buying raffle tickets was like gambling, and gambling was like stealing. He didn't know what to do.

That evening at a father-and-son banquet, Steve saw a film on the life of Eric Liddell. Eric, a Scotsman, had been expected to win a gold medal in the 100 meter race during the 1924 Olympics. He refused to run when he learned the race would be held on Sunday. He felt it was important to honor God by keeping a day special for Him—more important than winning a race. Later, Eric was able to compete in the 400 meter race and win a gold medal.

After seeing the film, Steve knew what he had to do. "I'd like to try to earn money for our class project by washing cars at home instead of selling raffle tickets," he told his dad.

Dad smiled and nodded. "I'm proud of you, Son" he said. "People may not understand, because their principles may not be the same as yours. You need to do what you believe is right anyway. Others ran in that Olympic race and won gold medals, but Eric is the one who is most remembered today. He's remembered, not for running a race, but for being a man of principle!"

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you having trouble making right decisions? Don't let anyone talk you into listening to certain types of music, watching questionable videos, or doing anything that is against what you believe is right. Learn how God wants you to live, and live that way. Be a person of principles—God's principles—and stick to them. The Bible says, "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart" (Psalm 119:1,2). Those who obey God's laws, or principles, are blessed.

TODAY'S KEY: Live by God's principles.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 10 THEME:

Moved by a Mission

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

An Overcomer

LESSON 44:

A Savage Attack

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we need to hear and know God's Word, for it is our protection against Satan's tricks

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

A SAVAGE ATTACK

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think the Africans wanted to attack the boats?
2. What did the leaders do while the men were talking with the Africans?
3. What happened after the white men gave the Africans the cloth?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE ARMOR OF GOD

TEXT: Ephesians 6:10-13

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power"
(Ephesians 6:10, NIV).

"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might"
(Ephesians 6:10).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

OUR SWORD

See the craft section for items to be prepared ahead of time.

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

FISH

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

HEAR THAT BIRD

TEXT: Romans 10:12-17

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

A SAVAGE ATTACK

Imagine we are sailing up the Rovuma River in Africa with Dr. Livingstone. The temperature is hot, and strange sights and sounds are everywhere. We see new types of trees and plants. The flowers, fruits, animals, birds, and insects are strange and new to us.

A large group of Africans armed with bows and arrows and guns have been following us along the bank of the river. Earlier this morning, before sunrise, they came to where we were camped for the night and tried to sell us some birds they had shot. We refused to buy them because we already had enough. Now it looks as if they plan to attack us at a spot where our boat will have to pass close to a high bank. We are saved by a strong wind that moves our boat past the high point before most of the Africans get there. They disappear. We think we are safe, but they come out ahead of us, walking quickly to a bend in the river where we will have to pass. As we get close to the bend, one shoots an arrow and our group is forced to stop.

We watch Dr. Livingstone and his men try to get them to talk by saying he did not come to fight, but to see the river.

When the Africans ask why we fired a gun, Livingstone explained that we shot a poisonous snake. Makadamo is very brave. He wades to a short distance from the bank and tells them we have not come for war, but to see the river.

While the Africans are talking, the leader of the group, who is a mean fellow, sneaks up the bank with a dozen men, crosses the river, and comes down behind us. His group rushes into the water and dances behind us with drawn bows and threatening movements. The Africans on the bank are also ready to fire their guns and poisoned arrows at us. For over a half hour Dr. Livingstone and his men face these Africans while we explain that our guns are better than theirs, but we don't want to kill them. If we do fight, it will be their fault.

Finally the Africans lay down their weapons, and wade over to the boats to talk with us. They tell us they do not allow white men to use their river. We must pay a toll to use it. It hurts our pride, but we have to pay or fight. We give them 30 yards of cloth. They promise to be our friends and say they will have food cooked for us on our return. We lift our sail, glad to be leaving without a fight.

The Africans on the shore walk up to the bend in the river. When the boat gets there, they fire their musket-balls and poisoned arrows at us without warning. Then they disappear into the forest. When they come back later, we fire shots over their heads, and they leave for good.

Dr. Livingstone said that Africans were fighting and killing only in places where the people were slave traders.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE ARMOR OF GOD

TEXT: Ephesians 6:10-13

Dr. Livingstone and his men faced an attack from the Africans while they talked with them. At any time the Africans could have shot them, but Livingstone and his men stood their ground. It is the same way in our spiritual walk as Christians. Sometimes the enemy attacks us with bad thoughts or desires. We must stand our ground and not give in. God has given us spiritual armor to protect us.

The Bible says, "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" (Ephesians 6:10-13).

God's Word tells us to be "strong in the Lord, and in his mighty power." That means we must depend upon Him for help when we face temptation, wrong thoughts, or wrong desires. By ourselves we are no match against Satan, but when Jesus lives in our hearts we can have His help. The secret is to trust in Jesus and obey what He tells us to do.

To know what Jesus would have us to do, we must read, study, and learn His Word. It is important to read the Bible every day and go to church so we can learn what God's Word says. If we don't know God's Word, the Bible, we will not be prepared when Satan attacks us. We need to memorize Bible verses. They will help us because they are part of God's Word. If you know that God's Word says you should not lie or steal, then when you are tempted to lie or steal you can "be strong in the Lord" and say no to Satan.

The Word of God is part of the armor God has given us. It is called the "sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17). Just as a warrior would use a sword to fight his enemy, the Holy Spirit uses the Word of God against our enemy, Satan. The Holy Spirit fights against the evil forces of this world when we speak the Word of God. We must realize that it is His power that overcomes the enemy, not ours. It is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead. That power is greater than Satan's power.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you hidden God's Word in your heart? Do you use it when you are tempted to do something wrong? (*Encourage the boys to tell you about a time when they were tempted to do wrong and what they did. All boys may not want to share with the class, but some will. After they tell what happened, ask them how they could use the Word of God the next time they are tempted.*)

CRAFT

OUR SWORD

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 piece of construction paper

1 plastic drinking straw

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, glue

DIRECTIONS:

Before the meeting: Cut out several master patterns, using the craft illustration on page 200.

1. Have the boys trace two sword patterns on the construction paper and cut them out.
2. Have the boys decorate their swords and write "Be strong in the Lord" on one side.
3. Have the boys place the straw in the middle of one of the sword patterns and then glue the other pattern on top. The straw will make the sword stiff.

RECREATION

FISH

Before the meeting: Cut fish shapes about 3 inches long out of lightweight paper. You'll need a drinking straw for each person.

This is played as a relay with two or more teams, with one boy at a time from each team retrieving a fish. Scatter fish in a small area. Each team lines up behind the starting line. The object of the game is to return the fish to the starting point. The fish are picked up and held by inhaling through the straw.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

HEAR THAT BIRD

TEXT: Romans 10:12-17

"Do you hear that bird?" Mike asked as he and Steve were walking through the park. Mike spoke, motioning with his hands.

Steve looked at his friend. "I don't hear any bird," he said in sign language, "and you don't either. You're deaf."

Mike grinned. "He's in those trees over there." Mike pointed to a group of pine trees. "I saw him a minute ago. He's called an oven bird. People who study birds say his song sounds like someone saying 'teacher.'"

Steve looked at Mike in amazement. "I don't understand how you know so much about birds! You're deaf and have to read my lips and watch me sign words in order to know what I'm saying, yet you can tell me about bird songs! Where did you learn all that?"

"I've always liked birds, so I read books about them and study their pictures," Mike explained. "I memorize their colors and shapes and the way they fly."

"Wow! You sure know a lot more about birds than I do. I'm impressed!" Steve signed as he spoke. "You've really got a special ability even though you can't hear anything."

Mike smiled. "Mom says I've made up for the fact that I can't hear by studying. She calls it compensation. You know something? You're the one who's really deaf."

"What do you mean by that?" Steve asked.

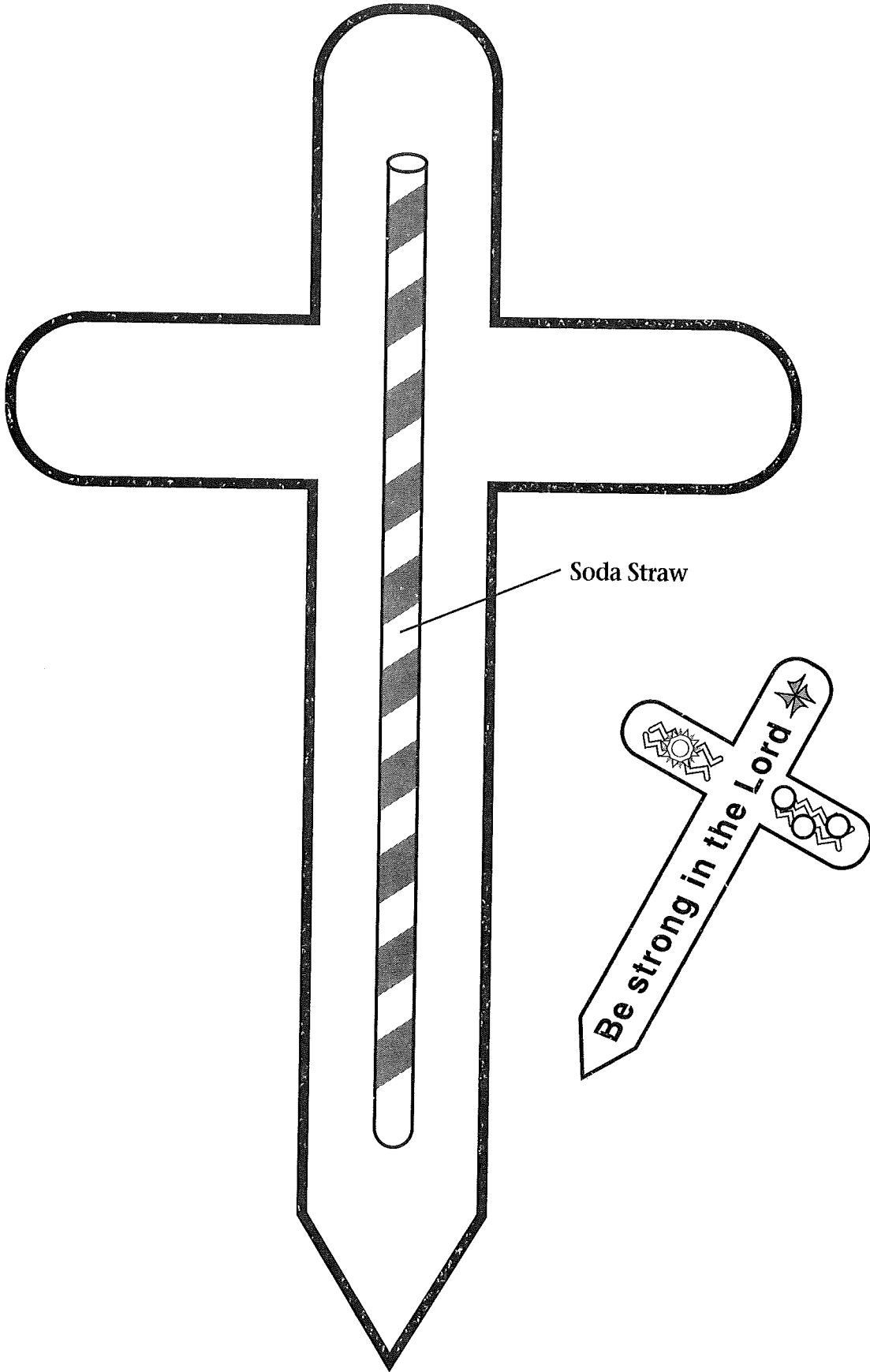
"It's true that I can't hear anything with the ears on my head, but it's not true that I can't hear anything at all," answered Mike. "I can hear spiritually. In Jesus' story about the farmer who planted his seed on different kinds of ground, Jesus said the seed that fell on good ground stands for the people who hear God's Word and keep it. I can read the Bible as well as anyone. Not everyone does though, so I think that must mean they're spiritually deaf. That's worse than being deaf like me."

Steve thought about Mike's words. "Maybe you're right," he admitted slowly. "Okay. Tell me more. I'll listen."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? . . . faith cometh by hearing . . . the word of God" (Romans 10:13,14,17). Are you spiritually deaf—ignoring what God is saying to you? You can change all that. Accept Jesus as your Savior and ask Him to help you "listen" to His Word. Pay attention to what He says in the Bible.

TODAY'S KEY: Read and hear God's Word.



Soda Straw

Be strong in the Lord

Our Sword

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 10 THEME:

Moved by a Mission

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

An Overcomer

LESSON 45:

Chief Sekomi and Chief Sechele

LESSON AIM:

To teach that salvation and living for Jesus is a choice each person must make

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

CHIEF SEKOMI AND CHIEF SECHELE

QUESTIONS:

1. How did Chief Sekomi try to get rid of the sin in his heart?
2. What were some things Chief Sechele did after he was saved?
3. What did Chief Sechele want to do so his people would accept Christ as their Savior?
4. Why did the Africans think the rain dance would bring rain?
5. What did Chief Sechele have to do to be baptized?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

OVERCOMERS ARE OBEDIENT

TEXT: Revelation 3:20-22

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

Last week's verse:

"Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10, NIV).

"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might" (Ephesians 6:10).

This week's verse:

"To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne" (Revelation 3:21, NIV).

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne" (Revelation 3:21).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

STRING TELEPHONES

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

STEPPING-STONES

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

WAITING TOO LONG

TEXT: Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

CHIEF SEKOMI AND CHIEF SECHELE

Sekomi, chief of the Bamangwato tribe, did not understand the things Dr. Livingstone told him about God and the forgiveness of sins. One day Chief Sekomi told Dr. Livingstone, "I wish you would change my heart. Give me medicine to change it, for it is proud, proud and angry, angry, always."

Dr. Livingstone lifted up the Bible and was about to tell him of the only way the heart can be changed, but the chief interrupted him.

"No, I wish to have it changed by medicine, to drink and have it changed at once, for it is very proud and continually angry with someone." He then got up and went away. He wanted an instant answer. He didn't want God.

Another chief, Sechele, became a believer in God and Jesus, and he told his people about Jesus. He was very intelligent. He learned the alphabet the first day Dr. Livingstone spent in his village. He became so interested in God's Word that he stopped hunting and spent most of his time reading the Bible. He gained weight because he wasn't getting exercise. He always wanted to read a chapter of the Bible whenever Dr. Livingstone came to visit him. He wanted his tribe to believe in Jesus too. He said they would never believe by just being talked to. He said the only way to get them to believe was to have them beaten with whips. He offered to have his men do that.

Chief Sechele could not understand why Dr. Livingstone would not agree to force all the people to accept Jesus at his command. Dr. Livingstone knew people must come to God on their own.

Chief Sechele was the chief rainmaker (or witch doctor) of the tribe, but he agreed to give up these magic ceremonies because of Dr. Livingstone's influence. It was a hard decision for him because they had not had rain for a long time. The Africans could not understand why they should not do rain dances. They thought the rain dance ceremony would bring rain. They couldn't understand why they didn't get rain while tribes that didn't pray got rain.

Chief Sechele decided to be baptized. He had three wives, and Dr. Livingstone would not baptize anyone who had more than one wife because of God's plan for a husband to have one wife and a wife to have one husband. Finally after 3 years, Chief Sechele made a difficult decision: He sent two of his wives back to their homes. Even though he sent large presents with them, their coming back caused hard feelings between him and their families. But that's how badly he wanted to be baptized.

medicine to change his heart. He did not want to listen to God's Word, the Bible. He knew his heart was bad because it was proud and angry, but he was not willing to admit he was a sinner and ask Jesus to forgive his sins.

Chief Sechele believed on Jesus. He asked Jesus to come into his heart and forgive his sins, and he was obedient to what he learned from the Bible. He made some very hard decisions and was mistreated by his people because of his stand for Jesus. It was not easy for him to be a Christian.

Jesus says, "I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches" (Revelation 3:20-22).

Jesus wants us to be overcomers like Chief Sechele. Jesus was an overcomer. He faced anger from the people of His day. No matter what the cost, He did what His Father told Him to do. He was obedient even to the point of death. He did not want to die. He prayed, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup [death] pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39). Jesus was willing to give His life as a sacrifice so that we could have our sins forgiven.

Being an overcomer means more than just asking Jesus into our hearts. It means to serve Him even when things are hard. When our friends make fun of us because we believe in Jesus, we must stand strong in His power and keep on obeying God. No matter what others say to us or about us, we must not stop doing what is right. We must be brave and say no when we are tempted to do something wrong or to not do what's right. We must also be careful to listen to what the Bible has to say and then obey what we read or hear from God's Word.

The Bible tells us to obey our parents in the Lord and those who have rule over us. (We should not do something that is against God's Word no matter who tells us to. We should not do something that is wrong.) This means we must listen to what our parents, teachers, commanders, and other leaders tell us to do. If we wait for them to punish us before we obey, that is not pleasing the Lord. Jesus wants us to listen and then do what we are told. If you want to be an overcomer, you must be obedient.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you asked Jesus into your heart? If not, perhaps you would like to do so right now. If Jesus is living in your heart, are you an overcomer? Do you say no when you are tempted to do wrong? Do you take a stand for Jesus in front of your friends? Do you choose to do something good when you get the chance? Are you obedient to your parents and others in authority over you? Choose to live for Jesus in these ways.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

OVERCOMERS ARE OBEDIENT

TEXT: Revelation 3:20-22

Chief Sekomi was looking for the easy way to be saved. He wanted Dr. Livingstone to give him some

CRAFT

STRING TELEPHONES

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

2 Styrofoam cups

1 piece of string, 10 feet long

2 matchsticks (without heads)

Shared items: crayons or markers, glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys punch a small hole in the bottom of both Styrofoam cups.
2. Have the boys insert the string through the hole and tie the end that is inside the cup to the matchstick.
3. Repeat the process for the other cup and the other end of the string. A drop of glue can be applied to the matchstick so it will be glued to the bottom of the cup.
4. Have two boys stand apart, pulling the string tight. When one boy talks into the cup on one end, the second boy will hear him in the cup at the other end.
5. Have the boys decorate their cups with crayons.

RECREATION

STEPPING-STONES

Place pieces of construction paper on the floor to form a twisting line of stepping-stones: some close together, others far apart. Each boy in turn tries to walk the course, staying on the stones. To make it more difficult, have them do it while balancing a tennis ball on a flat board or a book on their head.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

WAITING TOO LONG

TEXT: Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

Glen pulled a brightly colored paper from his pocket. *What's this?* he thought. It was a coupon for a

free candy bar. He had cut it out of the newspaper and forgotten about it. Eager to get the candy, he hurried to the store, picked up the candy bar, and handed the coupon to the salesclerk.

The clerk smiled at Glen and looked at the coupon. "Oh, I'm sorry, but this coupon isn't good anymore," she said. "It's expired—it's past the date printed on it." She showed him the expiration date.

Disappointed, Glen put the candy back. On the way home, he decided to stop at his Aunt Carrie's house. He told her about the expired coupon.

"Too bad you didn't cash it in before," she said. "Why don't you sit down and have some lemonade with me?" As she handed him a glass, she said, "Your experience reminds me of a story I read about a young man who often heard an invitation to be saved, but he always put off making that decision. At first he said he was too young, then he was too busy. He died in an accident without ever receiving Christ as his Savior."

"That's sad," said Glen.

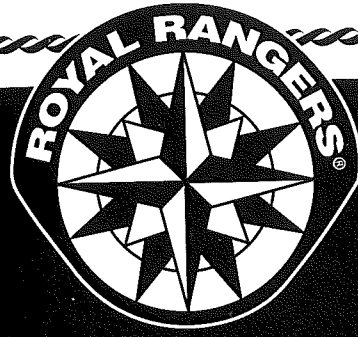
"It certainly is," Aunt Carrie agreed. She looked at Glen. "What about you, Glen? You waited too long to cash in the coupon for a free candy bar. What have you done about cashing in on God's offer of salvation?"

Glen suddenly realized that, just like the young man in the story, he had been putting off the decision to accept Jesus. That afternoon, as he and Aunt Carrie knelt by the sofa, Glen asked Jesus to be his Savior.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been putting off your decision for Christ? You don't know for sure that you'll have a chance to accept Him later. The Bible says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Ecclesiastes 12:1). That means we shouldn't put off thinking about God and accepting Jesus as our Savior. We are not to wait until we are old or something terrible happens. Do it now before the opportunity "expires"—before it's too late. "Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2, NIV). Raise your hand if you want to accept Jesus as your Savior now while you are young. I want to pray with you. *(Go over the steps of salvation with any who respond. Then pray with them. Encourage them to be baptized in water to show they have given their life to Jesus.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Accept Christ now.



UNIT ELEVEN

Music
Festival

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 11 THEME:

Music Festival

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Praying)

LESSON 46:

What Makes up Music?

LESSON AIM:

To teach that talking to God is important in wanting to obey His laws

_____ Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHAT MAKES UP MUSIC?

QUESTIONS:

1. What is rhythm?
2. What is melody? Can you give me an example of a melody?
3. What is harmony?
4. Can you name a song that makes you feel sad or happy?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

WHY SHOULD WE PRAY?

TEXT: Luke 6:27,28

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you" (Luke 6:27, NIV).
"I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you" (Luke 6:27).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

HOMEMADE KAZOO

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

KEEP THE RULES

TEXT: Psalm 119:165-168

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

WHAT MAKES UP MUSIC?

Without music what would our world be like? Music can make you feel happy or sad; it can make you laugh or cry; it can make you sing and dance, or it can tell a story. Sometimes it can remind you of a special day or event in your life. For example, if you have ever been to Disney World or Disneyland you will remember the song called "It's a Small, Small World." What do you think of when you hear that song? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) You probably think of the boat ride with lots of miniature wooden children singing "It's a Small, Small World" in different languages.

Did you ever wonder what makes up music? The first thing all music has is a beat, or rhythm. Rhythm is what makes you want to move to the music or clap your hands. In some songs you can easily tell the beat or rhythm while in others it's not so easy. Think about the wedding march, *DUM, DUM, DI-DUM* . . . You can feel the beat. The wedding party and the bride must keep time with the music. They take one step every three beats, usually on the first *DUM*.

Melody is a second part of music. It is the tune or notes that are played. You could think of melody as a number of notes in a row that make up a rhythm. The melody helps you recognize the song. Think about the tune for a song like "Jesus Loves the Little Children." That tune, or melody, is easy to recognize when someone hums it or plays it on an instrument.

Let's play a game called "Name That Tune." I will hum a few tunes and see if you can guess what they are called.

Note to commander: Hum a few tunes from the following list and let the boys guess the titles. You can also let the boys try and hum their favorite song and have the other boys or you guess it.

"London Bridge Is Falling Down"

"Home, Home on the Range"

"Old MacDonald Had a Farm"

"This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made"

"Give Me Oil in My Lamp, Keep Me Burning"

"Mary Had a Little Lamb"

The third part of music is called harmony. That's when two or more people sing the same song with different tones. It can also be when two different instruments play the same song at the same time. Each instrument makes a different sound, but they play in harmony with each other. A barber shop quartet is a good example of harmony; each man sings a different part to the same tune. One man sings the bass part, while the others sing tenor, soprano, and alto parts. Let's try singing in harmony.

Note to commander: Pick four boys who can sing well to sing the four parts; alto, soprano, tenor, and bass and have them try to sing "This is the day, this is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made" in four-part harmony. If this is not feasible, you might tape-record four adults singing it in harmony for the boys to hear.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

WHY SHOULD WE PRAY?

TEXT: Luke 6:27,28

Our Christian character trait this unit is spiritual and it is part of the Royal Ranger Code. A Royal Ranger is spiritual: He prays, reads the Bible, and witnesses. Let's look at one of the reasons why we should pray.

Jesus said, "I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you" (Luke 6:27,28).

This verse tells us we should pray for them who despitefully use us: that means someone who tries to hurt you on purpose—by words or actions. Has anyone ever been mean to you? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Perhaps you have gotten angry at someone and thought, *I will get even with him, just wait and see*. Then you start plotting how you are going to get even by doing this or that to the person. Meanness like this is something that comes from our sinful nature, the part inside us that wants to do wrong and ignores doing good. In God's eyes, wanting to hurt someone is a sin. In fact, Jesus said we should love our enemies and be kind to those who hate us.

This is where we struggle in our lives as Christians. Our old sinful nature wants us to do what is wrong, to sin. Our spirit, or new nature, wants us to obey Jesus and do what is right. In the case of anger or meanness, the right thing to do is to love our enemies because Jesus commanded us to do so. He also wants us to do good to those who hate us and pray for those who mistreat us. This is not easy to do, because Satan puts bad thoughts into our mind about our enemies. He tries to keep us thinking how we can get even with them. As Christians, we must try to obey God's commands to do good.

We must say no to the ideas Satan puts into our minds. When we play a sport, we use all our energy, or strength, because we want to win. We must do the same when we fight our spiritual battles. We need to use all our might to say no to the thoughts Satan puts into our minds. Remember, when bad thoughts come into your mind, such as being angry with someone and planning how you can get even with him, you must tell it to Jesus. Ask Him to help you overcome those bad thoughts. Then set your mind to think about something good.

Anytime you talk to God, you are praying. Talking to Jesus and telling Him just how you feel and think and then asking Him to help you obey Him is praying. When you talk to Jesus, you should talk to Him just as you would talk to your best friend. Jesus is really the best friend you will ever have.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever gotten angry at someone and thought about how you could get even? What did you do about those thoughts? Did you obey Jesus and pray for the person or did you give in to your sinful thoughts? Today is the right time to tell Jesus about it and ask Him to help you.

CRAFT

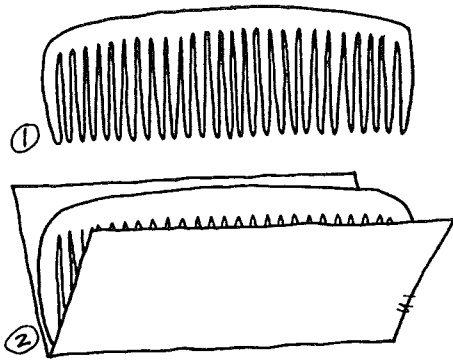
HOMEMADE KAZOO

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

1 small comb

1 piece of paper



DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys fold their papers in half.
2. Have the boys place the papers over their combs with the comb teeth in the fold.
3. Have the boys place their opened lips against their paper-covered combs and hum a familiar tune.
4. Have the boys form a kazoo choir and play their kazoos in unison.

NOTE: You might want to experiment with different kinds of paper for different sounds (for example, waxed paper, newspaper, tissue paper).

RECREATION

LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN

Pick two boys to be the bridge. They will join hands and hold them in the air to form the bridge. The rest of the boys will pass under the bridge one at a time. All the boys sing:

Verse 1. "London bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down. London bridge is falling down, my fine Buck-a-roo."

Chorus: "Take the key and lock him up. . ."

Verse 2. "Build it up with iron bars. . ."

(Chorus)

Verse 3. "Iron bars will bend and break. . ."

(Chorus)

Verse 4. "Build it up with silver and gold. . ."

(Chorus)

Each time the boys sing "My fine Buck-a-roo," the bridge should fall and capture a prisoner. He stays in prison during the chorus. The prisoner will then fall in behind one of the boys who make up the bridge. The next prisoner caught will stand behind the other boy who makes up the bridge. When everyone has been captured there will be two teams, one behind each of the two boys who made up the bridge. The boys will then have a tug-of-war between the two teams.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

KEEP THE RULES

TEXT: Psalm 119:165-168

"Guess what, Mom!" Mark said as he dropped his books on the table. "We're having a poster contest. The winner gets \$5, and I'm going to buy—"

Mrs. Allen laughed. "Don't spend it until you win it."

"It's to be about conservation—saving our natural resources, like water, trees, and animals. I got an idea before Mrs. Lawson even finished reading the rules. My slogan is Here Today—Gone Tomorrow." Mark climbed up and sat on a kitchen stool as he continued, "On half of the poster I'll put a picture of some trees. On the other side I'll put some blackened tree stumps. In the middle I'll draw a lighted match."

"That's good!" Mrs. Allen agreed. "I think it could be a winner too."

"Could I have some money to buy poster board?"

"What size is the poster to be?" Mrs. Allen asked as she handed him a dollar.

"Uhhhhh," Mark scratched his head. "I think it's to be half of a regular sheet of poster board."

For the next 2 weeks, Mark worked untiringly on his poster. On the last day, just before the final bell, he handed it in. "Very neat, and a good idea too," Mrs. Lawson said, smiling. She studied it a moment, then frowned. "Mark, didn't you read the rules?"

"Well—well—ah, you read them to us," Mark stammered.

"Rule 4 says there must be a 1-inch margin on all sides," Mrs. Lawson said. "The branches of your trees go all the way to the edge. I will give your poster to the judges, but I'm afraid it isn't eligible to win. No matter how good a poster is, it must meet the rules. Too bad, Mark. I'm sure it would have been a winner."

Mark felt like crying, but he managed to keep the tears back.

When Mark's mother heard the sad news, she said, "I'm really sorry, honey. But in a contest it's really important to know the rules. If we don't, we can miss a reward."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says, "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. Lord, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments."

My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly. I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee" (Psalm 119:165-168). Have you been reading God's rule book—the Bible? It's especially important to know and obey the rules God has given for our lives. If we read and obey God's rules, or laws, He has promised that we can live with Him in heaven someday. That's a wonderful reward and a great reason for doing what is right.

TODAY'S KEY: Keep God's rules.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 11 THEME:

Music Festival

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual

LESSON 47:

Music Festivals

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to pray and not give up

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

MUSIC FESTIVALS

QUESTIONS:

1. What is a music festival?
2. Do any of you play musical instruments?
What kind?
3. What happens at a Dragon Boat Festival?
4. How would you climb a slippery pole?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

DON'T QUIT PRAYING

TEXT: Luke 18:1-8

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Pray continually" (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NIV).
"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

BALLOON SHAKERS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

PIONEERS AND INDIANS

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

MITCHELL'S PRAYER

TEXT: Matthew 6:7-13

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

MUSIC FESTIVALS

Our theme for this unit is music festivals. A music festival is a day, or several days, of celebration when many musicians get together to entertain listeners. People from all around come to hear the music. There may be other types of entertainment at a music festival, and there will be plenty of food. At some festivals, several different musical groups play the same type, or style, of music at different times during the day.

The earliest music festivals were church-sponsored choir groups that went to different places to sing. Today you will find a lot of different kinds of music festivals. There will probably be one that would interest you. You might find choir groups, jazz, popular, or folk music groups. There are even guitar and orchestra festivals.

Listening to a choir sing or to someone play music can be a lot of fun. In fact, after you have listened to some good music for a while, you may decide you would like to sing or play a musical instrument in a festival someday.

What is your favorite type of music? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Whichever instrument you decide to play, remember, it will take a lot of practice to become good enough to play in a music festival. It takes practice to learn to play well. The music must be played over and over until it sounds good. Practice is a lot of hard work, but practice is what it takes to become a good musician. You must make up your mind that you are going to practice every day if you want to be good.

Another type of music festival is called the Dragon Boat Festival. It is held on the island of Taiwan every year to celebrate the coming of summer. This festival is really a boat race. The boats have the shape of large canoes that have been decorated to look like dragons. They are big enough to hold 20 men plus their coach. Half of the men sit on one side of the boat and half on the other side. All the men row at the same time when the coach yells, "Stroke." Several boats race at the same time to see which team is the fastest. While they are racing, the people on the shore try to encourage their favorite team by playing drums, trumpets, and gongs, and by shouting. It's a very exciting race. Although it is not a music festival, there is a lot of noise from the gongs, trumpets, and drums.

The Festival of Santa Rosalia is held in July each year in Palermo, Sicily. One of the main attractions is the slippery pole. The pole is about 8- to 10-inches thick and 15- to 20-feet tall. At the top of the pole are flowers, streamers, and lots of good things to eat. Getting to the top is not easy. The pole is already very smooth. Then it is coated with grease. When a boy tries to climb or shinny up the pole, he immediately slides back down. The only way to get to the top is to climb up on another boy's shoulders and be pushed up the pole.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

DON'T QUIT PRAYING

TEXT: Luke 18:1-8

Did you ever feel like giving up? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Almost everyone has felt like quitting, or giving up, at some time. Did you know Jesus doesn't want us to give up, or quit, living for Him? His Word, the Bible, encourages us to "be strong in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:10) and to be overcomers (Revelation 3:5,12,21). To be an overcomer, a person must not quit when the going gets tough. Our Bible text tells us we should always pray and not give up. Here's what the Bible says:

"He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: and there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:1-8).

This Bible passage is about a judge who was not afraid of God or man. Yet he gave the woman what she wanted because she kept asking him for justice. The judge knew she would keep on asking till he finally gave in to her request. This story tells us clearly that Jesus wants us to keep praying for God to meet our needs, heal us, and heal or save the people we love. Maybe you have been praying for unsaved relatives for a long time. Or perhaps someone you know is very sick and you have been praying for God to heal him. Don't give up and lose your hope. Keep asking God every day to answer that prayer. The text talks about God's *elect*. That's you and me after we are saved. We are chosen ones—His children, "which cry day and night unto him." Those are our prayers to God. "Though he bear long with them" means "will God keep putting them off?" No! If we keep believing, if we don't quit and give up hope, He will see that our prayers are answered.

Don't give up your belief that God will answer your prayers. God does not give us everything we pray for. If we ask for something to satisfy our sinful desire, we should not expect God to answer our prayers. If we are praying for someone to be healed, or a friend or relative to give his heart to Jesus, we should never give up hope. God hears and remembers every prayer.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been feeling that God is never going to answer your prayers? Maybe you have felt like quitting? Don't lose hope that God will answer your prayers someday.

CRAFT

BALLOON SHAKERS

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

- 1 small balloon
- 5 to 10 dried peas or black-eyed beans
- 1 short stick
- 1 small comb
- 1 piece of paper

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys place 5 to 10 dried peas or black-eyed beans inside their balloon and then blow it up until it is 2 to 3 inches in diameter.
2. Tie the balloon onto a short stick.
3. Have the boys make kazoos again. See the previous week for directions.
4. Have the boys shake their balloons and play their kazoos at the same time. See if they can play the same tune.

RECREATION

PIONEERS AND INDIANS

The two teams are named the "Pioneers" and the "Indians." There are about one-fourth as many Indians as Pioneers. The boundaries of the playing area should be carefully defined beforehand. Each man has a piece of gauze tied around his arm. This arm band must be in plain view.

The Indians are given a 5- to 10-minute head start on the Pioneers. Every minute the Indians must blow a blast on a whistle, which they carry with them. They also carry a baton. (This could be a stick or some other object agreed on before the game.) The Pioneers try to capture the baton and bring it back to home base. The baton counts for as many points as there are men on the Pioneers team. Also, one point is scored for each gauze bandage torn off. Once a boy's gauze is torn off, he cannot communicate any information or enter into the game in any way. For the boys to successfully play this game, provide 1 to 2 hours of playtime.

If it is decided not to allow those whose gauze bandages have been torn off to continue playing, provide these boys some type of activity at home base. You may choose to permit them to reenter the game after serving 10 minutes of duty in the home base ("prison").

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

MITCHELL'S PRAYER

TEXT: Matthew 6:7-13

The Burns family always had devotions after dinner. Dad often asked one of them to lead in prayer. Tonight he asked 10-year-old Mitchell to pray.

"Dear God," Mitchell mumbled, "bless our family. Help me to do good in school. Be with the missionaries. In Jesus' name, Amen." Mitchell cut his prayer short. As he left the room, Dad said, "Mitch, if you love Jesus, you certainly have a strange way of showing it!"

Later, Mitchell's parents discussed his prayer. "How can we teach him to do better?" his mom asked.

"I think I have an idea," Dad replied. The two discussed the plan for several minutes.

The next morning, Mom and Dad said good morning to Mitchell's two sisters and his brother as pleasantly as always. Dad ignored Mitchell completely. Mom mumbled, "Hello. Will you take the garbage out?"

During breakfast, Mom talked to Susie and Sandy about new dresses. Dad told Mike he was proud of him because he got an "A" in spelling. Mitchell was ignored.

After school, Mitch came in the door yelling, "Mom! Dad! I got the best grade in the class on the history test!" Dad never looked up from the newspaper. Mom said, "Mitchell, go clean your room for me, please."

By supertime, Mitchell was frowning and upset. Mom and Dad kept completely ignoring him.

After devotions that evening, Dad dismissed the other kids. "Mitchell," he began, "your mom and I have been purposely ignoring you today. Did you notice?"

"Did I notice!" Mitchell said. "I thought you must not love me anymore because you wouldn't even talk to me."

"Well, Mitch," Dad said, "we wanted to show you how you treat God! You claim to love Him, but you ignore Him most of the time—except to ask Him for help when you need it. Did you like being treated that way?"

"No, sir," Mitch said shaking his head. "I guess I'd better start treating God the way I want to be treated—right?"

Mitchell's parents smiled in agreement.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you hurry through your prayers? Do you take time to praise and thank God as well as ask for things? You want to spend time talking to those you love. If you love God, talk to him every day.

(Ask the boys to repeat the Lord's Prayer with you now.)
 "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive

us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen" (Matthew 6:9-13).

TODAY'S KEY: Talk to God every day.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 11 THEME:

Music Festival

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Praying)

LESSON 48:

Indian Celebrations

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God wants us to pray and believe and also to do our part

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDIAN CELEBRATIONS

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the most famous Indian celebration?
2. What were some of the things Indians did before going on the warpath?
3. Do you remember any of the songs the Indians sang?
4. What kind of games did Indians play?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

TEXT: James 5:13-15

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven" (James 5:15, NIV).

"The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:15).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

SAND BLOCKS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

PEAS PORRIDGE HOT

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

WORK AND PLAY

TEXT: Nehemiah 4:7-9

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDIAN CELEBRATIONS

Indians didn't really have music festivals like we do today. But they had ceremonies in which music was very important. Probably the most famous one is the Indian war dance. Before going to war, Indians would have a big celebration with music and dancing. They would dress in their finest clothes. Some tribes, such as the Plains Indians, would put on the feathered warbonnet. Many people today think of it as the Indian's everyday headdress. In other tribes, such as the Sioux, warriors would paint their faces with war paint.

In some cases the medicine man would sing a song while he painted a warrior's face. In John Bierhorst's book *A Cry From the Earth, Music of the North American Indians*, he tells about a war song. Bear Eagle, Teton Sioux warrior, told about a song that had been sung for him years earlier by the medicine man Little Buffalo. He sang as he painted Bear Eagle's forehead with a blue stripe, which ended in branches on each cheekbone. In many Indian songs the singer speaks as though he were someone else. Little Buffalo sang as though the warrior Bear Eagle himself were singing, "Clear the way! In a sacred manner I come!" The Plains Indians considered war an act of devotion to the supreme spirit.

"Clear the way! In a sacred manner I come, eh oh.

Clear the way! In a sacred manner I come, eh.

The earth is mine. In a sacred manner I come, eh.

Clear the way! In a sacred manner I come, eh yo."

The women also sang songs when the warriors actually left camp to go to war. They would walk with the warriors a short distance from the village and sing a song as they went. Then they would return to the village still singing. The warriors would be gone for a long time. Some would never return. The women wanted them to remember their song as the last thing they heard from their families. It was really a love song. Here are the words from a Chippewa song. It should give you an idea of what the women's song sounded like.

"Come, it's time for you to go on a long journey, ya wee ah, ya wee-ah, ya, ya-wee ah, ya wee ah."

Indians also had songs they sang when they were playing games. They loved to play ball games similar to soccer or hockey. Before the game started, the different teams would gather at their goalpost and sing and dance. The Choctaw Indians had a "ball play" dance before every game.

The Indians also loved to play guessing games. One of the most popular games was the moccasin game. It is similar to our shell game except there are two teams of men. Instead of using shells they used four moccasins and hid a pebble in one of them. The opposing team then sung a song to try and unnerve the other team.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

TEXT: James 5:13-15

Today we will learn what the prayer of faith can do. The Bible says:

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:13-15).

The prayer made by one who believes in God can be the cause of a person's being made well. Healing of sickness is a wonderful promise God has made to us. That's not all the prayer of faith will do. The Bible tells us "if he has sinned, he will be forgiven." This is a very important point to understand. Sometimes, but not always, sickness or illness comes into our lives because we have sinned. Jesus' disciples thought all sickness was caused by somebody's sin. Jesus told them this is not true. When a blind man came for healing, Jesus' disciples asked Him who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus said neither the man nor his parents had sinned. The man was blind so God's power could be shown in healing him (John 9:2,3).

It doesn't really matter why we are sick or if our sin has caused our sickness. When we call for the leaders of the church, they will anoint us with oil and their prayer of faith will then do these things for us. It will (1) cause the Lord to heal us and (2) forgive our sins. When we ask the pastor and deacons to pray for us, we are saying, "I can't do it by myself. I need God's healing and forgiveness, and I need your prayers."

The first part of the Bible text says, "Is any among you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise." When trouble happens, the Bible tells us we should pray. When we are happy, we should sing songs.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever been sick? What did you do? Now you know that you can call for the elders or leaders of the church and ask them to pray for you, believe that God will heal you, and forgive your sins if you have sinned. Do you need prayer today? (*Pray for anyone who indicates a need.*)

CRAFT

SAND BLOCKS

MATERIALS NEEDED

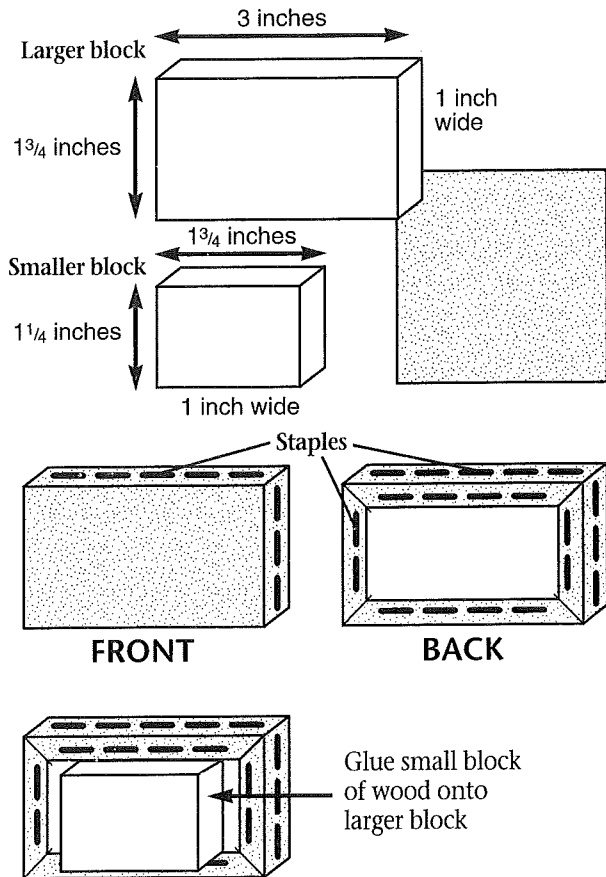
For each boy:

2 small blocks of wood (1¾ inches by 3 inches by 1 inch)

2 small blocks of wood (1¾ inches by 1¾ inches by 1 inch)

2 pieces of sandpaper (3 inches by 3 inches)

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, stapler or thumbtacks, glue



DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys staple the sandpaper to the larger blocks of wood. Be sure to keep the paper tight.
2. Have the boys glue the smaller blocks of wood onto the larger blocks to form handles.
3. Have the boys decorate their blocks with crayons or markers.
4. Give a small prize for the best design.
5. Have the boys play their sand blocks by scraping them gently together so the sandpaper makes a noise. They should try to keep rhythm with each other.

RECREATION

PEAS PORRIDGE HOT

This is a good game to test the boys' ability to think quickly. Have the boys pair off and then sit facing their partners. Choose someone to be your partner to show how to do it as you say the rhyme. Start off slowly and then speed up as the boys learn how to do it. After the boys play for a while, take them outside and let them play hide-and-seek.

Motions	Verse 1	Verse 2	Verse 3
Slap your knees once	Peas	Some	Daddy
Clap your hands once	porridge	like it	likes it
Slap your partner's hands once	hot.	hot.	hot.
Slap your knees once	Peas	Some	Mommy
Clap your hands once	porridge	like it	likes it
Slap your partner's hands once	cold.	cold.	cold.
Slap your knees once	Peas	Some	I
Slap your hands once	porridge	like it	like it
Slap your partner's right hand once	in a	in a	in a
Clap your hands once	pot,	pot,	pot,
Slap your partner's left hand once	nine	nine	nine
Clap your hands once	days	days	days
Slap your partner's hands once	old.	old.	old.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

WORK AND PRAY

TEXT: Nehemiah 4:7-9

"Shouldn't you be studying your spelling?" Mother asked.

"Yeah, I suppose," said Craig. "I'll do it as soon as this program's done."

As the program ended, Steve called. Craig spent the next half hour talking on the phone. After that he had a bedtime snack. Then it was time to go to bed. *No time to study now*, he thought sleepily. *I'll just have to ask the Lord to help me*. Crawling under the covers, he murmured a prayer, asking for help with his spelling.

As he took the test the next day, Craig again asked God to help him do well. He was disappointed when the test was returned with a D. "Doesn't the Bible say if we lack wisdom, we should ask God for it?" He asked Mother that evening. "Well, I asked, and I expected Him to help me do better."

Before Mother could answer, the phone rang. Craig ran to answer it. "That was Steve," he said as he returned. "May I go to town with him? Could I have some money to buy a lock for my locker? Lots of kids are getting their pencils and things ripped off at school. We want to make sure it doesn't happen to us."

"Oh, that's a shame," Mother said. She reached for her purse, then stopped. "I have an idea. Why don't you pray about it? Ask the Lord to protect your things."

"Mom!" Craig said snorting. "It's okay to pray about it, but it only makes sense to put a lock on too."

"In other words, even though you pray, you should also do what you can to take care of the problem? You should do your part?" Mother asked.

Craig nodded.

"Wouldn't that be true about your spelling test too?" Mother asked. "You didn't study. You didn't do your part. Yet you expected God to help you remember things you never learned."

Craig looked down. "I guess I really knew better," he admitted. "After this, I'll study hard. I'll do my part. Then I know God will help me too."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you pray about your schoolwork? About friends who need to know the Lord? About money you need for something special? Prayer is important, but it is only part of the battle. You also need to study. You need to witness. You need to look for ways to work and earn money. When the walls of Jerusalem were being built, God's people prayed and they posted a guard. They said, "Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them" (Nehemiah 4:7-9). Jesus also told His disciples to watch and pray. We too must pray and we must also work.

TODAY'S KEY: Pray and work.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 11 THEME:

Music Festival

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Spiritual (Praying)

LESSON 49:

Victory Celebration

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God has given music for us to enjoy and to use in worshipping Him

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

VICTORY CELEBRATION

QUESTIONS:

1. What is a victory celebration or victory dance?
2. Why do you think the Indians sang songs about bravery?
3. What are some of the things Bicaganab did to fight off the Sioux warriors?
4. What musical instrument did the Indians use when they sang war songs?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

FORGIVE WHEN YOU PRAY

TEXT: Mark 11:25,26

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

“When you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins” (Mark 11:25, NIV).

“When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses” (Mark 11:25).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

TAMBOURINES

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

INDIAN SOCK

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

SAY IT WITH MUSIC

TEXT: Psalm 150

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

VICTORY CELEBRATION

Last week we learned about some Indian celebrations, but we did not discuss the victory celebration. The victory dance would follow a successful battle and the Indians would sing songs of bravery. They would sing songs from past years and of heroes long dead. There is an Indian song about the bravery of Bicaganab, a woman from the Chippewa tribe who defended her people during a surprise attack by Sioux raiders. John Bierhorst said Bicaganab was lighting her breakfast fire one day when she heard the cry, "The Sioux are upon us!" Then she heard the sound of gunfire. The Indian camp became a scene of confusion. The men were trying to fight the Sioux, and the women were putting their household goods into canoes.

Bicaganab's father joined the fight and was wounded five times. He got near the water and was helped into a canoe. It was believed that Bicaganab had been killed.

The people who had escaped in canoes were far from shore. They looked back and saw a woman fighting the Sioux with a club. The Sioux chased her into the water, and she swam toward a canoe. The Sioux followed in a canoe, trying to club her, but she broke and tore their canoe with her hands. They said she was like a big angry bear. The Sioux were forced from the canoe into the water, and she pounded them with a paddle as they headed for shore.

Instead of following the Chippewa people, the woman went upstream and hid in the bushes. She returned later to the camp. She found the Sioux who had been killed, covered with blankets. Beside them lay their guns and much beautiful beadwork. Bicaganab scalped the Sioux. Then she put on a Sioux warbonnet and made a huge pile of the blankets, guns, and beadwork. After that, she painted her face and went back to the Chippewa camp with all the blankets, guns, and beadwork.

Here are the words from the song about Bicaganab's bravery:

Song for a Woman Who Was Brave in War
Very much did she defend her children.
She was the old one, we the children.
She fought for all of us, ya-eh
ya ea way-ah hay.

As with most Indian songs, this one was sung to the beat of a drum. You can almost hear it playing "dum, dum-dum-dum, dum, dum-dum-dum."

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

FORGIVE WHEN YOU PRAY

TEXT: Mark 11:25,26

Have you ever said, "I'll never forgive him for that"? (*Give the boys a chance to answer.*) Most of us have said it at one time or another. Sometimes it is hard

for us to forgive someone who has hurt us or said something that makes us feel bad. When our parents or teachers tell us to make up with the other person, we often say, "I'll forgive him, but I won't forget what he did!" When we say this, we really have not forgiven the other person. We are still holding a grudge, a bad feeling against someone. Listen to what Jesus had to say about this:

"When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Mark 11:25,26).

Jesus tells us that when we are praying, we should forgive if we have anything against anyone. This means we are to forgive even the smallest thing or thought that we have against someone else. Usually a grudge is a big thing that we keep a bad feeling about. When we have a grudge in our heart against another person, we think about it a lot and plan how we are going to get even. It is easy for us to understand that this is wrong, that we must forgive the other person before God will forgive us. Jesus is telling us in this verse to forgive *anything*—big or little—we may have against another person.

We realize the big things, such as holding a grudge, could keep God from forgiving our sins. It is harder to understand that anything—even the smallest thing or thought—we have against another person could keep God from forgiving us. That is what the Bible says. If you do not forgive, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive your sins (Mark 11:26). Jesus tells us another time that we must forgive others if we want to receive God's forgiveness.

"If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14,15).

Even when we say the Lord's Prayer, we are asking God to "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Matthew 6:12, NIV). The Bible is clear. We must forgive others if we want God to forgive us.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you have a grudge against someone? Do you forgive the little things that others do to you? Jesus loves us and always forgives us when we ask Him. He wants us to treat others just as we want Him to treat us. He will help us forgive others if we ask Him. Remember, if you don't forgive others, then God won't forgive your sins.

CRAFT

TAMBOURINES

MATERIALS NEEDED

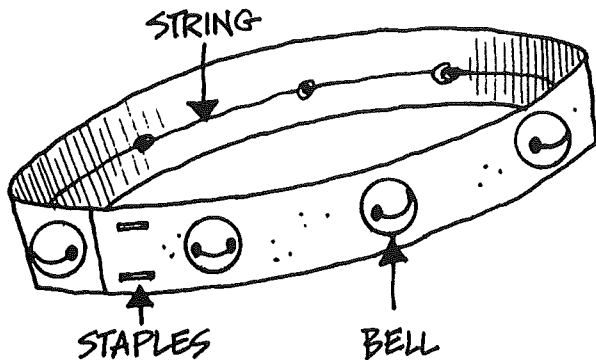
For each boy:

1 piece of poster board (1 inch by 24 inches)

4 to 6 half-inch bells

4 feet of waxed string

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, paper punch, stapler



Tambourines

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have each boy make a circle out of his 1-inch poster board and staple the ends together to form a hoop.
2. Have each boy punch 4 to 6 holes, equally spaced, in his hoop.
3. Help each boy tie the first bell to one of the holes in his hoop.
4. Have the boys lace the waxed string around the hoop and then through the next hole in the hoop. Then thread the string through a bell and back through the same hole to hold the bell in place.
5. When all the bells have been tied on, continue the string around the hoop and tie it to the end of the string left from the first bell.
6. The boys can now decorate their tambourines with markers or crayons.

RECREATION

INDIAN SOCK

Fill a heavy sock with different small household objects, such as clothespins, a thimble, an eraser, scissors, etc., and tie the open end. Give each boy a pencil and paper. Time the boys as they write down the objects they feel through the sock within a minute's time. The winner is the boy who correctly names the most objects.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

SAY IT WITH MUSIC

TEXT: Psalm 150

When Chris' mother had an emergency operation, he felt—of all things—relief! Now his parents wouldn't be able to attend the PTA meeting at which the school's mini-band was performing. Chris loved to play in the mini-band, but he knew his parents wouldn't like the type of music they played. Chris was caught up in the music. It grew on him. It was hard for him to keep that swing out of the hymns he played on the piano. He was glad his parents wouldn't be hearing the band.

After the PTA meeting, Chris was surprised to find his father waiting for him. "Did you hear us play?" he asked anxiously.

Dad nodded. "Mother insisted that I come to hear you," he said. "You know, Chris, music is a powerful thing. For example, a mother sings a lullaby to quiet and soothe her baby. Now, a march wouldn't affect the baby that way, would it?"

"I guess not," said Chris. "It would keep him awake."

"My grandfather told me that during the war they had parades where they played marches and patriotic songs," continued Dad. "Young men joined the army in large numbers. A lullaby wouldn't have affected those young men that way, would it?"

Chris laughed. "Not likely," he said.

"You know," Dad went on, "even in lands where most people don't know God, music is used to sway people. In the same way, our Christian songs move us by their words and music."

Chris nodded. "I always think of 'How Great Thou Art' when I see beautiful scenery," he said. "That song makes me feel how big God is."

"I'm glad to hear that," Dad said, smiling. "God uses music to draw us to Him. Satan uses music to draw us away from God. Be sure you're not working with Satan in your music."

Though Dad hadn't actually mentioned the mini-band, Chris made a decision. He knew he had been drawn away from God by his deep involvement in the mini-band. He felt a responsibility to those who might be influenced by his music. He decided to quit the band.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The Bible says this about different ways we should praise God: "Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord" (Psalm 150). Have you been

careful in choosing music to play or listen to? Think about the powerful effect music has on you. As the Bible verses we read say, any musical instrument can be used to praise God. You can sometimes say “praise God,” “go to sleep,” or “defend your country” better with music than with words. How is the music you hear affecting you? How is your music affecting others? Be careful to play music that praises God or helps other people.

TODAY’S KEY: Praise the Lord.



UNIT TWELVE

Special Days

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 12 THEME:

Special Days

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Thankful

LESSON 50:

Independence Day

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we show thankfulness for God's blessings on our country by having respect for our country's symbols

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

INDEPENDENCE DAY

QUESTIONS:

1. Why is the Fourth of July so important to our country?
2. Why did the 13 colonies want independence?
3. Why was it dangerous to sign the Declaration of Independence?
4. Why is our country so blessed?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

CONSIDER THE COST

TEXT: Psalm 33:12-22

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord"
(Psalm 33:12, NIV).

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord"
(Psalm 33:12).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

AMERICAN FLAG AND FIRECRACKERS

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

HORSE'N RIDER

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

RESPECT FOR GOD'S HOUSE

TEXT: 1 Timothy 4:1,2

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Fourth of July is one of the most important holidays we celebrate as the United States of America. It is a time to take pride in our country. Let's take a trip back in time to when our nation first began. We know the Declaration of Independence was signed by John Hancock on July 4, 1776, but you may not realize why that is so important to our nation.

In 1776, thirteen colonies of America were under the rule of Great Britain. The colonists in America did not like the laws the British government made. They felt the taxes were unfair because "to have to pay taxes without having any say in the government" was an unjust use of power or authority. One of the laws the British government made would not let the colonists settle land any farther west than the 13 colonies. The British felt they had good reasons for the laws. The colonists wanted the freedom to keep moving west.

This was also the time of the minutemen—volunteer soldiers who were ready to fight at a moment's notice. It was the time Americans revolted, or fought, against the British government—the time of the American Revolution. Some very important men were speaking out. They declared, or stated, their independence—being free from rule by the British government. They were George Washington, a plantation owner; two lawyers, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry; a printer and publisher, Benjamin Franklin; a silversmith, Paul Revere; and a businessman, John Hancock.

Signing the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain was a very brave thing to do because rebelling against the king of Britain meant death. Only John Hancock, president of Congress, and Charles Thomson, secretary, signed the declaration on July 4, 1776. It was signed by almost everyone else on August 2. While signing the declaration, Benjamin Franklin said, "We must all hang together. If we don't, we shall all hang separately."

The Declaration of Independence marked our independence from Great Britain. Most importantly, it said the government should be ruled according to the wishes of the people. It also meant freedom from British rule—freedom to go where we want, to say what we want, and most important, to worship and serve God as we want. We should be very thankful that we live in America and have the right to worship and praise God anytime we want to.

This year why don't you join in the Fourth of July celebrations in your town? Ask Mom or Dad to fly the American flag in front of your house. Take time to go see the fireworks display in your city. And most of all, be thankful that you live in such a great country.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, the men there prayed and gave thanks to Almighty God. One of the reasons our country is so blessed is because its founders believed in God.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

CONSIDER THE COST

TEXT: Psalm 33:12-22

"There's our school band," Tom said as he and his sister Sally sat on the curb watching the Fourth of July parade. "Look at old Jack beating on the drum. That drum's almost bigger than he is."

"And look at Old Glory. Isn't she pretty?" said an elderly man who was sitting in a wheelchair.

"Old Glory?" asked Tom. "What's she playing?"

"Don't be silly," Sally said, giggling. "He means the flag."

"Yes," the man said, nodding, "and you two forgot to stand at attention as the flag passed by!"

"Almost no one does that," Sally said.

"You're right," agreed the man. "Only a few do it. I imagine they're the ones who know the price of that flag."

"Price? Did that flag cost more than any other flag?" Tom asked. "Is that a special flag?"

"To me the flag is special," answered the old man.

"If I could stand, I certainly would. I was wounded while fighting for that flag and what it stands for—all the blessings and freedoms we enjoy in this country. I like to believe I am in this wheelchair today so the flag can go down the street. No doubt these other people who stood at attention also fought for Old Glory. Or they know and love someone who did. They know how much it cost because they helped pay the price."

Tom and Sally felt ashamed. "We're sorry, sir," Tom said. "We didn't realize what our freedom cost. Our flag and our freedom will mean more to us now."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Listen to these Bible verses: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance. The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth" (Psalm 33:12-14). We are blessed because we honor God in our country. God is our Lord. He sees all we do on earth. Do you stand at attention when the Pledge of Allegiance is given and when the national anthem is sung? Many brave men and women gave their lives, and others were wounded so we can enjoy all the blessings our flag represents. Show respect for your flag and for your country. Be sure to thank God for being able to live in a country where He is honored. As the Pledge of Allegiance says, it is "under God" that you have the freedom you enjoy.

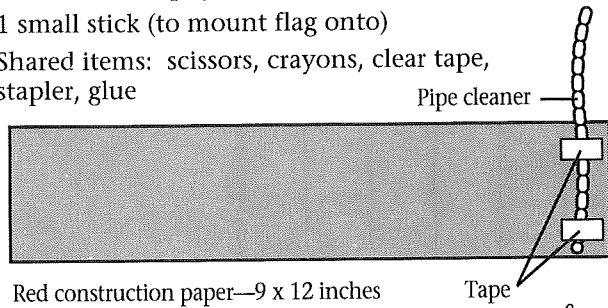
CRAFT

AMERICAN FLAG AND FIRECRACKERS

MATERIALS NEEDED

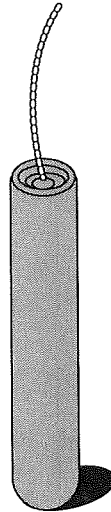
For each boy:

- 1 pipe cleaner
- ½ sheet of red construction paper
- 1 copy of the American flag duplicated from craft illustration on page 228
- 1 small stick (to mount flag onto)
- Shared items: scissors, crayons, clear tape, stapler, glue



DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys cut the pipe cleaner in half.
2. Have the boys cut the half sheet of red construction paper into 2 long pieces, 9 inches by 2 inches.
3. Tape one pipe cleaner to the end of the red construction paper, then roll up the construction paper to form a firecracker.
4. Tape or glue the end to hold it closed. Each boy can make two firecrackers.
5. Have each boy color his flag and staple it to the stick.



RECREATION

HORSE 'N RIDER (or as a team game CAVALRY)

This combative game may be played with two opposing units or as many as the space in which it is being played will allow. It takes two boys to make a unit: a horse 'n rider. The rider holds himself on the back of the "horse" in piggyback style. The object of the game is to either unseat the opposing rider or make the horse 'n rider fall. A rider is considered unseated if he touches the ground in any way.

The cavalry version of this game combines the strenuous exercise with the strategy of a well-planned attack on opposing teams.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

TEXT: 1 Timothy 4:1,2

RESPECT FOR GOD'S HOUSE

Our Christian character trait for this unit is thankful. In our story Tom and Sally did not show their thankfulness for our country very well. But after

they heard the old man's story, they were sorry they hadn't. One of the problems today is that people no longer seem to respect their country or their national flag. People no longer show their respect by standing and placing their hand over their heart when they hear the national anthem.

Every week we start our Royal Ranger meeting by standing at attention and saying the pledge to the American, Christian, and Royal Ranger flags. This is because we, as Royal Rangers, are proud of our country. We want you boys to learn to respect the flag of our nation. It is important for us to take pride in our country and realize that God has blessed it. The founders of our country believed in God and worshiped Him. So should we.

Many people in our country take our freedom and liberty for granted. They are not thankful to God for all of His blessings. Some people would like to see the words *In God We Trust* removed from our money. They don't believe in God and they don't want us to believe in God either. The Bible says:

"The Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:1,2).

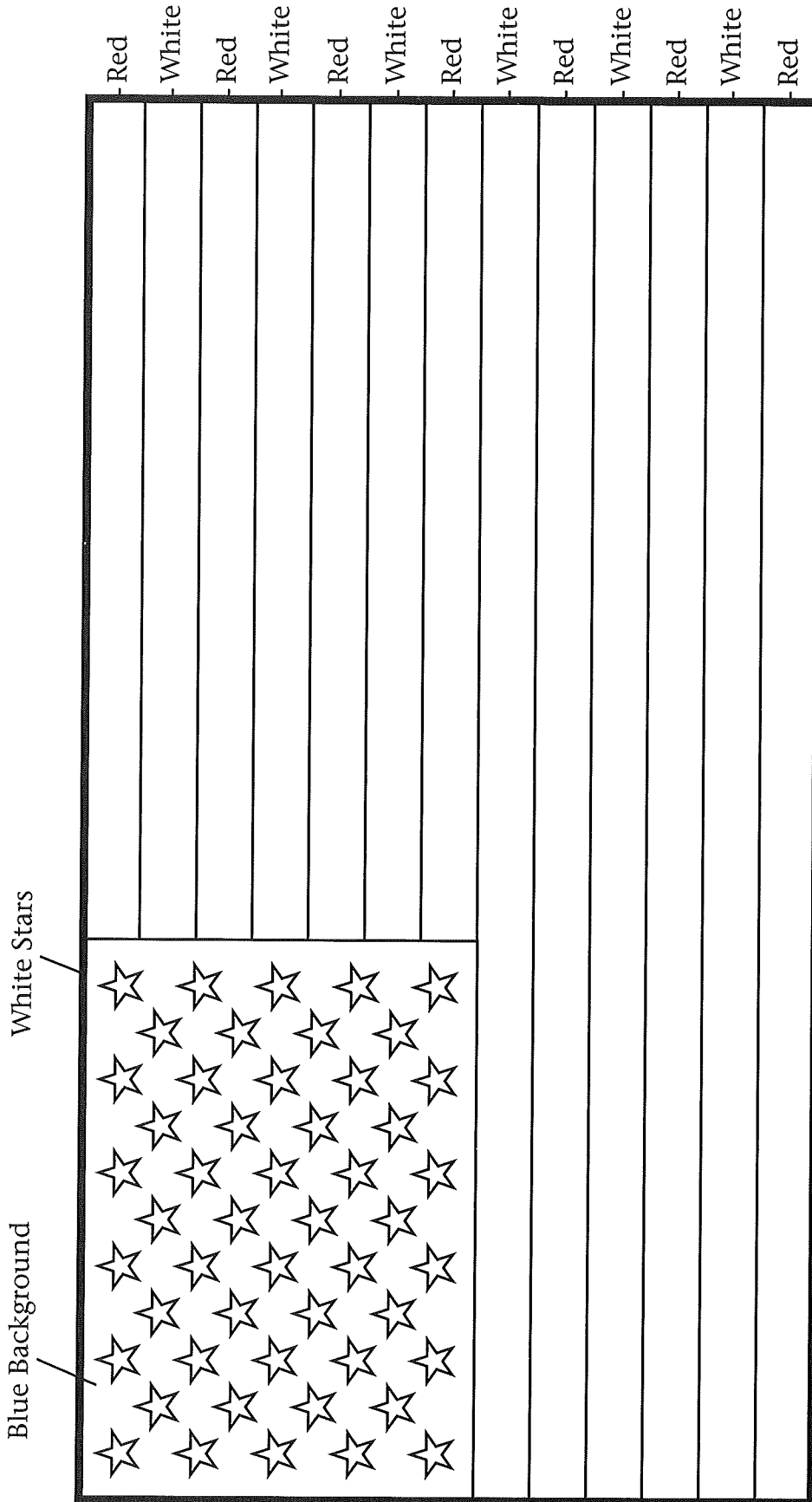
The Bible tells us some people will not believe in God. They will listen to lying spirits and teaching that comes from the devil. Perhaps that explains why some people want the words *In God We Trust* removed from our money. We are no longer allowed to pray in our schools. Those who go to Christian schools should be thankful to Mom and Dad for letting them go there.

We show honor or dishonor for God by the way we act in God's house. In many churches today we have lost respect for God's house. After the service, people talk in the aisles, and children run around the sanctuary. It is sad that we don't respect the house of God. As Royal Rangers we should set the example of how to act in church. If we are going to live by the Royal Ranger Code, then we need to be polite, kind, and thoughtful whenever we are in church as well as when we are at home. We need to show respect for others and act as Christians no matter where we are.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you been one of those boys who run and play in church? Does the pastor or an usher have to ask you not to run on the platform? Today is the time to ask Jesus to forgive you for not honoring Him. Decide to show respect for others all the time and especially while you are in the church building. Show your thankfulness for God's blessings by honoring God in the things you do and say.

TODAY'S KEY: Be thankful for our nation.



MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 12 THEME:

Special Days

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Thankful

LESSON 51:

Thanksgiving Day

LESSON AIM:

To teach that we should be thankful every day for God's blessings

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

THANKSGIVING DAY

QUESTIONS:

1. When you hear the words *Thanksgiving Day*, what do you think of?
2. When was the first Thanksgiving Day?
3. What were the Plymouth colonists thankful for?
4. What kind of food was eaten on the first Thanksgiving Day?
5. When did Thanksgiving become a national holiday?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

GIVE THANKS TO GOD!

TEXT: Psalm 95:1-7

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever" (Psalm 136:1, NIV).

"Give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever" (Psalm 136:1).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

HAND THANKSGIVING TURKEY

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

THE TURKEY HUNT

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

THANK YOU

TEXT: Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

THANKSGIVING DAY

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you think about Thanksgiving Day? If you are like most Americans, you probably think about getting together with family and friends and having a big turkey dinner with lots of good food and, of course, pumpkin pie for dessert. Some of you may also think about the first Thanksgiving Day in America when the Pilgrims and Indians held a big feast together and ate outside on long tables.

Do any of you know when that first Thanksgiving Day was held? (*Let the boys answer.*) It was in July 1623. It was a day set aside by Governor William Bradford for the special purpose of prayer as well as celebration. It was not the first celebration held in the New World by the Plymouth colonists. Two years earlier, in 1621, Governor Bradford made a law that a 3-day feast be held. This was after the first terrible winter that nearly half of the members of the colony had died. The reason for this 3-day feast was the plentiful corn harvest and the fact that they had survived the harsh winter. Today most people think of this 3-day feast as the first Thanksgiving Day even though prayer was not included in the governor's law.

During those first Thanksgiving celebrations, the Plymouth colonists invited the local Pokanoket Indians to their feast. The Indians brought deer meat and wild turkeys. The men of the colony brought geese, ducks, and fish. The women fixed journey cake (cornmeal bread with nuts) and succotash. Since the colonists homes were small, everyone ate outside on long tables.

The custom of Thanksgiving Day spread from Plymouth to other New England colonies, but it was more than 150 years later before a national day of thanks was again made a law. President George Washington made November 26, 1789, a day of thanksgiving. That same year the Protestant Episcopal Church announced a regular yearly day for giving thanks would be held on the first Thursday in November, "unless another day be appointed by the civil authorities."

For many years after that, no regular national Thanksgiving Day was celebrated in the United States. Some states celebrated a Thanksgiving holiday, but others did not. New York was the first state to make an official state Thanksgiving Day in 1830. Other states soon did the same.

Thanksgiving Day as we know it began in 1863, during the Civil War. President Lincoln announced the last Thursday in November as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our Heavenly Father. Then every year after that the President of the United States would announce the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day. Finally, in 1941, Congress ruled that Thanksgiving Day would be the fourth Thursday of November and would be a legal holiday.

BIBLE HERITAGE TIME

GIVE THANKS TO GOD!

TEXT: Psalm 95:1-7

Thanksgiving means giving thanks to God for all His blessings to us. We should do this every day. We should not wait for Thanksgiving Day once a year to give thanks to God for His love and mercy to us. The Bible tells us this:

"O Come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand" (Psalm 95:1-7).

This verse says the Lord is "the rock of our salvation." Think about a big rock. It is solid and hard. It does not change shape or move from day to day. It is always the same. God is like that—always the same. He is unchangeable. His love for us does not change from day to day. What He says and feels toward us is the same every day. He doesn't love us one day and then not like us the next because we did wrong. Because He never changes, we can place our trust and hope in God. He will not let us down. He will do what He has promised to do in His Word, the Bible.

When problems come in our lives, we can count on God. He is the rock of our salvation. Think about a big rock cliff down by the ocean. When a big storm comes along, and waves beat and pound upon that rock, it does not move. Big trees can fall on the rock and strong winds blow on it, but it does not change or move. God is the same way. He does not change. His Word is something we can count on. He said He will forgive us; He will. He said He hears our prayers; He does. He said He will never leave us; He won't. He said He will always love us; He will. Remember, no matter how bad the problems we face seem to be, we can trust in God.

God is like a never-changing rock in His tenderness and love toward us. He cares about the smallest thing that happens to us. He knows how many hairs are on our heads. He really loves us and wants the best for us. His mercy (kindness and forgiveness even though we don't deserve it) will last forever. God loves us so much that He will give us eternal life if we will believe in His Son Jesus. He has promised to forgive and cleanse us from all our sins, if we will just ask Him. God's love, mercy, and promises to us will not change. We can stand in complete belief on His promise to forgive our sins and save us from eternal punishment. That is why the Bible says God is "the rock of our salvation." These are some of the reasons we should be thankful to God every day. Listen to our Bible text again and see if you can find some other reasons to thank the Lord. (*Read the text again.*)

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Are you thankful to God for His love, mercy, and forgiveness? Have you asked Him into your heart? Have you told Him you are sorry for your sins? If you have, you need to thank Him for forgiving you and for being the rock of your salvation.

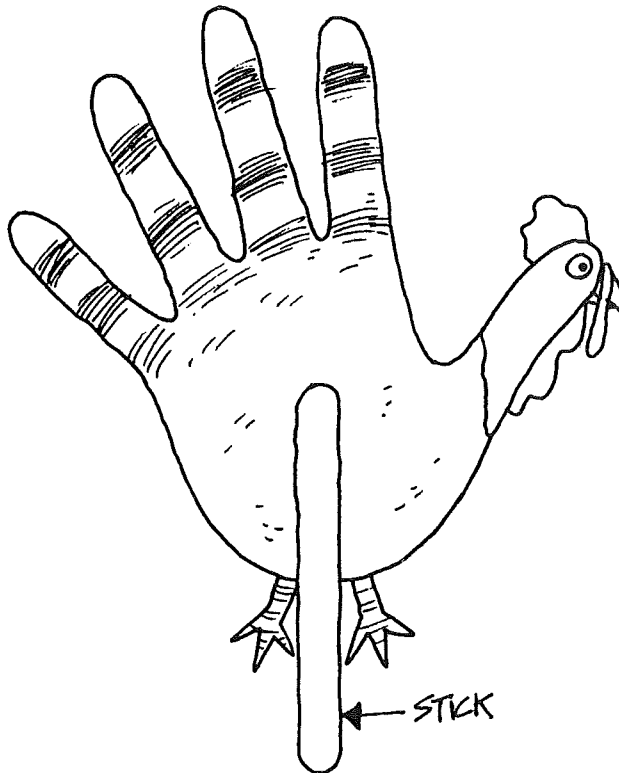
CRAFT**HAND THANKSGIVING TURKEY****MATERIALS NEEDED**

For each boy:

1 small craft stick ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch by 4½ inches)

1 sheet of white paper

Shared items: scissors, crayons or markers, glue, and pencils

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Have the boys trace their left hand on the white paper with a pencil.
2. Have the boys complete the turkey by drawing the bottom, feet, beak, comb, and wattles (the red fleshy growth on the head and neck).
3. Have the boys color their turkeys, adding feathers, eyes, and other details.
4. Have the boys cut out their turkeys and glue them to their craft sticks.

RECREATION**THE TURKEY HUNT**

Have the boys sit on the floor facing the commander. The commander tells a story about a turkey hunt, making motions illustrating the action. The boys follow the motions of the commander. Be as creative as possible in making up the story. You may wish to have one of the boys tell part of the story and show what happened next. Here is an example of a story about a turkey hunt:

"One day I took a walk through the woods (*slap hands alternately on knees, simulating a slow walk*) to look for a turkey (*form binoculars with hands and put to eyes*). I came to a river and had to swim across (*swimming motions*). When I got to the other side, I shook the water from my body (*shake*).

"Suddenly, I heard a turkey gobble (*make noise like a turkey*), so I quickly climbed a tree (*climbing motions*) and looked all around for the turkey (*binoculars*). I saw the turkey sitting on a hill eating seeds (*peck the ground*), so I climbed down the tree (*climb down*), and tiptoed toward the turkey (*fingers imitate tiptoeing on knee*). When the turkey saw me, he flapped his wings (*flap arms*) and started to chase me (*slap hands on knees*). I got scared so I ran to the river (*slap hands on knees*), dived in (*hands together, as if diving*), swam to the other side (*fast swimming*), shook off the water (*shake quickly*), and ran through the woods all the way home (*running motions with hands on knees*). That was the end of my turkey hunt."

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**THANK YOU****TEXT: Psalm 136:1-9,23-26**

Doug was disgusted. His little sister was always asking for something. "Lisa's a pest!" Doug said as he helped his mother prepare supper one day.

"Lisa's young and needs her big brother," Mother said.

"Well, I wish she'd at least remember to say thank you once in a while," Doug grumbled as he placed the dishes on the table for supper.

"Something smells delicious!" Dad said as he came into the kitchen just then. He went to the door. "Come on, kids. Time to eat," he called to the other children. Eagerly the family gathered around the table.

"Heavenly Father," Dad prayed, "thank You for this beautiful day and for the food You've provided for us. Thank You also for each member of this family. Amen."

After supper Doug helped his mother wash and put away the dishes. "Mom—" Doug hesitated. "Do you remember what I said about Lisa?"

"Do you mean about how she always asks things of you and then forgets to say thanks?" asked Mother.

Doug nodded. "I was just thinking about the way

Dad prayed before supper. It wasn't really what he said, but how he said it. Do you know what I mean, Mom? He's really thankful to God."

Mother smiled. "God is very good to us. He gives us everything we need."

"I feel so guilty," Doug admitted as he hung up his towel. "I was complaining because Lisa doesn't thank me, but I'm even worse. I forget to thank God!"

Mother dried her hands. "What do you think you should do about that?"

"I think I should go and thank Him now," Doug decided. He went to his room, knelt beside his bed, and whispered, "Heavenly Father, thank You for being so loving and kind to me. Thanks for my family and friends, for food and clothing, and most of all for Your Son Jesus in my life. Please forgive me for not remembering to say thank you more often. Amen."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you like to have people thank you when you do something for them? What you do for others can't compare with all God has done for you. Listen to what the Bible says. "O Give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever: the sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: the moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth forever. O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy endureth for ever" (Psalm 136:1-9,26). Have you thanked God today? Think of at least three things God has done for you and thank Him right now. *(Bow with the boys for a moment of thanks. You might ask each boy to say a sentence of thanks for one thing.)*

TODAY'S KEY: Be thankful every day.

MEETING OUTLINE

UNIT 12 THEME:

Special Days

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER TRAIT:

Thankful

LESSON 52:

Valentine's Day

LESSON AIM:

To teach that God loves us and disciplines us as our loving Heavenly Father

Date

OPENING (Business) (5-10 minutes)

1. Recite the pledges to the American, Christian, and Royal Rangers flags.
2. Ask for praise reports and prayer requests, then open in prayer.
3. Fall out, take roll call, and collect dues.

WESTERN HERITAGE (10 minutes)

HOW VALENTINE'S DAY GOT STARTED

QUESTIONS:

1. Name some things people did during the Lupercalia Festival.
2. What are some of the stories about St. Valentine?
3. What is the best valentine you have ever received?

BIBLE HERITAGE (10 minutes)

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

TEXT: Hebrew 12:5-14

SHARPSHOOTER (5 minutes)

"Love one another deeply, from the heart"
(1 Peter 1:22, NIV).

"Love one another with a pure heart, fervently"
(1 Peter 1:22).

CRAFT AND ADVANCEMENT TRAIL (30 minutes)

VALENTINE'S DAY BLACKBOARD

RECREATION (15-20 minutes)

SPOOF

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY (10 minutes)

WHY DOES GOD DISCIPLINE US?

TEXT: Hebrews 12:9-11

WESTERN HERITAGE TIME

HOW VALENTINE'S DAY GOT STARTED

February 14 is a special day when we send valentines to each other. What does it mean when someone asks you, "Be my valentine"? What is a valentine? No one knows for sure where the custom of sending valentines came from. Many say it began with a Roman festival called Lupercalia. Others claim it started with an early Christian martyr named Valentine.

The early Roman festival of Lupercalia was really held on February 15 instead of February 14. During the festival, young men would take strips of leather and hit people. Many women believed the beating would help them become pregnant. The men would also write the names of the girls who would be their partners during the festival on papers and pin them on their sleeves. That may be where we got the saying about wearing one's heart on one's sleeve. The couple might also exchange presents. This may be why we exchange valentines today.

There are many stories about two saints of the early Christian church named Valentine. In one story a priest named Valentine, who lived in the year 200, secretly married young couples against the emperor's orders. It seems the emperor thought it would be better for his soldiers to remain single, so he would not allow them to marry.

Another story tells us about an early Christian named Valentine who was sent to prison because he would not worship the Romans' gods. Many children missed him because he was their friend, so they wrote loving notes to him and threw them between the bars of his prison window. While he was in prison, he prayed for the jailer's blind daughter. God gave the girl her sight. It is believed that Valentine was killed on February 14, in the year 269, and that 200 years later the Pope named that day St. Valentine's Day in honor of him. It may be that we celebrate Valentine's Day by sending valentines to each other just as the children sent love notes to Valentine while he was in prison.

BIBLE HERITAGE

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

TEXT: Hebrews 12:5-14

It was Grandparents' Day at Tommy's school. As usual, Tommy's grandpa came for the program. Grandpa listened with interest as the children read what they had written on what they liked about their grandparents. Katie said she liked her grandma because she gave her nice gifts. Bobby liked his grandpa because he always had candy for him. Amanda liked her grandpa because he often took her to nice restaurants and never scolded her. Tommy's report was different. As he read it, he saw his grandpa smile.

After school, Grandpa said "Tommy, I was proud and pleased with what you wrote about me."

"Well, you always do have time for me," Tommy

said. "You listen when I tell you something and you take time to help me when I need you. You're not afraid to say no to me or to scold me either. I don't always like it when you do that, but I know you're right. I'm glad you do it anyway."

"Ummm. I'm pleased to hear you say that, Tommy," Grandpa said. "You know, the things you like about me are also some of the things I like about God."

"Really?" asked Tommy.

Grandpa nodded. "God always listens to me when I pray and He is there when I need Him," he said. "He helps me say no to bad things. If I don't, He punishes me. Then He helps me admit I'm wrong and apologize to people. He not only saved me, but He always does what is best for me."

"Yeah, God is like that, isn't He?" Tommy said thoughtfully. "I'm even thankful He doesn't always give us what we want. If He had, we wouldn't have moved to this town. Then I wouldn't have gotten to see so much of you."

Grandpa smiled. "I'm glad you like both God and me for the right reasons. I want to be a godly grandpa who does what's best for you. I'm so glad that's what you want too."

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you like people for what they give you or because you can get them to do what you want? You ought to love them for themselves, not for their gifts. You should even be glad for discipline, because it makes you a better person. And you should love God, not only for giving you eternal life, but for always being there to help you. You should love Him for sending what is best for you, even when it hurts. Listen to what the Bible tells us about how God is like a father to us.

"You have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reproved by Him; for those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?" (Hebrews 12:5-7, NASB).

Let's remember to be thankful for the love God has for us as His children.

CRAFT

VALENTINE'S DAY BLACKBOARD

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each boy:

4 small craft sticks ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches)

$\frac{1}{4}$ sheet of black construction paper

1 string (6 inches long)

Shared items: scissors, white chalk, tape



Black construction paper

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have the boys glue the four craft sticks together to form a 4½-inch square. The end of two craft sticks should be under the ends of the other two craft sticks.
2. Have the boys glue the black construction paper to the back of the craft sticks and trim off any excess paper.
3. Have the boys print with chalk on their black paper, on the side that has the craft stick frame, the following: HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, MOM (or DAD). They can add a heart shape around the words.
4. Have the boys tape their strings to the back of their crafts to form loops so they can hang them.

RECREATION**SPOOF**

Have each boy sit in a circle on a chair or bench. In the middle of the circle place a few small objects, such as clothespins or spoons called bones. All the players hold their ankles or put their feet on chairs to keep them off the floor. The object of the game is to reach the pile of "bones" and grab one when the leader (who tells a fictitious story) says the word "spoof." Any players who do not get a bone are eliminated and must sit on the floor in front of their chairs. Similarly, any player whose feet touch the floor before the word "spoof" is used is out. Remove bones as the boys are eliminated. To create suspense, use words such as "spoon," "spool," "spoke" in the story. The player who remains in the game the longest wins.

DEVOTIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**WHY DOES GOD DISCIPLINE US?****TEXT:** Hebrews 12:9-11

In our Bible study we learned that Tommy liked his grandpa because he had time for him, he listened to him, and he was not afraid to say no or punish him if he did wrong. These are qualities that God has also.

God loves us so much He sent His Son Jesus to die for our sins. Then He raised Jesus from the dead. That showed His love and His power for us. Listen to what the Bible says about God's discipline:

"We had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness" (Hebrews 12:9-11, NASB).

Have you ever been punished by your dad? How did he punish you? (*Let the boys answer.*) Our fathers or mothers have many ways of correcting us. There are some good ways and some very bad ways that our parents punish us. Have you ever been punished or scolded by your mom or dad unfairly? That happens sometimes. Listen to what the Bible says: "We have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!" (Hebrews 12:9, NIV).

How many of you think God will punish you as your parents do? Let me see your hands. How many of you think God will *not* punish you as your parents do? Let me see your hands. God does not discipline us as our parents do. He disciplines us for our good so that we can be holy like He is. God's discipline is to help us learn self-control. If you have a parent who punishes you unfairly, you might think God would punish you the same way.

God is a loving God and He cares for you. He is not like your parents or others who may treat you unfairly. Sometimes parents aren't sure about what they should do. Sometimes they make mistakes and punish the wrong child. God corrects only to help you become a son of God. He wants you to live in heaven with Him forever. You can't go there if you have sin in your life. God does not make mistakes. He knows everything you do. God will discipline you only to remove sin from your life. Remember, if you have sin in your life, you can't get into heaven. Through His Son Jesus, God has made a way for all of our sins—past, present, and future—to be forgiven. All we have to do is be truly sorry for them and ask God to forgive us.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Has God reminded you of something wrong you have done that could keep you from going to heaven? God will discipline you when you allow sin to remain in your life. God uses parents, teachers, pastors, and the Bible to tell us when we have done wrong. When you are disciplined for doing wrong, ask God to forgive you and help you not to do it again. Then thank God that He loves you enough to want you to do right so you can someday be in heaven with Him.

TODAY'S KEY: Thank God for His loving discipline.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bellview, Cheryl Walsh. *Rodeo*. Minneapolis: Caralrhoda Books, 1985.
- Bierhorst, John. *A Cry from the Earth, Music of the North American Indians*. New York: Four Winds Press, 1979.
- Faucett, L. W. and G. C. Latham. *David Livingstone in East Africa*, 6th ed. London: Humphrey Milford Oxford University Press, 1944.
- Henry, Marguerite. *Birds at Home*. Chicago: Rand McNally & Company, 1972.
- James, Barbara. *Waste and Recycling*. Austin, Texas: Steck-Vaughn Co., 1990.
- Johnstone, Hugh. *Facts on Domestic Waste and Industrial Pollutants*. New York: Franklin Watts, 1990.
- Morey, George. *With Livingstone in South Africa*. London: Frederick Muller Limited, 1963.
- Rounds, Glen. *The Cowboy Trade*. New York: Holiday House, 1972.
- Saunders, Susan. *The Mystery of the Hard Luck Rodeo*. New York: Random House, 1989.
- Seaver, George. *David Livingstone, His Life and Letters*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1957.
- Simmons, Jack. *Livingstone and Africa*. New York: Collier Books, 1962.
- Swinburne, Irene and Lawrence. *Cows and Cowboys Yesterday and Today*. New York: Parents' Magazine Press, 1976.

BUCKAROO ADVANCEMENT AWARD HANDOUTS

The forms on the following pages are designed to assist you as a commander in keeping track of each boy's advancements. Make a photocopy of the award sheet for each boy and keep them in a folder. When a boy finishes a requirement, mark it on the sheet. When a boy finishes the requirements give him his award.

There is an additional sheet that may be used if a boy finishes the program early. The Buckaroo Shirt or Hat challenge has 12 requirements that should take 3 months to complete. When a boy has passed these requirements, present him with a cowboy hat or a Buckaroos T-shirt.



BUCKAROO GREENHORN AWARD

Name _____ Date Started _____

INITIAL & DATE	READ PAGE(S)	REQUIREMENTS <i>(Do one each week)</i>
_____	7	BE AT LEAST 7 YEARS OLD.
_____	7-8	MEMORIZE THE ROYAL RANGER PLEDGE.
_____	7-8	LEARN THE ROYAL RANGER MOTTO.
_____	7	ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL REGULARLY.
_____	8	MEMORIZE THE GOLDEN RULE (Luke 6:31).

EXTRA ASSIGNMENTS

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



BUCKAROO WRANGLER AWARD

Name _____ Date Started _____

INITIAL & DATE	READ PAGE(S)	REQUIREMENTS <i>(Do one each week)</i>
_____	11-12	LEARN THE ROYAL RANGER CODE AND RECITE IT TO YOUR COMMANDER.
_____	13-15	EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF THE FOUR GOLD POINTS AND FOUR RED POINTS.
_____	13-15	EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF THE EIGHT BLUE POINTS.
_____	16-19	MEMORIZE JOHN 3:16.
_____	19	COMPLETE THE "SOMETHING TO DO."
_____	20-22	EXPLAIN THE DUTIES OF THE POINT RIDER, FOREMAN, AND ASSISTANT FOREMAN. (optional)
_____	23	MEMORIZE THE 23RD PSALM.
_____	24	COMPLETE THE QUESTIONS AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE.
_____	24-25	ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH FOR 2 MONTHS WITHOUT MISSING.
_____	25	MEMORIZE EPHESIANS 6:1.
_____	25	DO AN ERRAND IN YOUR HOME EACH DAY FOR 2 FULL WEEKS.



BUCKAROO RANGE RIDER AWARD

Name _____ Date Started _____

INITIAL & DATE	READ PAGE(S)	REQUIREMENTS <i>(Do one each week)</i>
_____	27-30	EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF THE ROYAL RANGERS PLEDGE.
_____	27	EXPLAIN WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO LIVE BY THE ROYAL RANGER CODE.
_____	31-32	MEMORIZE MATTHEW 7:13,14.
_____	32	COMPLETE THE "SOMETHING TO DO."
_____	33	READ ONE BOOK OF THE BIBLE (AS LISTED IN THE HANDBOOK).
_____	33	MEMORIZE THE LORD'S PRAYER, MATTHEW 6:9-13.
_____	34-36	MEMORIZE MATTHEW 25:21.
_____	36	ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH FOR 3 MONTHS WITHOUT MISSING.
_____	37	LEARN THE NAMES OF YOUR RANCH OFFICERS AND EXPLAIN THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES.
_____	38-39	MEMORIZE JOHN 15:12.
_____	39	DO AN ERRAND IN YOUR HOME EACH DAY FOR 4 FULL WEEKS.
_____		BE A WRANGLER FOR AT LEAST 3 MONTHS.



BUCKAROO TOP HAND AWARD

Name _____ Date Started _____

INITIAL & DATE	READ PAGE(S)	REQUIREMENTS <i>(Do one each week)</i>
_____	41-48	EXPLAIN EACH POINT OF THE ROYAL RANGER CODE. GIVE SOME EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU LIVE BY THE ROYAL RANGER CODE.
_____	49	COMPLETE THE "SOMETHING TO DO."
_____	49-50	MEMORIZE MATTHEW 16:26.
_____	51-52	MEMORIZE 2 TIMOTHY 3:16.
_____	52	MEMORIZE PSALM 119:11.
_____	52	MEMORIZE PSALM 119:105.
_____	52	MEMORIZE PSALM 119:140
_____	52	MEMORIZE ROMANS 1:16.
_____	52	MEMORIZE HEBREWS 4:12.
_____	52	MEMORIZE PSALM 119:9.
_____	52	MEMORIZE JOHN 20:31.
_____	52	MEMORIZE JOHN 5:39.
_____	52	MEMORIZE ISAIAH 40:8.
_____	53-54	LEARN THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR CHURCH. TELL HOW TO GET THERE.
_____	54	ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH 3 MONTHS WITHOUT MISSING.
_____	54-55	MEMORIZE ROMANS 12:10.
_____	54-55	SERVE AS A FOREMAN OR ASSISTANT FOREMAN.
_____	56-57	MEMORIZE JOHN 14:15.
_____	57	MAKE A LIST OF FAMILY RULES, AND EXPLAIN WHY YOU SHOULD OBEY THEM.
_____	57	SHOW YOUR COMMANDER YOUR LIST OF DAILY CHORES.
_____	58-63	COMPLETE A NATURE PROJECT. BE A RANGE RIDER FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS.



BUCKAROO SHIRT OR HAT CHALLENGE

Name _____ Date Started _____

INITIAL & DATE

REQUIREMENTS *(Do one each week)*

- _____ MEMORIZE HEBREWS 13:5.
- _____ READ EXODUS 15:1-2 AND TELL WHY THE PEOPLE WERE SINGING.
- _____ MEMORIZE PSALM 34:1.
- _____ READ EPHESIANS 6:11-13 AND LIST THE ARMOR OF GOD.
- _____ MEMORIZE EPHESIANS 5:20.
- _____ MEMORIZE PHILIPPIANS 4:19.
- _____ LEAD A NEW GROUP GAME YOU SELECT.
- _____ MEMORIZE JAMES 2:19.
- _____ MEMORIZE JAMES 4:17.
- _____ MEMORIZE 1 PETER 5:6-7.
- _____ MEMORIZE 1 JOHN 4:19.
- _____ MEMORIZE 1 JOHN 1:9.

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES