

Spring 1998

HIGH *Adventure*

LEADER'S EDITION

HEROES of the faith

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A Lesson in Courage

Gary Hagan

"Rise and shine, Bright Eyes; wouldn't want to be late on the first day of school." Mom could be so cheerful in those early morning hours. That in itself was a mockery when you consider the ominous distinction of what was ahead of me today.

"Do I really have to go?" I asked in a whining plea. My mother continued about her morning routine as if she were programmed for efficiency any time, any place.

"You know your father and I worked very hard to give you the opportunity to study in one of the finest schools in the country," she quipped.

As I grabbed my braces and grudgingly strapped them to my legs, I felt a queasy sensation welling up in the pit of my stomach. As I fumbled with my clothes and reached for my crutches, I already anticipated the cutting verbal jabs that always were a part of my day. Why couldn't I be normal and not be a reject from Ringling Brothers?

My dad was a giant of a

dude with kind, understanding eyes that seemed to sear right through you and uncover your true feelings. "The first day is always the toughest, Rusty, but the morning paper promises an added incentive to help you bear the looks," Dad reported. "Seems one of the NASA astronauts scheduled for an upcoming mission is returning to Longfellow Junior High. He'll receive an honorary award in recognition of courageous service to our country," he said.

"Wow, that is impressive," I exclaimed as I polished off the last spoonful of soggy cereal. I have been interested in space exploration ever since I can remember. It was a dream of mine to one day become a pilot and aspire to flying adventurous and danger-filled missions

for my country. All this was BMD, rather. Before I was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy and my future took a nosedive.

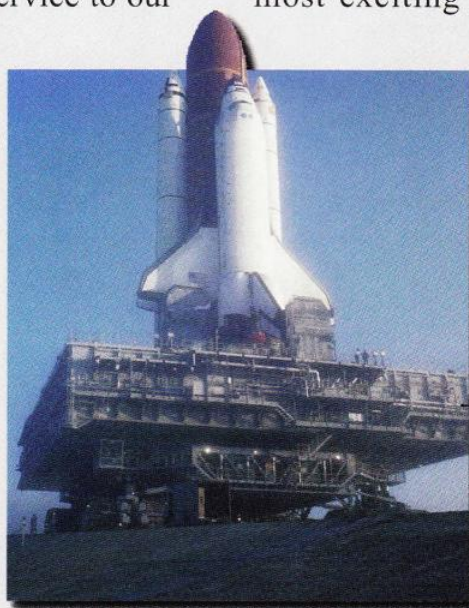
Dad was right; there was more snap and determination in my walk as I maneuvered up the handicap ramp of the school. I was so preoccupied that I was oblivious to Mr. Peterson, the school's principal, waiting eagerly for my arrival.

"Are you ready for the most exciting year of your life, Rusty?" he exclaimed.

"Yeah, you bet," I said halfheartedly. It always seemed like such a token conversation with him, like he was fulfill-

ing a commitment to charity by speaking to me.

"Rusty, I need to ask a favor of you," Peterson replied as he frigidly back-



stepped out of my way. "I'd like you to be the presenter of the award to Astronaut Mike Olson at the assembly today."

My jaw seemed to become unhinged as I became aware that I was dumbfounded and staring wide-eyed in disbelief. My tongue and lips stammered a hurried response before I had time to reason an excuse. "You bet, it would be an honor!"

The arrangements were made, and I nervously awaited my cue among all the backstage turmoil. Now reality was lashing at me and building its usual blocks of fear and insecurities. *I'll be such a spectacle*, I thought to myself, *and an embarrassment to the school and our esteemed guest.*

Mr. Olson was ushered by me and was introduced before a loud ovation that seemed to reverberate in my ears. My pulse was racing and my arms trembled as I grasped my crutches with my sweaty palms. Another student handed me the plaque as I caught the tail end of Mr. Peterson's speech in preparation of the presentation.

The walk to the podium was about 20 feet, but it might as well have been 20 miles. I started my entrance

and I already could detect the snickers and giggles that haunted me and made me feel so inept. I lost my grip on my crutch and my right side support gave way. I stumbled to the floor, but managed to cradle the plaque in the fall. The silence that ensued was deafening.



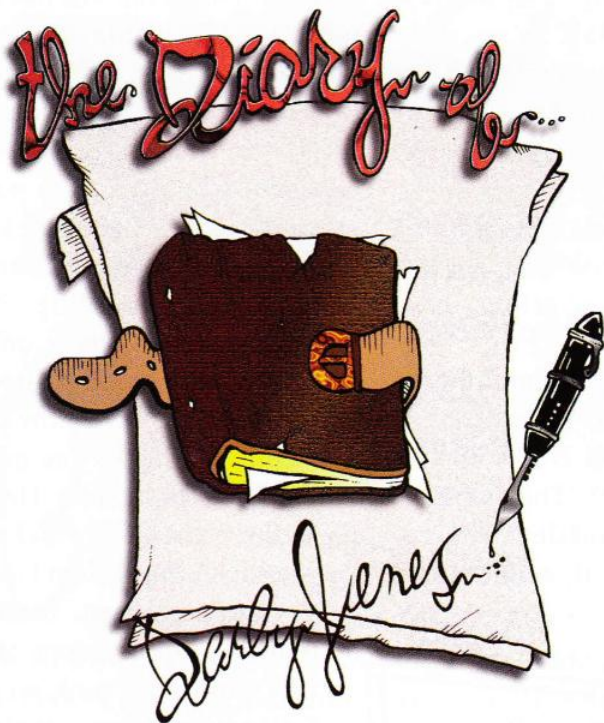
I reached for my crutch and fought the futile battle to hold back tears. I painstakingly concentrated every muscle I had left to push myself up and continue my trek. For what seemed like hours, I awkwardly stepped off the last few steps. I extended sheepishly a trembling hand to deliver the coveted award to its rightful owner.

Mr. Olson grasped the award and laid it gently down on the podium. He moved closer to me and

embraced me firmly with his strong arms. As he pulled back I noticed he, too, was crying. The words that he spoke that day are engraved on my heart forever:

"Today, after 33 missions in Vietnam as a fighter pilot and 5 years of extensive training for a future rendezvous in space, I received the biggest lesson in courage to date. I am reminded of an author who wrote that man's glory doesn't lie in never falling, but in rising every time he falls. When everyday rising and facing life presents the challenges of this young man, that is the epitome of real courage. I would be honored to share this plaque with a young man of his caliber, and if he agrees his name will be engraved alongside mine."

Mr. Olson's comments were greeted with a thunderous standing ovation as we stood side-by-side holding the plaque together. As I walked off the stage that day headed for my next class, I knew things would be different. My classmates would look at me in a different light now. I had a new perspective on life and my future. This crippled young man had just been launched sky high and would never come down again.



DARBY THE HERO

BY ROBB HAWKS

"Hi! I'm Darby Jones. Well, actually, I'm Darby Jones, Junior. I'm a Pioneer, and my dad, Darby Jones, Senior, is the commander. Have you ever wanted to be a millionaire? Who hasn't? Well, it almost happened to me . . . sort of."

"Okay boys. Now remember, next Saturday we will have our first car wash to try and raise the money we need to go to Camporama. Let's pray. Dear Jesus, You know the money we need to raise to go to Camporama. Please supply it according to Your riches in heaven. Amen," Commander Jones said as he dismissed the Pioneers meeting.

Early Saturday morning, Darby met with fellow Pioneer, Josh, to ride their skateboards to the church for the car wash. They washed cars all day.

"How much money did we

make, Commander Jones?" Josh asked.

"Let's see. We earned about \$145," Commander Jones said.

"Wow, that's a lot of money," Josh exclaimed.

"Yes it is, but we will need \$300 for each boy going to Camporama. We have a long way to go," Commander Jones said.

"At this rate, we will never get the money together!" Josh complained.

"You just have to be like the Bible heroes of old. You just have to have faith!" Commander Jones answered.

Josh picked up his skateboard and headed home. Darby was right behind him.

"Wait up for me," Darby cried, but Josh just raced down the hill faster and faster. Darby pumped his legs a couple more times as he tried to get more

speed out of his skateboard. Josh made the turn at the bottom of the hill with Darby just a few yards behind him. Suddenly Darby heard a huge crash followed by a scream!

Oh no, Josh has crashed! He thought. Darby pumped his legs a few more times and then slid around the curve at the bottom of the hill. Suddenly Darby's skateboard hit something flat and shiny. The front wheels stopped abruptly and Darby went sailing through the air to come crashing down right on top of Josh.

"Ouch!" Josh screamed.

"Ugh," Darby replied.

The two boys untangled themselves from each other and slowly got to their feet. They each reached down to pick up their skateboards, before they realized what had caused their high-speed wrecks. The road

was covered with money! Pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and even paper money were scattered across the street.

Darby and Josh looked up the road and saw the source of the riches. An armored truck had just been involved in a severe wreck. The back door had burst open and money was scattered *everywhere*. As the boys watched, people began rushing out into the street, picking up the money and stuffing it into their pockets.

"What are we waiting for?" Josh cried as he dropped his

ished counting his money. "Wow, \$1,287.36!"

Darby responded with his total: "\$1,132.54!"

"We're rich! We can pay our Camporama fee, buy new packs, a new tent, even some fancy hiking boots," Josh exclaimed. "Our prayers have been answered!"

Darby thought about this as he skateboarded toward home. Was this indeed God's answer to their prayers? The cracks in the sidewalk made a thump, thump, thumping sound as he

be met? No! This was not God meeting his needs; this was how the devil got things done!

Darby made his decision. He turned around and went back three blocks to the police station. An hour later, after returning the money, giving a statement, and signing some forms, Darby was back on the sidewalk and heading home. Darby was not sure how God was going to supply his needs, but he felt great inside. He had done the right thing, and now he would put his faith in God.

The newspaper the next morning ran the story about the armored Truck wreck. Editorials were written about how dishonest society had become and how over \$200,000 was missing from the armored truck. But on the front page, right alongside all the important world news, was a photo

of Darby Jones with the headline, "LOCAL BOY HERO RETURNS MISSING MONEY." The article told Darby's story. He was the only person who had willingly returned the money.

All day long people called to congratulate him on his honesty. Even the city mayor called. Everyone was calling him a hometown hero, but Darby knew the truth. He wasn't a hometown hero, but a hero of heaven. Darby knew in his heart that he was a hero—though a small one—a true hero of the faith.



skateboard and

began shoving money into his own pockets. Darby paused for a moment and then dropped to his knees and began to grab all the money he could. Within minutes hundreds of people covered the streets. Then sirens were heard and police cars began arriving. The people scattered. Josh and Darby mounted their skateboards and sped for home. When they got to Josh's house, they counted their money.

Josh let out a yell as he fin-

ished counting his money. "Wow, \$1,287.36!" Darby responded with his total: "\$1,132.54!" "We're rich! We can pay our Camporama fee, buy new packs, a new tent, even some fancy hiking boots," Josh exclaimed. "Our prayers have been answered!" Darby thought about this as he skateboarded toward home. Was this indeed God's answer to their prayers? The cracks in the sidewalk made a thump, thump, thumping sound as he

sped down the streets toward his home. He had not worked for the money. The money had not been given to him. He couldn't even argue that the money was lost. He knew who it belonged to. It had fallen out of the truck because of an accident. He had taken the money . . . he had stolen the money. But hadn't they prayed and asked God to supply their need? Yes, he argued with himself. But does God need to have his children steal for their needs to

Building Models

Fred Deaver

Building models helps you to read blueprints and to follow instructions. It also develops motor skills, but most of all it's lots of fun. It gives you a feeling of accomplishment and pride in your finished product, and it can be displayed and used.

Men have built models for many years. Leonardo da Vinci is believed to have built the first model helicopter in the year 1452. Today models are built of cars, ships, spacecraft, aircraft, and many other subjects. Model kits come in

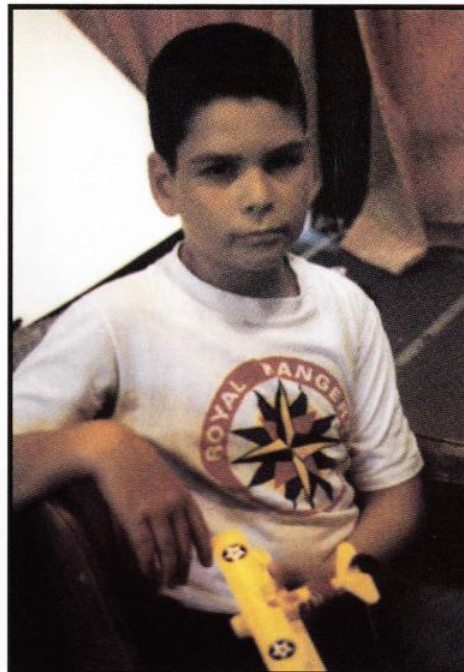
wood, paper, metal, and plastic. The most popular is plastic. Some models are made for display only, but some will fly, float, or drive. There are small engines made for models, some with remote control.

There are many skill levels in building models. You should start with an easy kit that is suited to your skill level. Skill 1 is the least difficult. Skill 2 is for ages 8 and over, and Skill 3 is the most difficult. Skills 2 and 3 require glue and paint. You will need to read the box to know what materials you will

need to complete your kit.

Models come in many sizes, or scales. The size 1/72 is the smallest, 1/32 a little bigger, and 1/24 even larger and so on.

When you are ready to assemble your kit, be sure you have a good workplace. Cover the table with paper or



cardboard, and try not to spill any paint on your mom's carpet or furniture. You will need good lighting, and remember to clean up when you are finished.

I use the models I build to look at when I am working on a painting. My grandson Tyler and I are building a Skill 2, 1/48 scale model of a PT17 O Stairman airplane. It was used in World War II to train pilots.

I hope you will give model building a try. It's lots of fun!



Ranger of the Year

Brian Rogers

Eight finalists were awarded the title 1997 National Royal Ranger of the Year on July 21 in Springfield, Missouri. An executive luncheon was held to honor the young men for their outstanding accomplishments.

One young man from each region was honored with this award. It is one of the highest awards issued by the national Royal Rangers Office for outstanding achievement in the Royal Rangers ministry. To earn the award each young man competed in out-post, sectional, district, and regional Ranger of the Year competitions. The level of competition is stiff, and the eight finalists exemplify the values the Royal Rangers ministry seeks to instill in boys and young men.

The eight winners become 1-year members of the National Royal Rangers

Council and also travel within their regions to speak at Royal Rangers functions. During their visit to Headquarters, they participated in activities throughout the Ozarks area.

The 1997 national winners, listed by region, are Jason Bianchi, Great Lakes Region; Brent Barnett, Gulf

Central Region; Ben Cope, Southeast Region; and Jeremy Seielstad, Southwest Region.

Jason Bianchi, age 16, attends Calvary Temple, Flossmoor, Illinois; Brent Barnett, age 18, attends Maranatha Assembly, Seymour, Tennessee; Jason Rhode, age 18, attends First

Assembly, Plover, Wisconsin; Nathan Kryptavich, age 16, attends Peckville Assembly, Peckville, Pennsylvania; Nathan May, age 15, attends Bigfork Chapel, Bigfork, Montana; Michael Little, age 16, attends Grace Assembly, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Ben Cope, age 16, attends Evangel Temple, Columbus, Georgia; and

Jeremy Seielstad, age 16, attends Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California.

Jason Bianchi says that



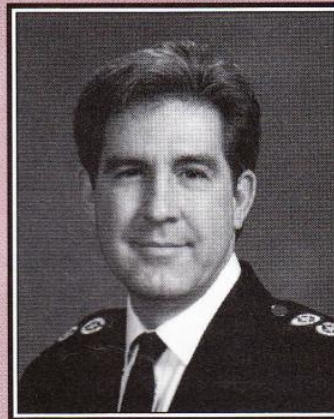
1997 National Royal Rangers of the Year

*Top: Jeremy Seielstad, Jason Rhode, Brent Barnett, Michael Little
Bottom: Ken Hunt, Nathan May, Nathan Kryptavich, Jason Bianchi,
Ben Cope, Marshall Bruner*

Region; Jason Rhode, North Central Region; Nathan Kryptavich, Northeast Region; Nathan May, Northwest Region; Michael Little, South

HIGH Adventure

LEADER



Marshall Bruner
National Public Relations Coordinator

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One-on-One

When you think of a hero, what comes to mind? Superman? A football star? A millionaire? A war veteran?

Society portrays its image of heroes—men and women whose morals and character may even be in question yet revered for their accomplishments. My definition of a hero is a godly man who role-models faithfulness as a servant to God, his family, his church, and his community. Now we're talking hero! This is the man, though perhaps not well-known or even wealthy, who has the courage and the God-given willpower to live his life according to God's intent. Men like this are included in the Heroes of Faith Hall of Fame! Do you have a plaque hanging there?

The story is told of two men, both common yet having major impacts on their community. Max Jukes, who lived in New York, had 1,026 descendants. Of those descendants, 300 of them were imprisoned for crimes they had committed; their average prison term was 13 years. Of those descendants, 190 became public prostitutes, and 680 became admitted alcoholics. It was said that the Jukes' family cost New York State \$420,000. Conversely, there was Jonathan Edwards, who also lived in New York. His descendants numbered 929. The good news is that 430 of Edwards' descendants became ministers, 86 of them university presidents, 75 of them authors, 5 were elected to Congress, 2 were elected to the Senate, and 1 became vice president of the United States. Edward's family never cost the state one cent, but has contributed immeasurably to the life of the land.

This true story (published by Starburst Inc., 1996) reveals that we as godly role models can never underestimate our influence on our family and others. We have within us the Spirit of God, and our actions and deeds—when conducted according to the will and Spirit of God—will yield incredible results: Our families will serve the Lord. Our Royal Rangers will see Jesus modeled week by week and want to be like us. Now we're talking hero stuff! A godly husband, father, and commander whose zeal is to serve Almighty God with his whole being is a hero—period.

Perhaps you gulp, thinking you can never measure up to such "heroism." The truth is none of us can ... within our own strength and ability. The great news: we *can* in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 4:17 states, using my version: "The Lord stands at my side and *gives me strength*, so that through me the message [to my family, to my Royal Rangers, and to those with whom I come in contact] can be fully proclaimed."

Let's join the ranks of godly heroes. In order to do so, we must rely on the Lord's strength and on one another. We must be accountable to one another and be disciplined. Give your fellow commander a call on a regular basis and encourage him in the Lord. Grab lunch with a commander or two to share the Lord and to check each other's commitment level to His calling. We've got to band together, give the devil a black eye, and proclaim to our families and to the world that we are God's men in action, fulfilling His mandate.

Commander, stand to attention. God is calling us to report in, front-and-center. There's a war going on, and we're the winners! We must become the heroes of faith in action. We can do it! I just read the back of the Book, God's Word. Glory!

Marshall Bruner



Hero Reborn

by Dan Boever

On a warm Montana night in the summer of 1983, things could never have been better. I was young and strong and playing pro-baseball in a city that loved the game. The Cincinnati Reds had chosen me as their 8th-round selection just 30 days earlier. My statistics were very good, and my future had never looked brighter.

So if everything was that wonderful, why was I lying on my bed with tears running down my face? Why did I feel so scared and betrayed? Why had my God failed me? Alone and with nowhere to turn, I began to search for answers to all my questions.

I was raised on a farm in northwest Iowa, and my whole existence centered around one thing: baseball. While many little league and high school kids play baseball just for fun, I knew by the time I was 10 years old I wanted to play in the big leagues.

With my dreams in front of me, I began to develop as a player and, thanks to my parents, was able to practice and play every available moment. While my folks sacrificed by doing extra work on the farm, I concentrated faithfully on those things it would take to realize my dream of one day putting on a major league uniform. When the coaches in Iowa selected me for 1st Team All State, I was off to college and confi-

dent that I was on my way to the top.

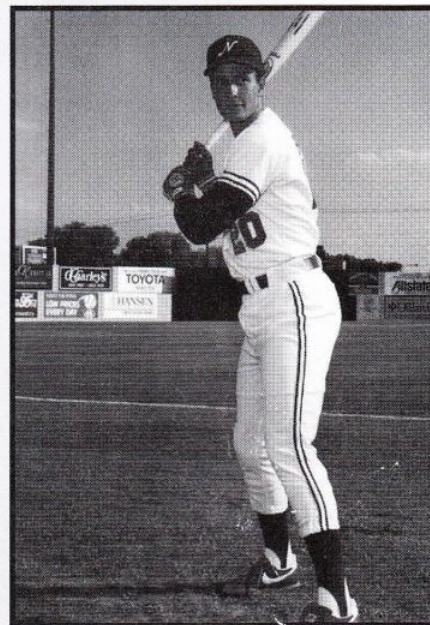
Westark Community College in Fort Smith, Arkansas, offered me a full baseball scholarship. Accepting this scholarship would prove to be a major change in my life. Fort Smith was 500 miles from home and suddenly I could run my own show. My parents would not be around to try to keep me on the "straight and narrow path."

My mother and father had always tried very hard to show me the importance of having God direct my life. I knew there was a God, heaven and hell, right and wrong, but to me church was a "once a week," "get through the hour," and "please my parents" kind of experience. Why did I need God when I had baseball. I felt that sitting in church was hypocritical since I did not really want to be there. I quit going at all. After all, God was treating me pretty well even without church.

Drafted by the Reds in 1980, and by the Atlanta Braves in 1981, I opted for a full ride to Nebraska. Life could not have been better: drinking, women, and, of course, my first love: baseball. I was 20 years old, attending one of the top division one schools in America, and working alongside a very talented group of players. Result: I was not interested in God's plans for my life. I had it all!

For me to become a Christian meant I would have to give up all the things I thought were fun. If I could not go to the bars or chase after women, how could I get through the day? I also believed there was no way God would let me play baseball if I became a Christian. The first thing God would do would be to ship me off to the mission field ... probably Inner Mongolia.

When the Fellowship of Christian Athletes sent their representatives around to share the message of



Christ with us, we gave them our own message: "Get lost!" They did—and we were lost!

My 2 years at Nebraska went very well. I was successful on the field and chosen by Baseball America Magazine as an All-American. As I drew closer to my plans of professional baseball, I drifted farther from any kind of relationship with God.

When Cincinnati called me in early June 1983, I was more than ready to sign a professional contract. They sent me to Billings, Montana, where I was to begin my quest to play baseball at Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati.

As I look back over those 4 years in college, I need to highlight two very important people. In 1980, I

played summer league ball in Galesburg, Illinois. There I met a young man named Mike Olejarz. Mike was a light in a very dark summer. He was a man of God who lived God's Word on a daily basis. He always had a smile, and he always had an encouraging word. He was the example I needed in my life.

When our season ended, Mike gave me a book called *Power for Living*. I promptly put it in storage for the next 4 years, but God had planted a seed long before I realized it.

The second person was a former high school umpire whom I met at Nebraska while he was finishing his degree. He invited me to a Fellowship of Christian Athletes dinner to hear Lou Holtz speak. I turned him down several times, but he gently persisted, and the thought of a free dinner convinced me to go.

I do not remember a word Lou Holtz spoke that night, but there was another speaker—a 21-year-old Nebraska football player. When he spoke, though his little speech was simple, what he said has never left me. He said that whatever was most important in your life was your god. Simple? You could talk all you wanted, but whatever the dominant thing in your life was, that was your god. At the time I did not really pay attention or even really care. After all, God and religion were for the weak.

This one simple statement came flooding back into my mind as I lay in my bed in Billings. What had been most important to me? Was baseball my god? Had I not given everything I had for the last 12 years to my god with total devotion? What had just happened to me just was not fair.

You see, just 3 hours earlier I had been the hero of the night. In a game against our chief rival, I knocked in the winning run in the eleventh inning. There were 3,000 screaming fans celebrating as the winning run slid across home plate. All my team-

mates raced toward home plate to congratulate the player who scored. Only one lone player ran toward me.

In our excitement we jumped up to give each other a high five. When I came down to the ground, my right knee twisted as the full weight of my body tore the ligaments in my right knee to shreds. Instant and incredible pain followed as I lay on the ground in disbelief over injuring myself with a silly high five. I knew I was in trouble when the swelling in my knee was immediate and very severe. Within 20 minutes I could not even stand on my leg.

“Whatever is most important, that is your god!”

“Whatever is the most important”... those words would not leave my head. What was I going to do if I could not play baseball? There was no alternative plan. I had geared my whole life toward one thing and now it seemed to be vanishing before it had begun.

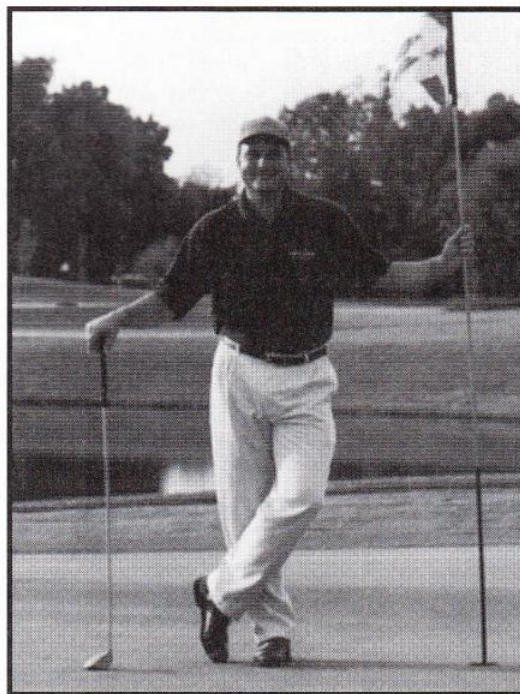
Within 48 hours I was flown to Lincoln, Nebraska, where surgery was performed. I then lived in Lincoln and began the long road of rehabilitation. It was during these months of soul searching that I came across the book *Power for Living*.

The book is the testimonies of athletes and business leaders who had committed their lives to Christ. I was impressed with the testimonies of these well-known people, and it challenged me to make the same choices. Seeds planted years earlier came to fruition as I prayed for Christ to change my life and to sit on the throne of my life. I was

tired of running my life and doing it my own way. I was ready to make God in heaven the most important aspect of my life through His Son Jesus Christ. I had learned the “god of baseball” was a pretty weak god.

It has been 14 years since my life-changing high five. While the scars on my knee are a daily reminder not to chase after some other god, I eagerly accept the changes God is making in my life.

I once thought living life God's way was a one-way street to a boring experience, with absolutely no fun. I could not have been farther from the truth. God has blessed me with a beautiful wife and two wonderful children. I have replaced baseball with professional golf as God has helped me travel around America doing Long Drive Golf Exhibitions. Hitting high, long drives is a lot easier than giving a high five, it seems. With God's help, I will continue in professional golf and never forget the lesson learned so many years ago: “Whatever is most important, that is your god!”



Pathfinders Make Way Into Dominican Republic

by Paul H. Walters

Although our two languages were definitely different, the big smiles and the warm eyes told us we were certainly welcome. As the George Washington Chapter FCF Pathfinder team arrived in Las Salinas, Dominican Republic, on February 8, 1997, we had great expectations of good things to come.

We traveled 4 hours west from Santo Domingo to arrive at our destination in a small town of approximately 4,000 people, just a few miles from the Haitian border. Arriving after dark left the team confused as to the surroundings, but the members of the local Assemblies of God church pitched in with us to help set up camp. Our evening meal consisted of a cold M. R.E. (meal ready to eat) and then we were off to bed. After a fitful night's rest—with goats, chickens, and dogs as hourly alarms—we arose to begin our project. It was a 30- by 42-foot building that would be the new church home for the congregation of approximately 50 people.

As the sun rose that first morning, the team was able to see what would be our home for the next week. Las Salinas is situated between several mountains that keep the rains away from it and in the other parts of the island. It is very arid and dusty. As we would find out, the campsite which was located next to the building site was previously used as a home for various sorts of farm animals. Even though the local people had cleaned it prior to our arrival, there was about 1 inch of fine dirt on the lot. Each time a hot breeze blew, unfortunately so did the dust. The dust and the extreme heat created difficult living conditions.

We quickly learned that the building materials and the methods of building vary greatly from those in the United States. However, our team leader, Chapter President Herman Geesaman and a veteran of nine previous missions trips, quickly pulled the team together and explained the building process. With a plan in place, the courses of blocks went up very smoothly. Any expectations of an

easy week were dashed as each member found that the work, though rewarding, was difficult and demanding.

Each step of the building and living process was closely observed by the local population. We were certain that many things we had, such as backpacking stoves, were new and exciting discoveries to the people of the Dominican Republic. We



quickly learned to appreciate what we had in relation to the standard of living there.

Each morning we would arise before dawn, eat a quick breakfast, and begin work so we could catch as much of the coolest part of the day as possible. Lunch and a break would take place from noon to 2 p.m. This break could not be called a siesta, as the tents were much too hot to relax in. Work would begin again about 2 p.m. and continue until dusk. Daily devotions took place during the lunch break, with different team members bringing forth what God had laid on their hearts.

As the week progressed and work continued, the team began to develop relationships with members of the local church. We tested our limited Spanish on them and they did the same using English with us. Certain members there, especially the children, began to weave themselves into our hearts. They will long be remembered and are in our constant thoughts and prayers.

The local pastor, Pedro Feliz, a young man of 27, was constantly involved in the building process. Although his English was very limited, he exhibited the love of Christ, and his excitement in hav-

ing a new place to worship was clearly evident. The pastor and the men were by our side throughout each part of the day, and during the night they took shifts to watch out for our safety while we rested.

With each day complete, we could stand back and observe the progress we had made. Not only could we see that progress; it also meant that we were a little closer to returning home to our loved ones.

Each day held different obstacles; however, the Lord was continually with us to give us guidance and to keep each team member safe and in good health. Through several close calls with accidents, we were reminded of God's presence with us.

Finally that moment came when the last piece of roofing was nailed down and we could rejoice in a project that was complete. During the church service on our last night in the Dominican Republic, 12 children and 1 lady gave their hearts to the Lord. It seemed fitting since that was the number of team members on the trip. The Lord was already blessing the church there.

After one final breakfast of an M.R.E. and with the camp torn down, the team was ready to head home. Our final act in Las Salinas consisted of the team laying hands on the pastor and praying God's blessings on him and on the new church. Many members of the church were there to express thanks to the team.

The local missionary, Virgilio Fortin, led the team on a sight-seeing and shopping tour in Santo Domingo. He also showed us another church in serious need of replacement. That might mean another trip to the Dominican Republic.

As the team boarded the plane and settled in for the flight home, each member had a chance to reflect about his time in the Dominican Republic. For me personally, the trip opened a new chapter in my life. Seeing and experiencing the past week has made me a new person. I knew I would see things in a new perspective upon arriving home. Witnessing how the people existed in Las Salinas would make me appreciate more what I have—and want for a lot less. It would make me appreciate my wife, family, and my home church more, and the blessings God has bestowed upon us. I would certainly recommend a Pathfinder trip. However, if you go be

ready for God to shape and mold your life anew.

Paul H. Walters, a Gold Medal of Achievement recipient, has been involved with the Royal Rangers ministry for over 25 years. He is currently an outpost commander at Praise Assembly in Newark, Delaware, and serves as the George Washington Chapter FCF vice president. This was his first Pathfinder trip.

Local Outpost Has Special Forces Influence

by Steve McFarland

When you are at the National Guard Armory and you need a person to clear a tunnel, throw a grenade, do a jungle walk on full alert, and nail targets, who are you going to call?

When you need to signal a ship, run a periscope maze, or need first aid fast, who are you going to call?

When you need to get a plane around the world, shoot a navigator's course, and bomb targets, who are you going to call?

When you need guys battle ready, gas mask trained, and willing to go over obstacles, who are you going to call?

You can call the Royal Rangers: Special Forces for all of the above and more! Commanders Rick Freund, Larry Nisbeth, Larry Burkes, and Brian Robbling from various Indiana outposts teamed up with Rev. Steve Clark from Kentucky to form the senior staff of Special Forces. Special Forces was the third event sponsored and hosted by Outpost 10, Richmond First Assembly, Richmond, Indiana. Brothers Jason and Jerry Owens, Hoppy

Wrege, and Steve McFarland were hosts to 50 boys and men from Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky outposts.

Trailblazer William McFarland was in charge of the drama. He called on David Cotton, United States Marine Corps, and Ron Pennington, United States Army Reserve, along with boys from various outposts to present a stirring drama. The drama centered around prisoners of war and their release by a Special Forces team.

Army, Navy, Air Force, and National Guard recruiters were present at the event. They presented T-shirts, shorts, sweat-shirts, water bottles, mugs, posters, information packets, and a travel bag to the boys. Each wore his respective uniform and freely spoke with all who asked questions. The Air Force also brought in a small plane for all to enjoy.

Two Ohio commanders took advantage of the opportunity to review the Royal Ranger Pledge. They placed gas masks on and tried to recite it. They soon were informed of the importance of the right hand salute.

Cleanup at the Armory was a snap. All the outposts pitched in and the building was cleaner when we left than when we arrived. All the activities areas were dismantled and disposed of properly.

The motto of the Royal Rangers: Special Forces is, "Ad Omnia Parati." Do you know what it means? Jonathan Randall from Outpost 2, Lakeview Temple, Indianapolis, Indiana, does. When you meet him ask and see if he tells you. He got two extra patches and pins for knowing.

Everyone who attended got a little piece of Louisiana, in word and deed. Rev. Richard McLean, from Jennings, Louisiana, gave everyone a small bottle of Tabasco. He also presented a Tabasco necktie to Commander Steve McFarland. Besides the gifts, he gave two good messages on faithfulness and discouragement.

Commander McLean presented the gospel after the conclusion of the drama on Saturday, and the Holy Spirit was present in a very real way. Several boys were filled with the Holy Spirit and others renewed their experience. Three

boys were saved, and a host of others rededicated their lives to the Lord.

Outposts who attended received travel orders along with two different patches and a pin to remember the event. Some bought berets and military pins to go along with them at the auction.

When one of the outposts was leaving they stopped and asked, "What are we going to do next year?" The commander smiled slightly, a twinkle gleamed in his eyes as he said, "A little bit of history."

Outreach In Phoenix

by Lorenzo R. Martinez

We have started our outreach meetings! At the time of writing we had conducted two sessions so far, and 25 boys had gone through them. We are holding meetings inside a City of Phoenix building located in Smith Park in West Phoenix. The rooms are air-conditioned, and we have the whole park for recreation. Six boys have already given their lives to Jesus, and we are anticipating more decisions for Christ in our next meetings.

We did receive the donated supplies from the national Royal Rangers Office. Commander Freddie Espinoza, from the Pacific Latin District, will be helping us with the boys and distributing the Royal Rangers T-shirts and the Achievement Badges.

The boys are excited and want more of Royal Rangers. They keep wanting us to stay longer and come more often. We are going to try to bring some of them to our church. Please pray that God will make a way for us to bring them, and perhaps even their parents. We also have a Council of Achievement for our outpost.

The meetings consist of opening in prayer and memorizing the Royal Ranger Pledge, Motto, and Code. We give them Bible study and story reading, with a devotional at the end. The recreation is done outside in the park. We are excited and so is our pastor. He stopped by the park at the last meeting and met some of the boys.

In closing, thank you once again and continue to pray for us.



Convoy of Hope Brings Help to Hungry

by Marshall Bruner, National Public Relations Coordinator

The national HonorBound evangelism thrust gains momentum as our partnership with ChurchCare America involves men in ministry. Within recent weeks two District Men's Directors involved their men in Convoy of Hope trips where needy "guests of honor" were offered the gospel message and groceries.

ILLINOIS

David Plake, Illinois DMD, reports that over 30 HonorBound men from the Illinois District participated in the August 23



Convoy of Hope in Alton, Ill. The men each gave \$50 to help provide Light-for-the-Lost literature for the Convoy outreach to the community.

Out of the 2,700 needy people who attended the Convoy, 353 of them—167 of which were children—left having received Christ as their Lord. Jim Westheim, associate pastor of Abundant Life in Alton, said 98 guests from the Convoy attended his church the following Sunday. The combined total of guests who visited a participating church on Sunday was over 250.

To help make the Convoy successful, over 500 church members from various denominations and ethnic backgrounds volunteered their services. From sacking and distributing groceries to cooking and serving hotdogs to witnessing throughout the waiting line or serving as an altar worker, volunteers helped in a day packed with children's activities, gospel music, and dynamic services.

Westheim stated that another predominant benefit of the Convoy of Hope was the fact that the event brought together harmony among the denominations while breaking down racial barriers that had existed in the community for years.

"During the follow-up rally for

Convoy workers, I heard nothing but positive responses from the men who participated," stated Westheim. "The men left with a desire to help in future Convoys. The event helped the men see the bigger picture of the Church in its role of evangelism."

COLORADO

Lloyd Hoskins, Rocky Mountain DMD, coordinated an entire Convoy of Hope in Denver, Colorado, September 6. He stated that about 50 HonorBound men traveled to Denver to participate in the Convoy there. Hoskins noted that of the some 3,000 guests (1,300 family units, mostly single moms and children) who attended, there were 504 conversions, of which 46 were children.

"One thing that really impressed me,"

Hoskins noted, "was people wrapping their sweaty arms around me after having worked a long, hard day and saying, 'Thank you for allowing me to come and help!'"

TEXAS

HonorBound assisted ChurchCare America in conducting a Convoy of Hope in Dallas, Texas, on October 26. Over 100 HonorBound men gathered in Dallas to assist in conducting the Convoy. Many of the men each gave \$60—the money generated to help supply the needed \$10,000 to conduct the Convoy.

Each HonorBound man who contributed \$60 toward the Convoy was issued an HonorBound/Convoy of Hope T-shirt and a scholarship to the preceding Promise Keepers

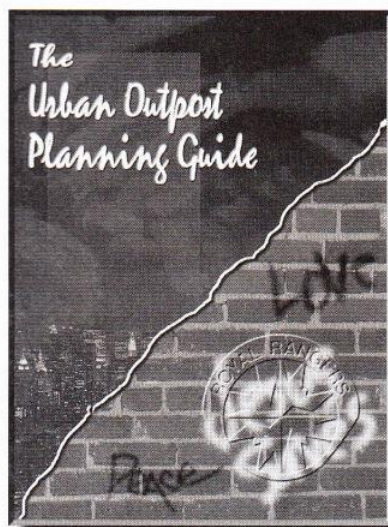
rally in Dallas, October 24, 25. Daryel Erickson, Promise Keepers liaison for the national HonorBound Office, provided 200 scholarships to the national office to help the ministry in attracting participants to the Dallas Convoy.

The combined events were planned with a two-fold mission in mind: 1.) to excite men about their walk with Christ and their task as servants of God, 2.) to engage these men in evangelism by offering them an avenue to help and minister to needy people.

If you and your older Rangers have never participated in a Convoy of Hope, you are both missing a blessing and preventing yourself and your Rangers from participating in an unprecedented Harvest Task Force outreach ministry. As Hoskins put it, "The Convoy workers were elated to be involved in this outreach—noting this was one of the greatest evangelism efforts in which they have ever participated."

NEW!

The Urban Outpost Planning Guide



This 1-year urban outpost meeting manual contains meeting features, Achievement Badge activities, devotionals, and group activities.

To order, call 1-800-641-4310.

Item 729-012, w/binder, cost: \$13.45;

Item 729-013, w/o binder, cost: \$10.00



DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

National Royal Rangers Office; 1445 Boonville Avenue; Springfield, MO 65802-1894

National Office Items Now Available—Call 1-800-641-4310

Below are several Royal Rangers products that are ideal for outpost application.

Prices below do not include shipping fees or state sales tax. Order directly by calling 1-800-641-4310.

- *Royal Rangers Polo Shirt, short sleeved*—Cost: \$29.95 ea.

729NZ070 Size L
729NZ071 Size XL
729NZ072 Size XXL

- *Thumbs Up Football Pack 12 individual games:*
Item Number: 729NZ300
Cost: \$35.95

Thumbs Up Football Pack 24 individual games:
Item Number: 729NZ301
Cost: \$69.95

- Thumbs Up Football Game Set 1 playing board:*
Item Number: 729NZ302
Cost: \$15.99
1 Sidekick™, 8 trophy kicks, 1 Cross Bars™ scorepad.

Thumbs Up Outpost Starter Packet 3 playing boards:
Item Number: 729NZ303
Cost: \$39.95
3 Sidekicks™, 24 trophy kicks, 3 Cross Bars™ scorepad.

Topic: For outpost games and tournaments. Boys can enjoy playing this table-top game year-round. The game not only provides a fun activity, but can be used to raise funds for the outpost through tournament competitions.

- *Reaching Boys for Christ*

The 3:38-minute promotional video conveys the problems today's youth face while focusing on our unique approach to reaching boys for Christ.
Item Number: 729NZ128
Cost: \$10

- *Harvest Task Force: Reaching Urban America*

The 5:28-minute video promotes

the National Urban Leadership Conference and focuses on the urban thrust of the Royal Rangers ministry.

Item Number: 729NZ129
Cost: \$10

- *Harvest Task Force: Breaking Powers Through Prayer*

The 5-minute video promotes the National Harvest Task Force efforts. The Royal Rangers HTF is designed to target key areas where commanders gather to fast and pray and to participate in evangelism efforts. The national Royal Rangers Office hosts yearly HTFs in addition to the district-sponsored HTFs. This video is ideal for commanders who want to promote the Harvest Task Force.

Item Number: 729NZ064
Cost: \$10

- *The Book of Hope*

The Book of Hope is ideal for urban evangelism in African-American communities. The Book includes the story of Jesus, based on the New International Version of the Gospels, and includes preface pages on God's answers for today's urban issues.

Item Number: 729HC120
Cost: \$.55 ea. per 500-plus
\$.65 ea. per 100-400

- *Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Brochure*

The full-color brochure is ideal for promoting FCF. It describes the FCF program, lists membership requirements, and includes an area for listing the distributor's address and telephone number.

Item Number: 729NZ018
Cost: \$.10 ea., min. order 100

- *Rangers WinTracker, ver. 2.xx*

The software program for DOS computers with Windows enables a commander to effectively track the advancements and profiles of his Royal Rangers. The program includes both the old and new Advancement Trails.

Item Number: 729NZ140
Cost: \$65

- *Rangers Trailtracer*

The software program is designed for DOS computers without Windows. It enables the commander to create profile sheets for each Royal Ranger and to track his advancements under the new Advancement Trail.

Item Number: 729NZ141
Cost: \$45

- *Gold Medal of Achievement Bulletin*

The 11- by 8 1/2-inch format, which folds in half, enables the user to print the GMA ceremony schedule and service activities on the opposite side, which has a full-color design.

Item Number: 729NZ069
Cost: \$15, per 100

- *The Youth Bible*

Contains numerous devotional topics ideal for any outpost group meeting. Commanders now have a host of youth issue devotionals at their fingertips.

Item Number: 729NZ106
Cost: \$17

- *Walk Thru the Bible*

An excellent method for teaching Rangers about the Books of the Bible and their central themes. Colorful cartoons associate the theme with the name of each book in a bright, fun, and unforgettable way.

- **Old & New Testament Coloring Book**
Item Number: 729NZ114
Cost: \$10.95

The coloring book is ideal for Straight Arrows and Buckaroos groups.

- **Old Testament Flash Cards**
Item Number: 729NZ118
Cost: \$6
- **New Testament Flash Cards**
Item Number: 729NZ119
Cost: \$6

- **The Ultimate—English**
Item Number: 729NZ007
Cost: \$.05, min. order 100 *
- **The Ultimate—Spanish**
Item Number: 729NZ010
Cost: \$.05, min. order 100 *

The brochure highlights the "ultimate experience" for a boy, then presents the salvation message. This evangelism tool is ideal for canvassing neighborhoods to invite boys to Royal Rangers. The brochure is designed so that the outpost number and telephone number can be printed on the back of it.

* Both English and Spanish versions of *The Ultimate* brochure may be obtained free of charge by outposts unable to afford the cost or by outposts conducting outreach ministry. Such outposts must request the items through the national Royal Rangers Office and must pay for shipment.

- **Urban Commanders Training Guide**

A 66-page training manual that offers new insights to penetrating urban America with the Royal Rangers ministry.

Item Number: 729NZ009
Cost: \$6.50

- **Insight Group: Commander's Guide**
Item: 729NZ049
Cost: \$9

- **Insight Group: Ranger's Guide**
Item Number: 729NZ050
Cost: \$7

The *Insight Group* curricula is ideal for groups Pioneers age and up. *Insight Group* provides 13 sessions that are ideal for monthly meeting features or a weekly 30-minute values/Bible study. *The Commander's Guide*, a 104-page guide, instructs the leader how to use the curriculum

along with the materials that are presented in the *Ranger's Guide*.

- **Victor's Victories**

For Straight Arrows and Buckaroos commanders: Contains 13 stories with Bible studies and discussion topics that address issues today's young boys face: the single-parent home, death is not the end, controlling anger, peer pressure and gangs, friendship, the importance of winning, and much more.

Item Number: 729NZ057
Cost: \$18

- **The Solid Rock**
Video & curriculum series

- **Kids 'n' Gangs**
Item Number: 729NZ100
- **Streets of Pain**
Item Number: 729NZ101
- **Finding God's Will for Your Life**
Item Number: 729NZ104
- **Looking for Life in All the Wrong Places**
Item Number: 729NZ105

Cost Each Packet: \$32.95

Each packet contains a video on the youth issue and a leader's workbook that can be duplicated.

- **Meeting Feature Videos:**

- **I Didn't Do It**
Topic: Telling the truth
Audience: Straight Arrows, Buckaroos
Item Number: 729NZ107
Cost: \$14.99

- **Strangers**
Topic: Child Abduction Prevention
Audience: Straight Arrows & Buckaroos
Item Number: 729NZ108
Cost: 14.95

- **Decisions & Consequences**
Topic: A look behind prison walls; teaches the consequences of sin
Audience: All age groups
Item Number: 729NZ109
Cost: 19.95

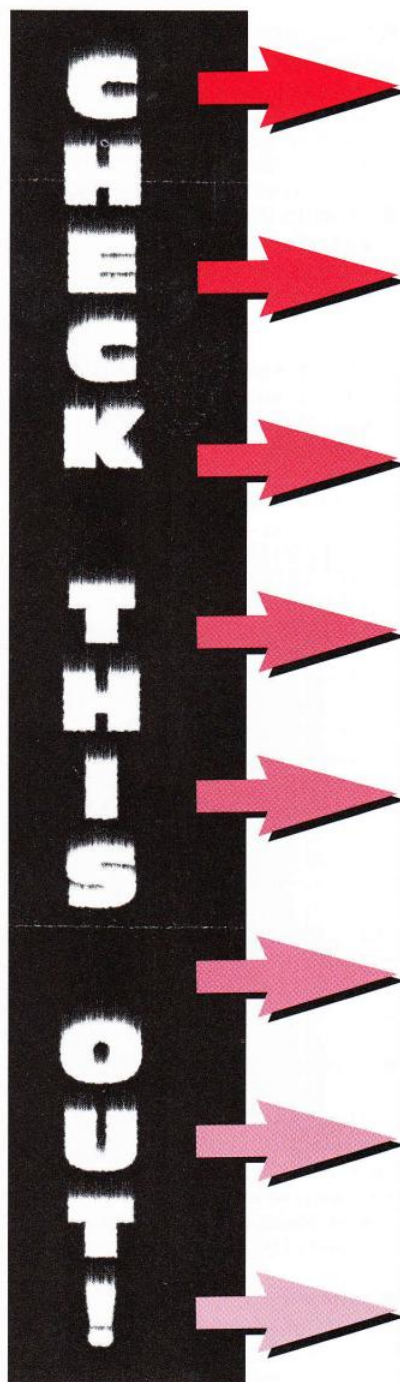
- **Incest: Solving the Pain**
Topic: Child abuse prevention
Audience: Commanders
Item Number: 729NZ110
Cost: \$19.99

- **Urban T-shirt**

Size L: Item Number: 729NZ058
Size XL: Item Number: 729NZ059
Size XXL: Item Number: 729NZ060
Cost: \$9

- **Urban Cap**

Item Number: 729NZ067
Cost: \$8.50





... If your outpost has already received application forms from your district office, **DO NOT** use the following *Camporama Application* and *Medical Record* forms.

SPECIAL CAMPORAMA APPLICATION MAILING

1998 National Camporama

July 13-17, 1998

"Let Freedom Reign"

(Isaiah 61:1)

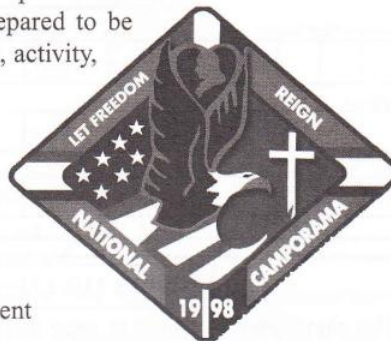
The following pages are the 1998 National *Camporama Application* and *Medical Record* forms. If you have not yet received *Camporama Application* and *Medical Record* forms, please photocopy these forms for each eligible boy and leader in your outpost. **NOTE:** The national application fee of \$140 does not reflect the district fee that may apply for district transportation and accommodations provided.

Encourage the Royal Rangers and commanders to participate in what will be the largest ever National Camporama. You and your Royal Rangers won't want to miss this Camporama. It will be a once-in-a-lifetime event for many Royal Rangers and their commanders.

The seventh National Camporama is about to begin, and it will be the biggest, most exciting one ever. About 5,500 boys and leaders are expected to attend. This national 5-day camp will include six theme parks—each having its own theme, decor, and activities. Be prepared to be blessed by the FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT and challenged by 5 days of fun, activity, and adventure!

Qualification for Application

- L** —He must be approved by his district commander.
E —He must be qualified, experienced, and actively involved in his outpost.
A —He must have these completed forms to attend:
D 1. *Camporama Application* form with pastor's signature of endorsement
E 2. *Medical Record* form with medical practitioner's signature of
R endorsement for sports physical
- B** —He must be at least a Pioneer 10 years of age by July 1, 1998, and have been currently involved in Royal
O Rangers the last 6 months.
Y —He must have these completed forms to attend:
1. *Camporama Application* form with parent's (or legal guardian's) signature of endorsement
2. *Medical Record* form with medical practitioner's signature of endorsement for sports physical



The following 1998 National Camporama items may be ordered by calling 1-800-641-4310:

- ➔ '98 Camporama Brochure, item 729-200, cost: free (limited quantity)
- ➔ '98 Camporama Poster, item 729-201, cost: \$1.00
- ➔ '98 Camporama Packet, item 729-202, cost: free (limit 1)
- ➔ '98 Camporama Video, item 729-203, cost: \$10

NOTE: All shipping fees must be paid by the customer

SPECIAL CAMPORAMA APPLICATION

SPECIAL CAMPORAMA APPLICATION

L XL XXL

(\$165.00 if not received by April 1, 1998)

Medical Record

Last Name

MI First Name

DIRECT DISTRIBUTION FROM NATIONAL OFFICE

Applicant Information: A sports physical examination by a health practitioner with his/her signature is required for enrollment. Persons arriving at the National Camporama without having had a physical examination will be required to have such an examination at personal expense by a local physician. *This form is to be completed and mailed with the application TO THE NATIONAL ROYAL RANGERS OFFICE (see envelope enclosed in spring 1998 High Adventure). This form (a health practitioner may use his/her own form, but must be attached to this document) must be forwarded TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE, postmarked no later than April 1, 1998. *The national Royal Rangers Office has the prerogative to accept or to reject any person, based on his medical health. *Applicant must maintain a photocopy of the application form and this Medical Record form and keep the copies with him the duration of his trip to and from the Camporama site. (Note District Commander: You must maintain this photocopy and the accompanying application form during your trip to and from the Camporama site—see information at bottom of form.)

Health History To be completed by the health practitioner. Has the applicant experienced the following? (Answer "Yes" or "No." If "Yes" explain under "Remarks and Medical Facts We Should Know.")

Sinus condition		Shortness of breath		Exposed to infectious:	
Ear problem		Skin infection		a. Disease past 3 weeks?	
Lung problem		Hearing difficulty		b. Hepatitis past 6 months?	
Heart trouble		Bad eyesight		Any disorder preventing strenuous activity?	
High blood pressure		Wear contact lenses?		Taking prescription medicine?	
Allergy-Asthma		Any medical care within past year?		Any reaction to drugs or medicine of any type?	
Fainting or dizzy spells		Any surgery within past year?			
Diabetes		Special diet required?			
Appendix removed					

Remarks and Medical Facts We Should Know:

Give latest date of inoculation or vaccination against following:	Tetanus	Small Pox	Measles	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Polio
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Name and Address of person to notify in an emergency

Area code and phone number

.....

Physical Examination Health practitioner, please note: Applicants attending the National Camporama are exposed to strenuous activity. Therefore, the applicant must be physically sound and strong enough to engage in such activity. Your signature below indicates the applicant is able to attend this event.

Print Applicant's Name	Examination Date	Birth Date	Height	Weight	Occupation
------------------------	------------------	------------	--------	--------	------------

Briefly Indicate Condition	Heart	Lungs	Throat	Ears
	Eyes	Skin	Hernia	Blood Pressure

In your opinion, is the applicant physically able to attend? Yes _____ No _____

Remarks:

Health Practitioner's Name (Print)

Health Practitioner's Signature

Health Practitioner's Address

Health Practitioner's Area Code and Phone Number

Note District Commander: Turn in this copy into the registration office when arriving at the Camporama site. Take this form and the accompanying application form with you to and from the Camporama site (see information at top of form).

Pondering Your Next Move?

**Make the right move and charter
your outpost this year.**

**If your outpost is new, or
you haven't recently renewed,
chartering will keep you
connected with the world
of Royal Rangers.**

Here's what you will receive:

**National Recognition * Membership Cards
Quarterly Publications * Bible Study Lessons * Award Program
Selected Brochures * Other Benefits**

**For additional chartering information, contact:
Royal Rangers; 1445 Boonville Avenue; Springfield, MO 65802-1894
Phone: 417.862.2781 Fax: 417.831.8230**

Secret Writing



by Alan W. Farrant

the end put a P.S., with normal writing, saying you will send the solution in the next mail.

How Made

Secret writing is writing on paper which cannot be read until after a secret method is used to expose it. Using such secret writing can really be fun!

The main purpose of writing this way is to write letters to friends that cannot be read by anyone else. When you send such a letter, at the top of the page use normal writing. Explain that the rest of the page has a secret message, and ask the one receiving

the message to try to decide how it can be read. Then use this secret method for the rest of the letter. At

Invisible ink is made of sal soda, commonly known as washing soda. Or

Dear Nephew -

Hope you will come and visit me soon. When you do, bring your new football so you and George can play with it.

Here is a ~~surprise~~ for you. Use a warm iron on top of this writing. There is a secret you will learn after the ironing.

Love from,
Marion

you can also use baking soda. It costs just a few cents a package, and is carried in almost all grocery stores.

A tablespoon of soda will make a half tumbler of invisible ink. Add to the powder nearly half a glass of warm water and stir until the powder has dissolved. The ink is now manufactured.

To write with it, you'll need an old-fashioned pen, available at art stores. It's the kind in which you push in the point (nib). Using the secret ink you have just made, write as you would with ordinary ink or pencil. When the message is completed, let it dry. Do not blot!

When it has thoroughly dried, the writing will be invisible. It is easy to make the writing appear. How? Just heat an electric iron and apply the hot iron as if you were ironing the paper.

Another formula for invisible ink is this: Mix four parts of milk, one part lemon juice, and one part vinegar. This ink requires only the heat of a lighted incandescent bulb to reveal the writing.

If you are lazy, you can get by using just lemon juice, but it can be seen when it is dry if the paper is held at a slant.

You can have a lot of pleasure with secret ink. It is creative to draw a pic-

ture on a page.

Then, after it has dried, you can write a regular letter with ordinary ink or pencil over the picture you have drawn.

You may also type if you wish. End the letter by telling your friend to iron the letter at once. Imagine his surprise when a picture appears.

Here is another suggestion: Are you going on a trip and want to let friends know? Draw a map using your invisible ink. Then write a regular letter over it, informing your friends that by ironing the letter, they will learn where you will be.

Give this a try!

Little Shoes That Follow Me

by Paul Stanek

The only material that God has given us to make a man is the potential of what we call a little boy. His character, values, and worth will be molded by our relationship and leadership with and to him. He examines our words, our actions, and our deeds, and he internalizes them. How and where we lead him is what he will become.

Our investment in today's potential is the product of tomorrow. Little shoes that follow me today are the feet that lead tomorrow. Leading, teaching, and investing in boys is the responsibility of all Royal Rangers commanders. How we lead speaks volumes to those who follow in little shoes.

Leadership traits in actions and words can be summed up as follows:

*A boss drives boys—
A commander coaches them.*

*The boss depends on authority—
A commander on good will.*

*The boss inspires fear—
A commander inspires enthusiasm.*

*The boss says "You"—
A commander says "We."*

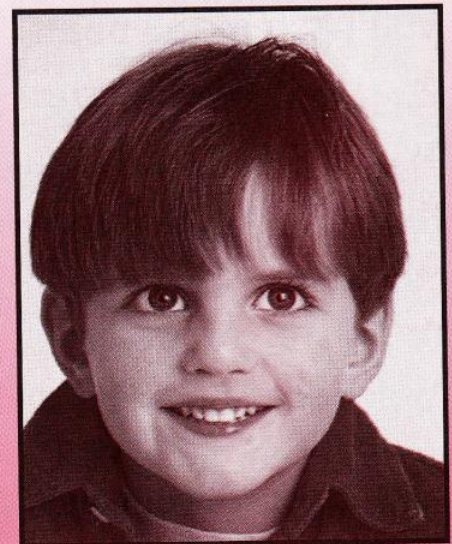
*The boss tell how it is done—
A commander shows how it is done.*

*The boss says "Go"—
A commander says "Let's go."*

*The boss assigns tasks—
A commander sets the pace.*

*The boss demands loyalty—
A commander shows loyalty.*

*The boss expects growth—
A commander makes opportunities for growth.*



*The boss's leadership builds caverns—
A commander's leadership builds bridges by which growth and potential may prosper.*



rity, he will learn about faith.

If a boy lives with — (you fill in the blank). What is your boy living for?

Our walk, our talk, and our actions are the tools by which our children learn. The way we live is the way we teach those little shoes that follow us. What size shoe are you wearing? Is it deserving to be followed?



Leadership by example is the key to the development of our boys.

The benefits of being a good example are as follows:

If a boy lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.

If a boy lives with praise, he will be appreciative.

If a boy lives with honesty, he will learn justice and honor.

If a boy lives with acceptance, he will learn love and gentleness.

If a boy lives with secu-

If a boy lives with approval, he learns to like himself.

If a boy lives in hostility, he will learn to fight.

If a boy lives with recognition, he will develop self-worth.

If a boy lives with tolerance, he will be patient with others.

1998 Harvest Task Force Calendar

The first Saturday of each month is dedicated to prayer and at least 1 hour of fasting for the Royal Rangers ministry.

March							April							May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						⑤							②							⑥
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28				



Devotionals For Boys

by
Rev. David
Boyd

The Ministry Supplies: Two chalk- boards

**Object Lesson: Keep
your eyes on Jesus!**

Place a chalkboard on each end of the room. Place the children in the middle of the room. On one chalkboard write the things that should be in the lives of Christians, and on the other chalkboard write the things that

Champion of Faith. He is the One we are to pattern our lives after. Stand the children up and have them face the board with the list of non-Christian characteristics. Ask them to examine themselves and see if some of the wrong qualities are in their lives. Then have them turn their backs on that board and face the Christian board. Explain that every time we say no to sin, we turn our back to the world and we embrace Jesus. Keep your eyes on Jesus!

When a person becomes a Christian, it is a life-changing experience. The old is gone and the new begins. It doesn't always happen overnight, but God does bring change.

**The Ministry
Supplies:**
Enough
spatulas
for one
for each
child.
(Rolled
up tubes of
newspaper can
work.)

**Bible Trivia Game:
"Spatula True or False"**

Write "T" for true on one side and "F" for false on the other side of each spatula. Give each child a spatula. This is a review type game. Ask questions about famous Bible heroes. Make each question a true or false answer. When you ask a question, each child must immediately raise up his spatu-

la with the side facing the instructor which represents his answer. This allows each child to answer independently of each other. Wait for all of the

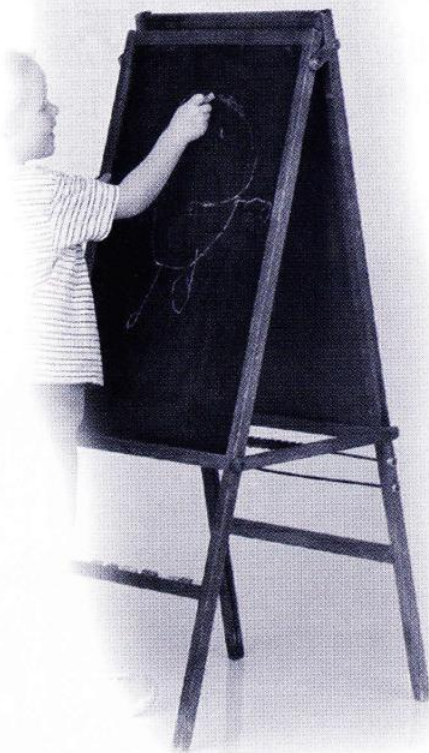
children to raise up their spatula. Announce the correct answer. If you choose, keep track of which child gets the most questions correct.

For added fun, ask the children to shut their eyes before you ask the questions. This causes them to have to answer without looking at what the other children are doing.

Since our theme is heroes of the faith, ask questions about famous Bible leaders. Then discuss what they did for God before going on to the next question.

**The Ministry
Object Lesson:
Multiplying Toothpicks**

Count the number of children in your classroom. To make these instructions clearer, let's assume there are nine children and one instructor in the classroom. Place 10 toothpicks in the center of a table in front of the children. Explain that these 10 toothpicks represent the children present in the



shouldn't be in the lives of Christians.

Once you have established a significant list on both chalkboards, ask the children to point out the characteristics that were in the life of Jesus. Jesus is our

classroom. Explain that today's lesson talks about our job to share Jesus with others so they can ask Jesus to be their Savior.

Ask the children: How many Christians would there be if each of us went out this week and introduced one other person to Jesus, and they all ask Him into their lives? (Desired answer: 20) When they give you the correct answer, drop another 10 toothpicks on the table. That means that after just 1 week, the number of Christians has doubled to 20.

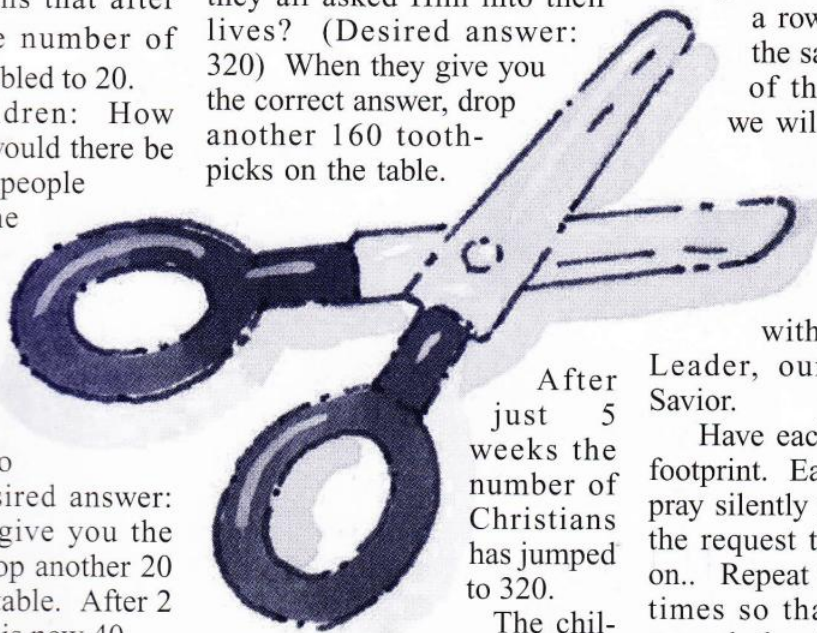
Ask the children: How many Christians would there be if each of the 20 people represented by the toothpicks went out this week and introduced one other person to Jesus and they all asked Him into their lives? (Desired answer: 40) When they give you the correct answer, drop another 20 toothpicks on the table. After 2 weeks the number is now 40.

Ask the children: How many Christians would there be if each of the 40 people represented by the toothpicks went out this week and introduced one other person to Jesus and they asked Him into their lives? (Desired answer: 80) When they give you the correct answer, drop another 40 toothpicks on the table. After 3 weeks the number of Christians is now 80.

Ask the children: How many Christians would there be if each of the 80 people represented by the toothpicks went

out this week and introduced one other person to Jesus and they all asked Him into their lives? (Desired answer: 160) When they give you the correct answer, drop another 80 toothpicks on the table. After 4 weeks the number is now 160.

Ask the children: How many Christians would there be if each of the 160 people represented by the toothpicks went out this week and introduced one other person to Jesus and they all asked Him into their lives? (Desired answer: 320) When they give you the correct answer, drop another 160 toothpicks on the table.



After just 5 weeks the number of Christians has jumped to 320.

The children will be amazed as you drop these stacks of toothpicks onto the table. It is a great visual reminder of how many people there are who need Jesus to wash their sins away. Our job is to continue to spread the good news. Continue doing this as long as you wish.

Explain to the children that to be a faithful minister for God, we are to do our best to reach other people for God. Even as a young child, they have the opportunity to do great things for God. They can be a hero to the one they introduced to Jesus.

The Ministry

Supplies: Construction paper cut out in the shape of feet.

Object Lesson: Prayer Walk

Have each child list a prayer request. As they mention their prayer requests, write each request on a "foot" shaped cutout. When you are finished writing down all the requests, place them on the floor in a row like footprints in the sand. Talk about all of the different needs we will have in our lives as we continue to live our lives for Jesus. Explain that Jesus will always walk with us. Jesus is our Leader, our Lord, and our Savior.

Have each child stand on a footprint. Each child then is to pray silently for 30 seconds for the request that he is standing on.. Repeat this three or more times so that each child has prayed about several requests. Close aloud in prayer.

Talk about the value in prayer. We can become great men of God if we learn how to intercede for others. We can be great blessings to others if we will hold them up in prayer.

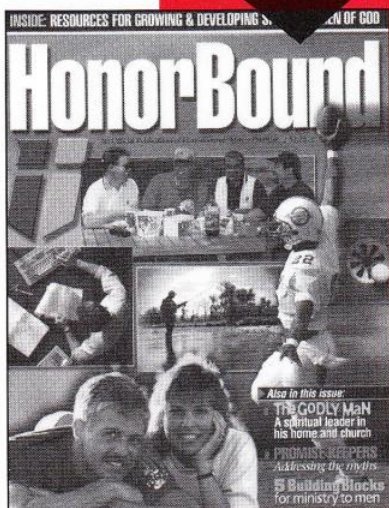
Children need to realize there will be times in their lives when they need God to answer their prayers. They need to realize that their prayers are important to God and that He hears them and answers them.



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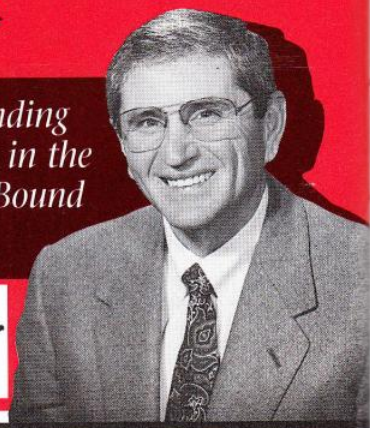
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**know the
POWER**

Rangers has had a great impact on him spiritually, and he was filled with the Holy Spirit at a National Rendezvous. He has also learned how to set goals and achieve them. His advice to younger Rangers: "Have confidence that you can achieve what you set out to do, because everything is possible with God."

Brent Barnett says that Rangers has taught him to actively participate "in seeking truth and knowledge about God." Brent states he has gained higher self-esteem through his involvement in Royal Rangers. His advice to younger Rangers seeking to achieve the Gold Medal of Achievement and the Ranger of the Year awards: "Never, never, never give up."

Jason Rhode has gained a vision of how God can minister to boys and their families through programs such as Royal Rangers—a vision he intends to follow in future ministry. He has gained confidence as a leader and has had several opportunities through Royal Rangers to pray for others to accept Christ. Feeling that it helps Rangers to develop as well-rounded people, he encourages others to strive to earn the Gold Medal of Achievement and to participate in the Ranger of the Year competitions.

Nathan Kroptavich has learned good study habits from Rangers—a benefit to other areas of his life, such as school and Bible quiz. His advice to others is to seek

involved in Royal Rangers since he was 9. He has learned through Royal Rangers to set goals and to work until he achieves them. Rangers has also helped him develop as a leader and have a positive influence on others. His advice to younger Rangers: "Always put God first in every area of your life."

Jeremy Seielstad has been involved in Royal Rangers for 12 years. He has learned the importance of service to others and daily

Bible study through his involvement in Royal Rangers. Increased self-confidence, ability to achieve goals, and opportunities for witnessing are some of the benefits he has gained through Royal Rangers. He encourages others to become actively involved in Royal Rangers.



Gen. Sup. Thomas E. Trask congratulates ROY's

God's kingdom first and to work toward large goals one step at a time.

Nathan May has been involved in Royal Rangers for about 11 years. Increased confidence, new friends, and ability to achieve goals are some of the ways he says Rangers has benefited him. He advises other Rangers to set goals and to work until the goals are achieved.

Michael Little was saved at his first Royal Rangers Pow Wow. He says he also learned to pray for others during the times of prayer around council fires. This 17-year-old has been involved in Rangers since age 5. He advises other Rangers to live out the spiritual principles the Rangers ministry teaches.

Ben Cope has been

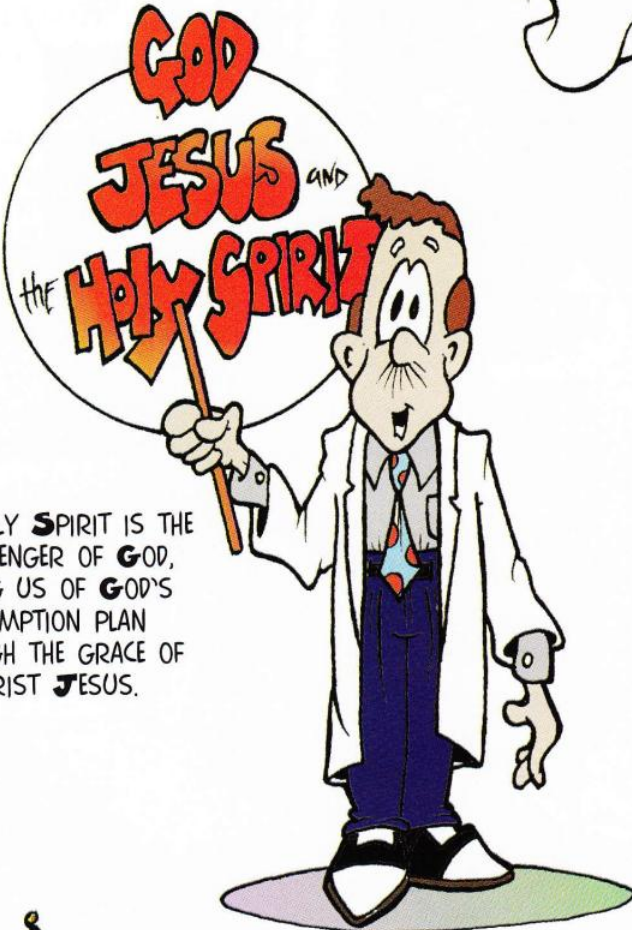
Photos by Mel Snyder



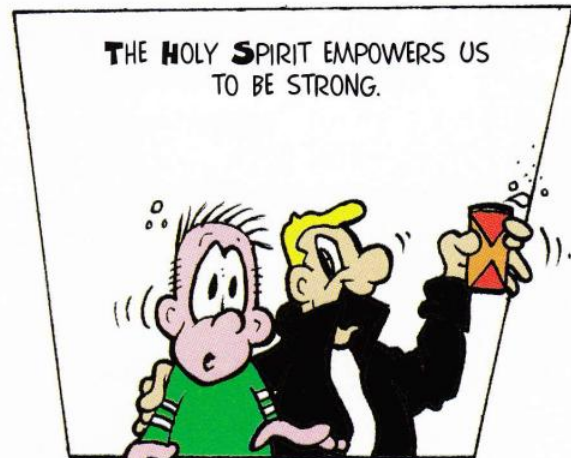
RASCAL RANGERS

A RANGER SHOULD KNOW WHO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS... AND WHAT HE DOES.

THE HOLY SPIRIT ISN'T A GHOST LIKE YOU SEE IN CARTOONS, AND ONE NOT TO BE AFRAID OF. HE'S OUR HELPER—GOD'S SPIRIT LIVING IN US!



THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE MESSENGER OF GOD, TELLING US OF GOD'S REDEMPTION PLAN THROUGH THE GRACE OF CHRIST JESUS.

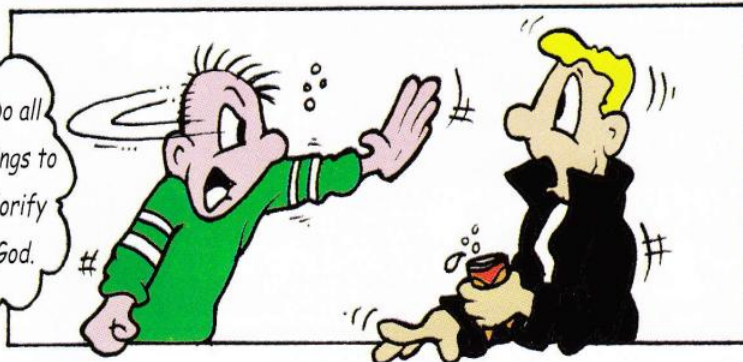


THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS US TO BE STRONG.

"HEY, DRINK UP... YOU'RE NOT CHICKEN, ARE YA?"

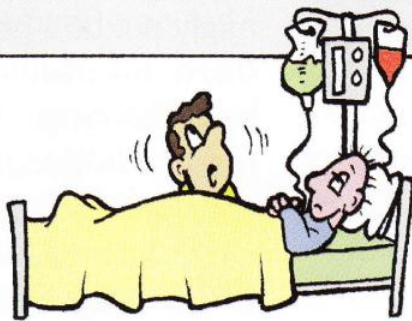


Do all things to glorify God.



"NO WAY! YOU WON'T FIND HAPPINESS IN DRINKING! ONLY IN GOD!"

THE **HOLY SPIRIT** HELPS YOU PRAY WHEN
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY....



"**G**OD, **T**IMMY HAS CANCER.
CAN YOU HELP HIM?"

HE TAKES YOUR WORDS AND MAKES
THEM POWERFUL....



"**D**EAR **L**ORD, PLEASE
USE YOUR HEALING
POWER TO HELP
TIMMY. **M**AY HE
BE A WITNESS TO
YOUR HEALING HAND.
AMEN."

THE **HOLY SPIRIT** HELPS YOU WHEN
YOU ARE WEAK....



BECAUSE **H**E'S ALWAYS
STRONG!



RANGERS, DON'T RELY ON THINGS OF
THIS WORLD, WHEN YOU HAVE THE
GREATEST **P**OWER LIVING IN YOU.
2 **C**ORINTHIANS 4:18 SAYS,
"...WHILE WE LOOK NOT AT THINGS
WHICH ARE SEEN, BUT AT THE THINGS
THAT ARE NOT SEEN: **F**OR THE THINGS
WHICH ARE SEEN ARE TEMPORAL; BUT
THE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT SEEN ARE
ETERNAL."



What Happened To Frank?

Carolyn King

Donald pedaled as fast as he could. Plastic beads on his wheels whirled into a neon blur. Shiny streamers rattled from his handlebars. He turned to see if the man in the wheelchair was watching. A lady sat on the park bench beside the man.

Donald circled the water fountain, monkey bars, and swings, keeping a safe distance from the couple.

The lady was reading a book she had pulled from the man's backpack. Donald carried his books in a backpack too.

He zigzagged in front of the water fountain and swung to get a closer look. The man's wheelchair spokes had bright beads like his. He steered between a pile of leaves and a flattened cup without touching either one. He was so close to the man now that he could read the name on his hightops. They were like the ones he wanted for his birthday—only bigger.

Next time around I'm going to stop, he bravely decided. And he did.

The lady peered over her book.

"Can he hear? Donald asked.

The lady smiled. "Frank hears very well. Tell him 'Hi!'"

"Hi, Frank. I'm Donald."

Frank ignored him.

"If you can make Frank laugh, he'll look at you," the lady said.

He could make his little

brother laugh by tickling him under the arms, but it might not be a good idea to touch this man—especially under his arms. He slipped his hands under his own arms and thought seriously about how to make Frank laugh. Then an idea came. He began flapping his arms and clucking—but no smile. He let his arms drop and waddled bowlegged, screeching and grinning like a monkey ... still no smile.

The lady watched hopefully. "Frank, Donald has decorated his spokes with beads too." Donald thought he saw Frank's eyebrows raise. "Pat Frank on his arm to let him know you like him."

Donald carefully touched the man's arm. And then it happened! His mouth stretched slowly into a smile.



"Can he talk?"

"No," said the lady, "but he makes noises to tell me when he's happy or sad." She wrapped her arms around Frank and pressed her cheek against his.

"Are you his mother?" Donald wanted to know.

The lady laughed so loud that Frank jumped, and when he jumped Donald jumped. "No, I'm not his mother! I'm his wife. Frank is my husband."

Donald didn't know why that was funny, but he laughed anyway. Then he thought of another question.

"What happened to him?"

"Frank's brain got hurt many years ago. Your brain tells your legs how to walk and your mouth how to talk. Frank's brain can't tell his body everything it needs to do," the lady explained.

Donald touched him on the hand and Frank squeezed his fingers. "He's strong!" Donald gasped.

Frank's wife loosened his grip on Donald's hand. "That's how he says, 'Hello.' It takes a while for Frank's brain to tell his hand to let go," she said.

Donald was afraid to shake Frank's hand again.

"I'll teach you a trick," the lady said. "Give him only one finger to hold. No matter how hard he squeezes, it won't hurt and you can let go whenever you want. See!" The lady's finger slid right out of Frank's clenched fist.

A girl stood nearby watching. "Why does he do that?"

"It just means he likes you," Donald said. "He can't let go real good." He poked his finger into Frank's hand and he squeezed it. This time he wasn't scared; he just slipped his finger out of Frank's tight grip.

"I want to try," the girl said. Her eyes got big and then she freed her finger. "Oooo! It works!" she giggled.

"I'll show you another trick," the lady said. She showed him handles on the back of the wheelchair. They looked like his handlebar grips but without streamers. "Hold on and put your feet on those bars," the lady said. Donald hopped onto the back of the wheelchair. "Now he can take you for a ride!"

She pushed them down the sidewalk. Frank threw his head back and made

happy sounds. "Look!" Donald said. "He's laughing!" They went around the water fountain, around the swings, and through the pile of leaves.

When they slowed to a stop, he jumped from the wheelchair and raced to his bike. Other kids were waiting for their turn, but before the next child could go for a ride, Donald was back. "These are for Frank," he panted. He handed the lady the shiny streamers from his own bike.

"That was fun! Thanks Frank." Donald waved good-bye and whistled the whole way home.

The lady grew tired after a few more rides and soon she and Frank went home too.

Editor's Note: There are many people such as Frank who need our smiles, our concerns, and our friendship. Think of ways you and the other Rangers in your outpost can let people like Frank know and see God's love for them.

CAMPORAMA



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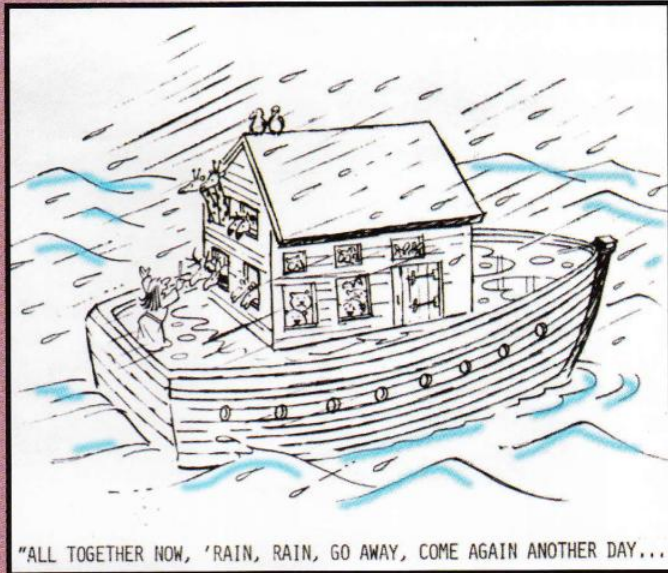
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COMEDY CORNER

PRAYER OF THANKS



"ALL TOGETHER NOW, 'RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY, COME AGAIN ANOTHER DAY..."

MASTERS AGENCY

A man was out hunting. He just happened to be hunting bears. As he trudged through the forest looking for the beasts, he came upon a large and steep hill. Thinking that perhaps there would be bear on the other side of the hill, he climbed up the steep incline and, just as he was pulling himself up over the last outcropping of rocks, a huge bear met him nose to nose.

The bear roared fiercely. The man was so scared that he lost his balance and fell down the hill with the bear not far behind. As he tumbled down the hill, the man lost his gun. When he finally stopped at the bottom, he found that he had a broken leg.

Escape was impossible and so the man, who had never been particularly religious (in fact this just happened to be a Sunday morning), prayed, "God, if you will make this bear a Christian, I will be happy with whatever lot you give me for the rest of my life."

The bear was no more than three feet away from the man when it stopped dead in its tracks ... looked up to the heavens quizzically... and then fell to its knees and prayed in a loud voice, "O Lord, bless this food of which I am about to partake."

-unknown

CALL 911!

Question: How many elephants can fit in a phone booth?

Answer: As many as want to. Hey, I'm not going to try and stop them!

-Bonnie Compton Hanson

THEY'RE TAKING OVER!

Ronnie: My mom just wallpapered our whole house. You should see it. Our kitchen's now full of butterflies.

Johnny: That's nothing. Our bathroom's full of daddylonglegs, our garage is full of spiders, our back porch is full of skeeters, and our back yard is full of grasshoppers!

-Bonnie Compton Hanson



GET READY FOR THE

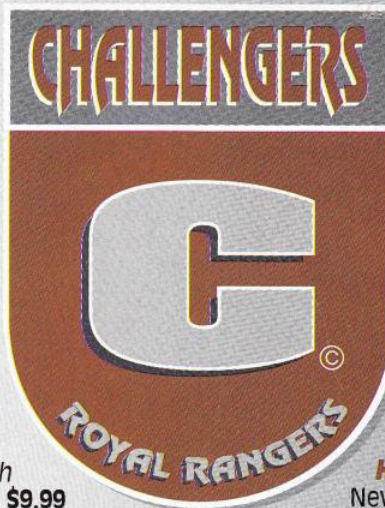
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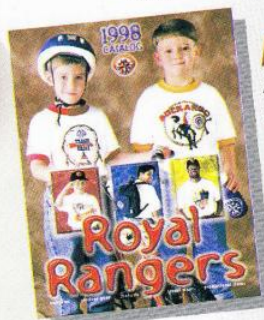
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