

HIGH ADVENTURE





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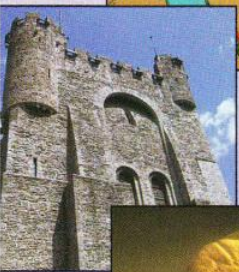
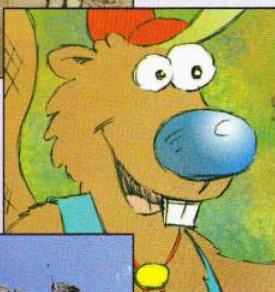
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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: The painting on the front cover was reproduced with permission from Fred Deaver. Brother Deaver was commissioned by the national BGMC office to paint a Royal Ranger boy who is contemplating where his Buddy Barrel monies are going to spread the gospel around the world.

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"There he is!"

exclaimed Tom's father. He was pointing at a Mexican boy about 12 years old. "Emilio," he shouted. "Over here!"

There was a crowd around the plane exit. Many people watched to see if someone they knew would be getting off this plane from Mexico. The disaster occurred less than 3 days ago. Not many planes were allowed to leave Mexico City after the earthquake. You were never sure if one of your loved ones had been able to get on a plane or not.

Emilio came over, looked at Tom's father and said, "Hello, Mr. Anderson. Thank you for taking me into your home."

"It's our pleasure, Emilio." Mr. Anderson put his arm around the boy's shoulders. "We were so glad when we heard your family was safe, but it's not good for you to be in Mexico City right now. We're happy you could come and stay with us."

"Tom," he said. "Take Emilio to the car. We'll pick up his luggage."

"I don't have any luggage, sir." Emilio looked down, embarrassed.

"Of course, I wasn't thinking," Mr. Anderson replied. Quickly, he added, "Well, let's get going."

Tom couldn't think of anything to say to Emilio as they rode in the back seat together. He stared out the side window and actually looked like he was pouting. So, Tom thought, this is the wonderful Emilio Dad couldn't stop talking about when he came back from Mexico last year. He says we have a lot in common. All I see we have in common is our age.

They arrived home, and Tom was told to show Emilio to his room.

"This is where you sleep," he said. "I have to sleep on the couch in the spare room."

"I can sleep there," Emilio offered. "I don't want to put you out."

"No way!" retorted Tom. "Dad said we have to be nice to you." He walked out before Emilio could reply.

Tom felt miserable all afternoon. He tried to read a book, but couldn't concentrate. I could concentrate, he thought, if I was in my own room. Dad said I couldn't even walk in my own room without knocking first. It's my room. I don't know why I have to let him use it.

"Tom, come set the table for supper," Mother called from the kitchen.

"Mom, can't Emilio sleep on the couch in the spare room?" Tom asked his mother. "He offered to, and you know I don't sleep well anywhere but in my own bed."

"Tom!" Mother looked at him in disbelief. "What is wrong with you? He's our guest and is to be treated like one."

Tom let the back door slam as he went out. He was sitting on the old swing when Emilio came over.

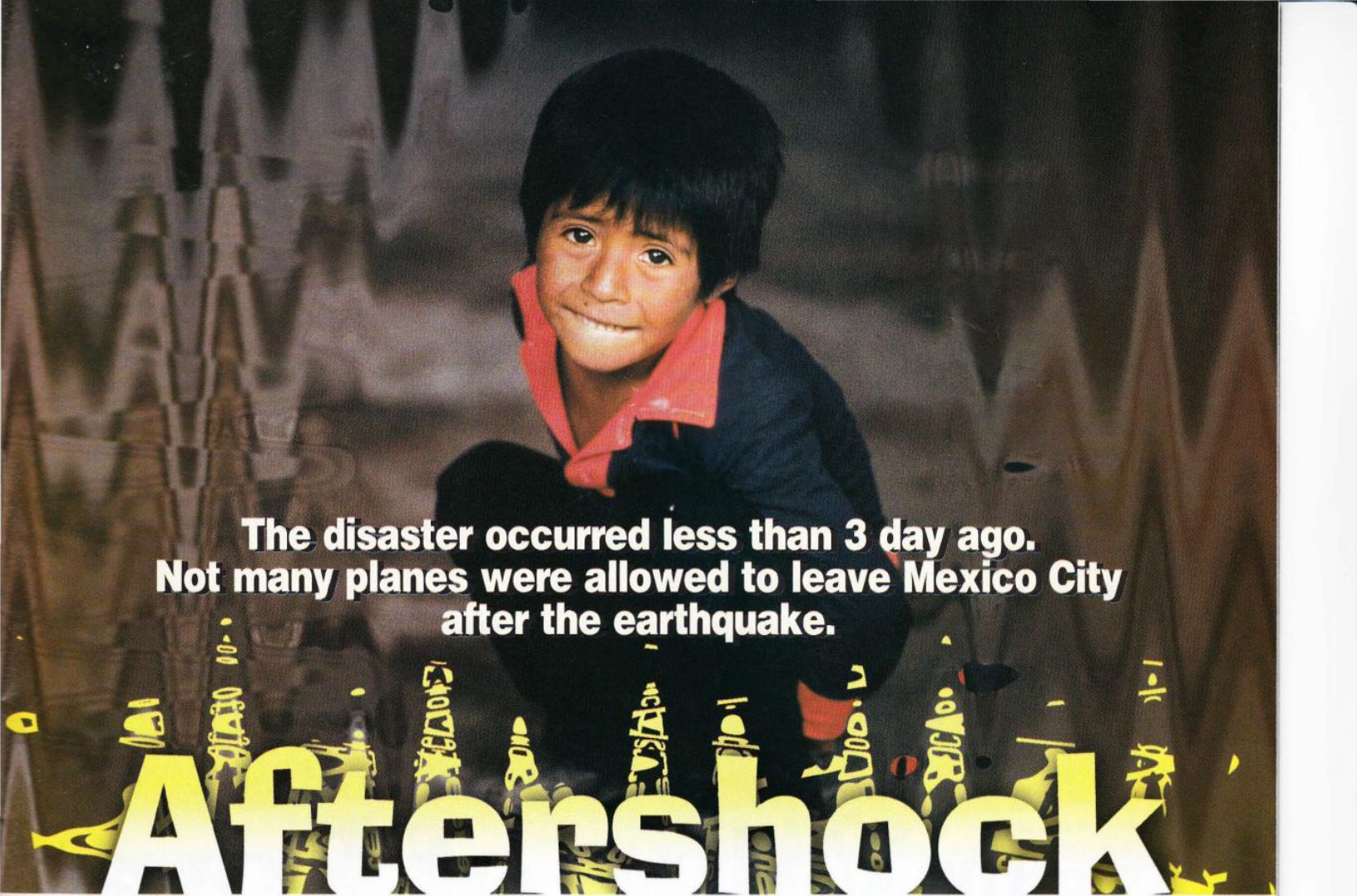
"What do you want?" he asked.

"Your mother says it's time for supper," Emilio said, softly.

"Okay. I'll be there in a minute." Tom waited until Emilio left before he followed him into the house.

It was very quiet at the supper table. "Emilio," Dad interrupted the silence. "Would you like to go shopping and buy some new clothes?"

"That would be fine. Dad gave me money for clothes. I have to exchange it to American dollars though." Emilio looked down at his plate. He hadn't been able to eat much. "I'm sorry to be a burden. I lost all of my clothes in the earthquake. All I had was the pajamas I was wearing. My cousin,



**The disaster occurred less than 3 day ago.
Not many planes were allowed to leave Mexico City
after the earthquake.**

Aftershock

by April LYMER

Jose, loaned me some of his clothes to travel in."

Tom looked at Emilio in astonishment. "You don't have any clothes?"

"No," replied Emilio. He smiled, "But, I am so thankful my mother and father are safe. When the house started to cave in I ran outside. I'm ashamed to say I didn't even think of my parents. They got outside just as the house crumbled completely."

Tom looked at Emilio with interest. "What—?" He started to ask.

"Tom, let's not bother Emilio with questions." Dad said sternly.

Jake, Tom's dog, came over to the table and whined. "Go away, Jake," Tom said. "You know you can't eat at the table."

"My dog's name was Romero," Emilio said, quietly. "He did not get out of the house."

"Oh, Emilio," Tom cried. "I'm sorry. I don't know what I would do if Jake died."

"There's nothing you can do," Emilio looked at Tom. Then Emilio turned to Mr. Anderson. "Do you know what I learned from the earthquake?"

"What?" Mr. Anderson asked, gently.

"When you were visiting us in Mexico last year, you and my father were talking about the mansions Christ is preparing for His children." Mr. Anderson nodded his head.

"After the earthquake I realized we had just lost our

earthly home. But we will never, never lose our heavenly homes, if we have Christ as our Savior. They will last forever."

"You're right about that," Mr. Anderson said.

Later, when his parents were asleep, Tom tiptoed to his bedroom door. He knocked softly and waited until Emilio said, "Come in."

Emilio was sitting up. He looked wide awake. Tom stood next to the bed. "I'm sorry for the way I acted today," he said.

"I'm sorry I messed up your life," Emilio replied.

"Oh, you didn't mess up my life," Tom said. He sat on the edge of the bed. "It sounds like your life got messed up a lot more than mine."

Tom looked down at his lap. "Can we start over again? I'll try to be a better friend than I was today."

"I'd like that," Emilio smiled. "Will you come shopping with me tomorrow and help me pick out some American clothes?"

"It's a deal!" Tom jumped off the bed. "See you tomorrow."

Tom turned as he was going out the door. "And, Emilio..." He hesitated.

"Yes?" Emilio asked.

"I'm really sorry about Romero." Tom quickly left the room. Tears glistened in Emilio's eyes as he softly whispered, "Thank you."



GOLD MEDAL ACHIEVEMENT ESSAY

"Royal Rangers has built up my confidence so I could achieve goals that I didn't know I could accomplish."

didn't know I could accomplish. For example, when I went to JLTC I did not think that I was ready for the experience, especially when I heard I would not be with people I knew. I was put into an uncomfortable situation that I had never been in before. For a moment, I was kind of scared, but I didn't regret it at the end. The hard work that our patrol put into it was well worth the time. It was hard, but so is life. JLTC showed me that life isn't just a walk in the park. There are times in life that you are put into uncomfortable situations. and you just have to learn to adapt.

In conclusion, I am truly thankful for RR. It has blessed me, and I have seen how it has blessed others. Sometimes it is a more wonderful feeling when you see others being blessed. Most recently, in the 2002 Camporama, the Tuesday night service was a great night in my life and for the other kids in my outpost. Even though God did some cool things in my life, I was more blessed seeing that other kids were wanting to know more about Jesus as that night went on. I am thankful for my commander—for his long dedication to the boys in our outpost and for the love that he gave us all. I will always cherish RR and value it for the rest of my days.

by Nick Breckenridge

OUTPOST 235
Faith Tabernacle, Burton, MI

I have been in Royal Rangers since I was 5 years old. Over the years, I have learned valuable life lessons such as always rely on God, to always do my best and never quit,

The Value of Royal R

by Daniel Acosta

OUTPOST 64
Valley Chapel, Clifton, NJ

As I have grown from being a child to a young man, I have come to value certain things. I have learned to value my parents, friends, and my family. I have come to value my relationship with God as I continue to grow. Each day I can't stop thanking Him for all the things He has done in my life and for the people close to me. Royal Rangers has given me so much to value in life.

When I was about 9, I entered the RR program. Having grown up in church all my life, I slowly got involved with the program. At that time I had already given my life to Christ, and RR taught me about the values of life. I also learned more about what I liked to do. RR is one of the only things that I have done that has truly challenged me. It has challenged me in various aspects including physically, mentally, and spiritually. Some of the best spiritual encounters I have ever had with God were at Ranger events I have attended. The one experience that I will never forget was the 1998 Camporama. I was only 12 years old but I will always remember the evening services. It was the first time that I personally felt that I was talking to God face-to-face.

RR has built up my confidence so I could achieve goals that I

and to always be prepared. Growing up without a dad wasn't easy. He wasn't there to teach me how to be a man, but my commanders were always there for me, and through the years I have developed close relationships with them. They taught me right from wrong, how to stand up for what I believe in, and not to be embarrassed about my beliefs. I have also developed close relationships within the ministry of RR. We have hiked many times together, swam together, and earned our merits together.

There were all the powwows, field trips, and campouts we did together. One of my favorite memories of a powwow was when my commander, other Rangers, and myself arrived a day early. We lashed a 30-foot tower and a 50-foot tower together and connected them by making a bridge. That year we won best lashing at the powwow. Another reason the powwows were so fun was because of the skits and services that we had each year. I enjoyed spending time with my friends and commanders and getting to know God better. I have also enjoyed all the weekend campouts with just my outpost where we just talked and grew closer together as an outpost.

I have earned many merits and learned a lot while doing them. My favorite merit was Winter Camping; I earned that at Snowflake. I also earned my Golf, Bible, Camping, and Rope Craft merits. I also enjoyed earning my First Aid-CPR card as well.

The value of RR is immeasurable. How do you put a value on something that ministers to you about God, teaches life

skills, and builds character, as well as developing lifelong friendships? I have learned to be more responsible, courageous, and alert. I know now what it means to always be prepared, because you never know when Jesus is coming again.

The lessons and values that I have learned while in RR have carried over into all parts of my life. I have witnessed to my friends about Jesus, and my teachers have all noticed that I have developed strong morals. I have learned to pray for and forgive people who have been mean to me. A kid at school who was always teasing me was in a very serious car accident. I had told my commander about how mean this kid was to me, and then told him he was in a coma at the hospital. My commander, Mr. Allinger, and someone who has been a father to me explained

"The lessons and values that I have learned while in Royal Rangers have carried over into all parts of my life."

why it was important for me to forgive. He took me to the hospital and together we prayed for this kid who is now my friend. My commander taught me how important it is to forgive and how forgiveness brings you closer to God.

I don't know where my life would be without my mom and the RR program.

Rangers

by Jesse Thompson

OUTPOST 221

Cornerstone Fellowship Church, Cobbs Creek, VA

The four gold points of the Royal Ranger emblem, which represent the four ways a boy grows, are based on the four ways Jesus grew, as found in Luke 2:52, "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." I will attempt to give a small sample of why Royal Rangers is important to me by focusing on specific opportunities it has given me to grow in these four areas.

Physically (Stature)

One of the fundamental elements of RR is the physical activities such as camping, biking, white-water rafting, and walking off cliffs backwards (Of course everyone tells you it's perfectly safe, but in my mind "safe" and "cliff" simply don't belong in the same sentence.). Since I have always preferred reading to just about any physical activity, I wasn't overly enthusiastic about my first hike with RR. But I needed to attend outpost events for Ranger of the Year points, so I grudgingly went. The first day we hiked about 40 miles straight up—or at least that's what it seemed like to this exhausted Pioneer. The second day, however, was one of the best I have ever experienced while camping. After spending several hours hunting for salamanders and crayfish (and eating one crayfish), we hiked 3 easy, down-

hill miles of gorgeous scenery back, stopping to eat lunch at a beautiful stream I hadn't noticed on the way up. On the way home I decided that this had been one of the best Ranger events I had ever attended. Of course getting left behind at a McDonalds in West Virginia lowered my opinion of this outing, but that's a different story.

Merit awards earned in RR often teach skills that will be needed not only to earn the GMA, but to survive in the "real world." One example of this is the Bachelor Merit. Simply mentioning this merit award is enough to strike terror in the heart of any Pioneer (not to mention putting a huge smile on his mother's face!). While earning this merit I learned how to cook something other than microwave oatmeal, sew a button on a shirt without winding up in the emergency room, wash dishes without breaking more than I clean, and use a washing machine without flooding the house. I have improved in many of these areas since then (Laundry is now one of my regular chores.), but I was only 10 when I earned the merit, and it taught me how hard my parents work to keep my family's home running smoothly.

Spiritually (In favor with God)

Camping and earning advancements are fun and rewarding, but the most important part of RR is the opportunity for spiritual growth. After all, the point of Rangers is to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ. I was saved when I was 4 years old, but I still thought of God as some far off guy with a really big paddle waiting for me to mess up. When I became a Pioneer, we started having devotions that taught about the true loving nature of God, how much He cares for me and every person on earth. I can honestly say that without RR, it would have taken me several more years to understand what God is really like.

Mentally (Wisdom)

As a Royal Ranger, I grew mentally by earning merits. Some merits I've earned, such as the President and Reading Merits, are entirely mental growth. I learned many interesting facts. For example, I learned John Tyler (then vice-president under William Henry Harrison) was playing marbles with his children when he was told that Harrison had died, making him the president of the United States. Also Woodrow Wilson kept a herd of sheep on the White House lawn and harvested the wool to make clothes and sheets for soldiers during World War I. The herd included Old Ike, a tobacco-chewing ram.

One of my favorite aspects of RR is the Ranger of the Year competitions. In the past 4 years, I have won four Ranger of the Year competitions at the sectional level, and two at the district level. Ranger of the Year motivates me to earn advancements, study Adventures in Camping, and attend all events. I also get to meet other Rangers interested in earning advancements and growing in their Christian walk. Through Ranger of the Year I have come to know many Rangers and commanders whom I respect very much.

Socially (In favor with men)

RR has given me, a home-schooled student, many chances to socialize that I would not have otherwise had. For example, I met Jeremiah Skinner, one of my best friends, through Rangers while I was a Pioneer. Since then we have been motivating each other to earn advancements, merits, and, ultimately, the GMA. Because we have been earning advancements at about the same time, we have also been able to work together on requirements such as building a council fire (It finally lit after about 45 minutes of huffing, puffing, and praying.), completing a service project for our church, and taking one of the three required 10-mile bike rides for the Cycling Merit together. If I were not a Royal Ranger, I would be missing out on a great friendship.

In conclusion, RR has given me many opportunities to grow in the same four ways that Jesus grew: physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially.



National Recognition at Camporama

Marshall Bruner and I had the distinct privilege of meeting several outstanding young men during Camporama 2002. These highly decorated Royal Rangers traveled to Eagle Rock, Missouri, to receive special recognition during Camporama as the 2001 National Royal Rangers of the Year.

This is one of the most prestigious awards known to Royal Rangers. These young men worked diligently over the past several years to arrive at this moment. Most recently they faced months of rigorous competition among hundreds of Royal Rangers across the nation at outpost, sectional, district, and regional competitions. They have successfully completed all the requirements and competitions necessary to be listed among the elite Royal Rangers of the Year.

The winners of the 2001 National Royal Rangers of the Year competition are as follows:

NORTHEAST REGION (MA)

Kevin Dennis, age 18

NORTHWEST REGION (WA)

Jed Gosnell, age 16

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION (TX)

Chris Philpott, age 16

SOUTHEAST REGION (GA)

David Reneau, age 18

NORTH CENTRAL REGION (MN)

Hunter Scott, age 16

GULF REGION (MS)

Justinn Smathers, age 17

GREAT LAKES REGION (IL)

Benjamin Wolfson, age 17

SOUTHWEST REGION (CO)

Lucas Van Tassel, age 17

(Lucas was out of the country on a mission trip)

These young men will serve as honorary members of the National Royal Rangers Council and as volunteer members of the national staff for a period of one year. Each ROY will be available for special speaking engagements at various Royal Rangers functions within his region. Contact the boys through your regional office to secure them for your next function.

Are You a Reflection or a Projection?

by Randy **WOODS**

Deputy District Commander, Decade of Harvest Coordinator

I have watched a full moon rise over the Lakeview Camp many times. I always enjoy the soft light as it shines across the lake. It reminds me that God is still in control regardless of circumstances. I also think of how our lives as Christians are like the moonlight. As the moon is a reflection of the sun, so our lives should be reflective of the light of God—His Son, Jesus. We can't see the sun, but we know it is there because of the moon's glow. We can't see God but we know He is still there. I reasoned that if people saw the reflection of God in my life, I must be where God wants me to be. Maybe I could be admired for the reflection I gave.

I have changed my mind on the previous thinking. I still enjoy the full moon and hope I reflect God's light. I began to realize that, in order to reflect the sunlight, the moon had to do absolutely nothing but be in the right place at the right time. No effort is required of the moon. This is the attitude of many weak Christians: I have been forgiven, but don't make me pray or do anything!

We really need to have a light that comes from within. We, then, become a projector. Like a projector, the light bulb is inside, but the electrical source is outside. The Holy Spirit lives within if we ask. As powerful Christians, our light (the Holy Spirit) comes from within and is no longer external. We are no longer a reflection but a projection of God. As a moth is drawn to bright light, we, as powerful Christian witnesses, can draw the lost to God because they see God, not us or a reflection.

No one complains about moonlight hurting his or her eyes, but they do complain about the light from a projector. If people are used to being in the dark without God, the light reveals issues in their lives that need to be resolved. Their conscience bothers them. God convicts them. We, as Christians who are used to the light, not only see things that need to be cleaned up, but enjoy the cleanliness that is revealed by the light.

A light emanates from each Christian. The question is what kind of light do we give out? Are we merely a reflection of something else, or are we projecting the true and living God in a way to draw the lost to Him, the Light, from the darkness of sin?

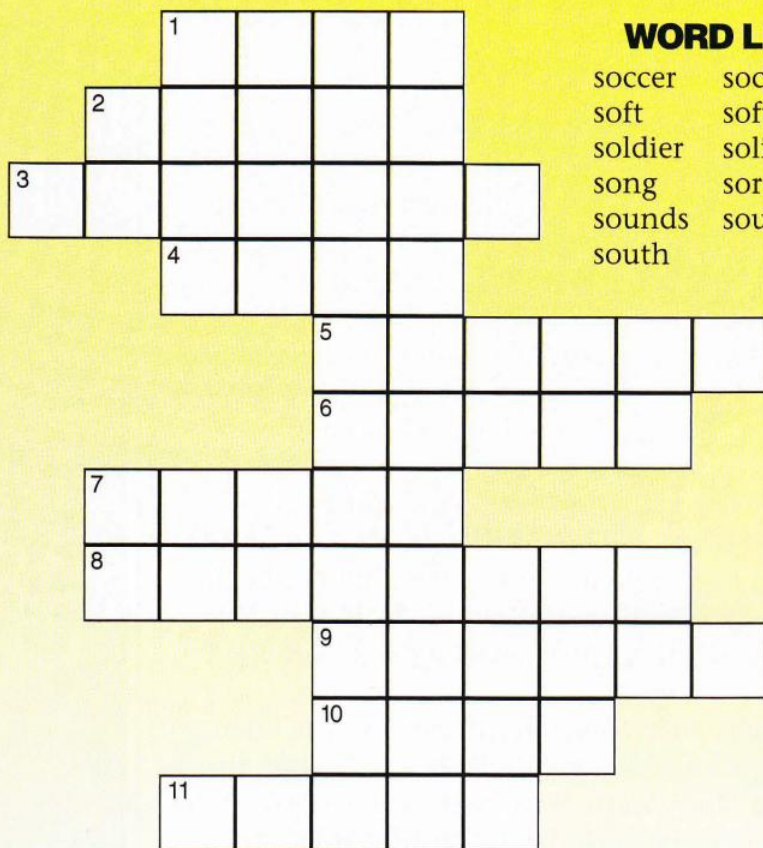


"So" Many Choices

by Rosalyn Phillips

WORD LIST

soccer socks
soft softball
soldier solid
song sorry
sounds soup
south



Life presents you with many choices every day. Some are easy to make, like what kind of sandwich to have for lunch. Others are more difficult, like choosing your friends. Reading the Bible can make it easier to make the right choice every time.

Each answer for this puzzle begins with the word "so." Use the clues to solve the puzzle and discover another name for the Bible.

1. A pillow is _____.
2. The opposite of North.
3. A person who fights in a battle.
4. Sing a _____ of praise to the Lord.
5. Noises
6. When you make a mistake say, "I'm _____."
7. My faith is as _____ as a rock.
8. You need a bat to play _____.
9. Do you like to play _____?
10. Hot _____ is good to eat on a cold day.
11. Do you wear _____ with your shoes?

Twelve Disciples

by Marie Tower

Fill in the blank with the right disciple.
Matthew 10:1-4 and Mark 3:16-19
list all 12 disciples.

John Bartholomew
James Matthew
Thomas Simon Peter
Andrew Phillip
James Thaddaeus
Simon Judas Iscariot

1. _____ and his brother John were preparing their fishing nets when Jesus called him. (Matthew 4:21)
2. _____ doubted until he could see the nail prints in Jesus' hands. (John 20:24-25)
3. _____ was a tax collector. (Matthew 9:9)
4. _____ betrayed Jesus for thirty silver coins. (Matthew 26:14-16)
5. Jesus loved all the disciples, but he had a special love for _____. (John 13:23)
6. _____ got out of the boat, and walked on the water to Jesus. (Matthew 14:29)
7. Simon Peter's brother _____ helped the Lord feed 5,000 people. (John 6:8-9)
8. Little is known about _____ with the long name beginning with B. (Matthew 10:3)
9. _____ was an evangelist and a good example. (Acts 8:5-12)
10. _____ heart was not right with God. (Acts 8:9-25)
11. _____ was the son of Alphaeus. (Matthew 10:1)
12. He was also known as Judas, but was called by a longer name of _____. (Luke 6:16)

12. Thaddaeus
11. James
10. Simon
9. Phillip
8. Bartholomew
7. Andrew

6. Simon Peter
5. John
4. Judas Iscariot
3. Matthew
2. Thomas
1. James

ANSWERS:



ROYAL RANGERS HIGH ADVENTURE

Leader

VOLUME 32

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NUMBER 4

Limitations or Opportunities: Home & Foreign Missions

by Richard Mariott, National Commander

"Is it really making a difference?" a man asked me at a district Men's Convention, a few years ago. He stated, "Do you think that we can really make a difference?" he continued, "We are limited by finances, lack of volunteers, and lack of time with our busy schedules."

I answered "Yes and yes!"

Yes I know, with God's help, we can make a difference!

Yes, if we are not careful, we can limit ourselves through our perception, finances, and time! The key word is "we" because we are limited! When we look through our worldly eyes, we see limitations.

God is limited only by the limitations we place upon ourselves. When we open our eyes to see that through Christ all things are possible, we begin to see unlimited resources available.

I could share many stories about MAPS teams doing projects in a foreign country or at home, and once they got there the project looked overwhelming—impossible to do in their allotted time frame. "How can we ever finish?" was the thought.

But their prayer became, "Lord not by my, but by Your strength we can do this!" At the end, to everyone's amazement, it was completed! Totally unthinkable but accomplished through God!

Having been on several of these projects, both home and foreign, and having a strong construction background, I can tell you that it seemed impossible when working with many non-skilled construction people. Even if they were skilled, the amount of work that needed to be accomplished seemed impossible. Add to this, the tools are generally less than what is available here in the U.S.A. We would just pray "Lord help us to accomplish Your will, and we recognize that it is by Your strength not ours." Guess what? The "impossible" work was completed.

Instead of seeing limitations we need to see tremendous opportunities. Today we have more opportunities than ever in history to make a difference. If we only see our limitations, then we fail to see God's unlimited resources.

I personally believe any "opportunity worth anything is joined at the hip with the word challenge." Sometimes it takes a challenge for us to realize that it can not be done by ourselves—to say "Lord not by my strength, but by Your strength, can we do this!"

A vehicle can only go somewhere when we put it into motion. So exercising faith becomes the vehicle for us to accomplish great things through Jesus Christ.

Royal Rangers will have more opportunities than ever. Boys will receive credit through many opportunities in the new merit-driven advancement system. Through participation in joint ventures with other departments such as Speed The Light and AIM-ambassadors in missions, Convoy of Hope outreaches, AGHM (home missions), AGWM (world missions), BGMC (Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade), and LFTL (Light for the Lost). Leaders will have additional opportunities through MAPS Construction (construction overseas), Pathfinders, and disaster relief opportunities.

My prayer is for this issue of High Adventure to bring awareness of ministries and opportunities available to help foreign and home missions. I trust this issue will inspire you to set goals, and challenge yourself, and exercise faith.

Yes, I know, with God's help, we can make a difference!

Your Commander and friend,



Royal Rangers

A Structure for Teamwork

by Billy GLOVER

As I drove up Interstate 65 to get to Camp Ambassador where the National Training Camp was being conducted that year, I little imagined the great lesson on teamwork that I would learn during the next three days.

Having pastored for a number of years, I knew about Royal Rangers. I had attended several powwows during that time with my son who was in Rangers. But this time I was attending NTC because I was the district Men's director, and Royal Rangers was under my portfolio. It was necessary that I become well acquainted with the ministry. So my motivation was out of necessity, as well as respect and appreciation for Royal Rangers.

After arriving at the camp I began to realize that I was not equipped for this experience. I had only one pair of blue socks, which were needed to match the Royal Rangers uniform. I had several pair of white socks and a pair of tennis shoes. I did have a pair of black shoes. I solved the sock problem by wearing the same pair of blue socks over the white socks, and only the guys in my troop knew about it.

During orientation we were given the guidelines that would govern the camp. We discovered that the Camp Commander followed the role of the nice guy, and the Senior Guide for the Camp was the not-so-nice guy. We were given our assignments and spare-time projects (even though there was no spare time), and we were told that if one failed in



the troop of eight, then all would fail.

During the next three days, we received excellent training in the areas of woodcraft, first-aid, setting up camps, cooking, compass reading, knot tying, lashing, and many other skills, some in which I was not experienced. It became apparent that each of us excelled with different skills. To complete the assignments that we were given on time, we would need each other.

As we completed each day's tasks, we became more of a unit committed to the mutual success of the troop. If there were tasks that were particularly difficult, we were driven to get them done, because we realized that if we failed our whole troop would be affected by the failure.

By the time we had accomplished all of our objectives and had our celebration campfire service on the final evening, we had formed a strong bond of unity. A special place in our hearts was discovered only for our troop, but for the commanders who had served as instructors and leaders of the camp, and a mutual respect for the other troops who were in the same training with us.

At the closing campfire service, the joy of surviving and the pride of achieving created in me (and I believe in each of us) a spiritual high that lasted for days after the camp was concluded. One pastor said at the closing campfire service, "The first day I thought that I needed to cast the devil out of the senior guide and go home. But by the closing service, it was apparent NTC had proven to be a great bonding experience for all of us!"

**"...it was
apparent
NTC
had proven
to be a great
BONDING
EXPERIENCE
for all of us!"**

I still cherish many of the items that were presented to me by our camp staff. They all hold a deep meaning for me: the rawhide shield presented by the senior guide and leadership, and a walking stick presented to me by one of the instructors.

A few days ago, almost 10 years after NTC, I was moved when I received a letter from a pastor who served as senior guide for our troop. He pastors a church in a neigh-

boring district. He said, "I was in prayer and thought of you and prayed for you." He affirmed me and expressed appreciation for our friendship.

I have no doubt that the NTC experience helped to forge that bond that exists until this day. Even now as I visit the different churches where my troop partners serve as deacons and Royal Ranger leaders, it is always special to see them again.

I discovered that lasting and meaningful relationships are formed out of being involved in mutual projects

where each person must contribute to achieve the task. I discovered what we could not successfully accomplish as individuals, we can accomplish by working together! John Maxwell says, "Teamwork makes the Dream work!"

Royal Rangers is one of the finest ministries we have in the Assemblies of God to teach teamwork and to build meaningful relationships among men as well as among boys! I salute the commanders who serve this great fellowship in preparing boys to be come men of God. My prayer is "May God bless the efforts of Royal Ranger commanders as they prepare themselves and the boys they serve."



What Missions Involvement Will Do For You



ROYAL RANGERS — INTERNATIONAL —

by Doug Marsh, Director — Royal Rangers International



The Master Ranger Himself has given you a direct order! "Go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).

A popular commercial says, "Milk, it does a body good!" As milk is good for the body, so obedience is good for the soul. How can you obey the Great Commission, and what will obedience do for you and your outpost?

There are three practical ways you and your Rangers fulfill the Lord's command. Your participation is biblically mandated! The spiritual results of your involvement are guaranteed in direct proportion to your obedience.

Here are some practical ways to lead your outpost in obedience to the Great Commission and to receive the corresponding results:

PRAY (RESULT OF OBEDIENCE = UNITY)

In Acts 2 we learn that the church was born out of united prayer. The Assemblies of God fellowship, too, was born out of prayer in 1914 when a group of independent individuals were united in prayer for three days.

After the Acts 2 prayer meeting, the disciples together embarked on an ambitious mission to change their world, starting with



Peter's evangelistic sermon in Jerusalem. After the 1914 prayer meeting, our fellowship pioneers were bound together for the purpose of establishing the greatest evangelistic enterprise the world had ever seen.

Edwin Louis Cole describes the results of obedient prayer in this way: "Prayer binds you to whom you pray, with whom you pray, and for whom you pray."

So why should Rangers pray for missions in America and abroad? Because as you pray, unity will be developed between you and God; between you and your Rangers; and between you, your Rangers, and the needs of those near and far. Prayer produces unity.

Pray fervently and regularly with your boys that God will open doors for the gospel in hard places that have been dark too long.

GIVE (RESULT OF OBEDIENCE = VISION)

Has your outpost budgeted for obedience? Some say that if you dedicate your heart to the cause of Christ, your budget will follow. But Jesus says the opposite is true. "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). If your outpost earmarks funds for your community and world missions outreach, your heart will beat for the lost.

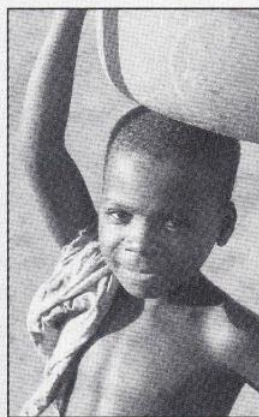
The difference between a stingy outpost and a generous outpost is visionary leadership.

If your outpost earmarks funds for your community and world missions outreach, your heart will beat for the lost.

John Wesley had a global vision. He said, "The world is my parish."

Is the world your outpost? A shortsighted leader might answer like this: "I've just got 17 Adventure Rangers." A visionary commander's enthusiastic answer would sound more like this: "The 17 Adventure Rangers in my outpost are impacting our community and the world. We

minister to boys in Africa by supporting J.R. Gould, boys in Latin America by supporting Eugene Hunt, and boys in Russia by supporting Mark Broberg. Eleven of them are Jr. LFTL Councilmen providing evangelistic literature to missionaries around the world. Last week



Kenya is one of the leading countries in Africa, currently aggressively training men to serve as effective commanders in this East Africa country. Some of the comments of recently chartered groups include:

"My Royal Rangers group has grown from 8 to 79 in the last six months..."

"There have been approximately 200 boys in my group in recent meetings..."

"My church has added several families recently due to Royal Rangers being available..."

"Other churches in my village have their boys attending our Royal Rangers ministry..."

The National Director of Men's Ministry, Harris Gichuhi recently stated, "Royal Rangers have taken our organization to a higher ministry level than ever before. Other denominations are coming to us, asking how we have developed a ministry for boys. They are seeing the Kenya Assemblies of God as leaders on the cutting edge of ministry to youth in East Africa."

Kenya's General Superintendent, Rev. Peter Njiri observes, "Approximately 17 million of Kenya's population is under the age of 15, resulting in a great opportunity for Kenyan Assembly of God churches to provide spiritual ministry to our country. Royal Rangers has come at the right time for Kenya. It is helping our churches to grow by involving laymen in ministry, adding families to our churches, and giving our children hope. We are indebted to and are thankful for our friends in the U.S. who are helping us rise to this great challenge."



the Rangers pitched in and helped the men of our congregation rebuild a neighbor's home that was destroyed by a storm. Next year we plan to go to Mexico to minister in...and..." Got the idea?

By obediently giving to missions, God will enlarge your vision. It will be local and global. The spiritual impact of your outpost will never exceed the size of your vision. Let God enlarge your heart and he will enlarge your vision.

Boys want to belong to something big. Even the most remote and small outpost can participate in the world's greatest cause, the spread of the gospel to every person.

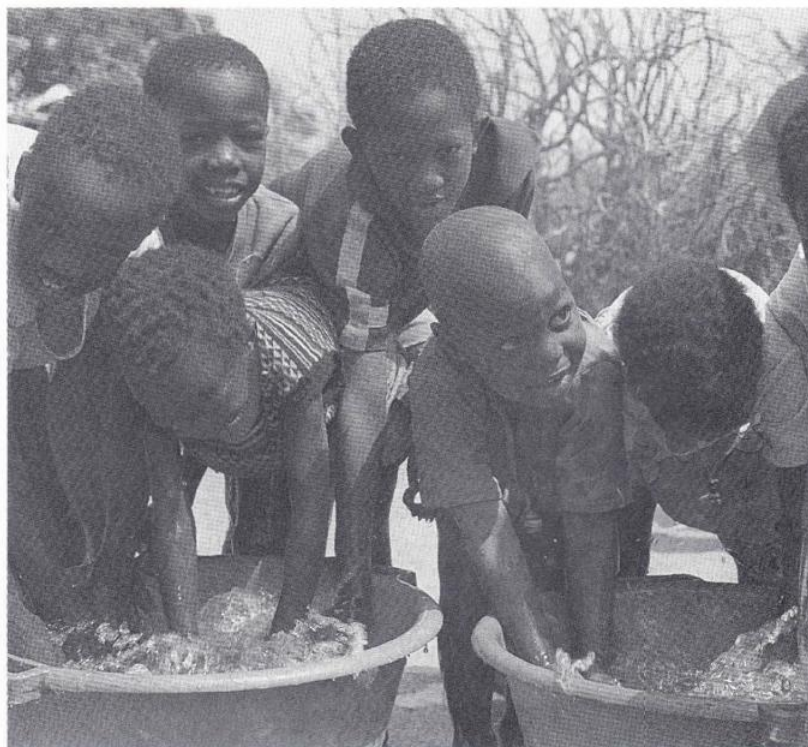
GO (RESULT OF OBEDIENCE = PASSION)

What is 750,000 miles long, reaches around the world 30 times, and grows 20 miles longer each day? It is the line of people marching through life without Christ. Thousands of them are boys in your community, and boys all around the world.

As soon as you have found someone who does not know Jesus Christ, you have found a mission field. Nothing will breed more enthusiasm for witnessing than witnessing, because an evangelistic outpost is a growing outpost. An outpost that does not equip boys to reach the lost is lost.

The fact is, most overseas missions opportunities currently available are for men and older boys. But that should not stop you from preparing your Rangers to reach boys in their school and community. This poem says it well:

*We little boys cannot go
Across the oceans foam
And bring the Truth to heathen lands
But we can work at home.
We cannot preach the Word of God
Unto the sick or poor
But we can bring a blessing great*



*To many people's door.
God made this world so big,
We boys so small;
But we can tell what we have learned—
That Jesus died for all.*

Once your boys begin to witness at home, they will have a passion for the lost wherever they are found. Don't allow yourself, or your Rangers, to get used to the sound of heathen footsteps marching into hell. Only by going will they get passionate about rescuing those without Christ.

Obedience to God's commands always pays off.

Prayer will produce unity.

Giving will enlarge vision.

Going will produce passion.

Wouldn't you like to lead a united, visionary and passionate outpost? You can if you obey the Great Commission. "Go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).

EDITOR'S NOTE: For great resources on "praying, giving, and going" visit www.royal-rangers.ag.org.



Prayer resources: Here is where you can find current prayer needs.

- Individual missionary web-sites. (Visit www.dougmarsh.org and click on "prayer closet." Also visit, www.agmd.org where you will find pictures of missionaries and prayer needs.)
- Prayer lists. (E-mail the Assemblies of God World Missions and request free daily prayer up-dates from missionaries: www.worldmissionsprayer@news.ag.org.)
- Books. ("Operation World, 21st Century Edition" by Patrick Johnstone and Jason Mandryk is a prayer guide for the needs of each nation of the world.)
- Local church and community needs.

Remember to pray for missionaries and their families, for national church leaders, for local congregations, and for the lost to be receptive to the gospel.

Giving resources: Want to know where to direct your world missions giving?

- The highest priority in missions giving is to support missionary families. Consider making a monthly commitment to a Royal Rangers missionary. (Request a current list: doug.marsh@agmd.org.)
- Encourage your boys to become involved with our missions giving partners—Boys & Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMG), and Light-for-the-Lost (LFTL). If you are a Ranger Kids or Discovery Rangers Commander, contact the BGMG office for great materials and ideas that will educate your boys and encourage them to give to missions (bgmc@ag.org). If you are an Adventure Rangers or Expedition Rangers Commander, the LFTL office has materials and information on the Jr. Councilman program (lftl@ag.org).
- Get behind a Royal Rangers approved missionary project. (Request a current list: doug.marsh@agmd.org.)
- Missionary testimonies. (Boys will be up on missions giving if you keep them up on missionary testimonies. Readily available resources might include missionary newsletters that are sent to your church and the World Missions edition of the *Pentecostal Evangel* on the first Sunday of each month.)

Remember that giving to missions will enlarge the scope of your ministry impact.

Going resources: Want to see the opportunities?

- Short term service at home or abroad. (Consider devoting 2-5 years of your life, and serve alongside a foreign missionary to help launch or strengthen Royal Rangers overseas. Request a current list of needs: doug.marsh@agmd.org. There are also week-long opportunities. Check with your district.)
- Construction. (Mobilize a group of men and older boys for a construction project at home or abroad. Check with your district for upcoming opportunities and Pathfinders trips. Camp Summit, the Latin American Royal Rangers Training Center, is still in need of construction teams and funds. Request details: john.anthony@agmd.org.)
- Equip boys with a New Testament and the knowledge to witness, and plan regular outreach opportunities.

Remember that nothing will produce more enthusiasm in an outpost that soul-winning.

Gerd Ersfeldg

Since Johnny Barnes and his crew brought the Royal Rangers fire to Germany in 1981, this God-given fire has done its work. We have seen 300 outposts established all over our country, including the former communist east-German territory. Ten thousand boys and girls are involved today with the help of over 2,000 dedicated and well-trained leaders. What is more, the fire of the Holy Spirit continues to grow this ministry throughout Europe.

Mark Broberg

Since the fall of communism in the early 1990s, God has opened the doors for Russian Royal Rangers to be one of the primary children's ministries in the country. Russia has 11 different time zones with outposts from the west in St. Petersburg to the east in Siberia. Pray that the doors will remain open for this great ministry to touch the lives of boys and girls through all this nation.

Warren Billson

Royal Rangers ministers to Australian children in 30 outposts, with approximately 2,000 Rangers involved each week. If you were to join us in Australia, you may find yourself in units with strange names like Wallabies or Stockhands. Our ministry is adapted to our local culture, but the basic emphasis to "reach, teach and keep children for the Lord Jesus Christ" remains.



For up-to-date camp information visit royalrangers.ag.org.

CAMPS BY TYPE

FOR YEAR 2003



NTC

— 1 —
JAN. 30 - FEB. 2
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL

— 2 —
MAY 1- 4
Camp Wilderness
Waupaca, WI

— 3 —
MAY 8 - 11
Paradise Boys Camp
McNary, AZ

— 4 —
MAY 15 - 18
Glacier Bible Camp
Hungry Horse, MT

— 5 —
MAY 15 - 18
Mt. Lassen Camp
Mineral, CA

— 6 —
MAY 15 - 18
Boys Scout Camp
Whiteford, MD

— 7 —
MAY 22 - 25
Camp Ambassador
Goodlettsville, TN

— 8 —
SEPTEMBER 4 - 7
Pine Crest Christian Conf. Center
Twin Peaks, CA

— 9 —
SEPTEMBER 4 - 7
Camp Roosevelt
Woodstown, NJ

— 10 —
SEPTEMBER 25 - 28
Family Life Center
Forsyth, GA

— 11 —
OCTOBER 9 - 12
Lakeview Camp
Maypearl, TX

ANTC

— 1 —
FEBRUARY 6 - 9
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL

— 2 —
MAY 1 - 4
Lakeview Camp
Maypearl, TX

— 3 —
MAY 15 - 18
Lake Placid
Pillager, MN

— 4 —
SEPTEMBER 11 - 14
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO

WNTC

— 1 —
FEBRUARY 6 - 9
Mt. Lassen Camp
Mineral, CA

NCE

— 1 —
JUNE 26 - 29
Tyler Bend Campgrounds
Buffalo River, AR

— 2 —
SEPTEMBER 11 - 14
Camp Colier
Gardner, MA

NTT

— 1 —
MAY 22 - 25
Beaver Lake Community Church
Lachine, MI

— 2 —
JULY 24 - 27
Loon Lake
Placerville, CA

RKTC

— 1 —
APRIL 4 - 6
Lake Placid Conference Center
Hartford City, IN

— 2 —
APRIL 10 - 12
Potomac Park Conference Center
Falling Waters, WV

National Royal Rangers Academy

— 1 —
MAY 22 - 25
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO

— 2 —
JUNE 5 - 8
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL

— 3 —
AUGUST 21 - 24
Lake Placid
Pillager, MN

National Royal Rangers Advanced Academy

— 1 —
MAY 21 - 25
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO



For up-to-date camp information visit royalrangers.ag.org.

CAMPS BY REGION

FOR YEAR 2003



SOUTHWEST

WNTC

FEBRUARY 6 - 9
Mt. Lassen Camp
Mineral, CA



NTC

MAY 8 - 11
Paradise Boys Camp
McNary, AZ



NTC

MAY 15 - 18
Mt. Lassen Camp
Mineral, CA



NTT

JULY 24 - 27
Loon Lake
Placerville, CA



NTC

SEPTEMBER 4 - 7
Pine Crest Christian Conf. Center
Twin Peaks, CA

SOUTHEAST

NTC

JAN. 30 - FEB. 2
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL



ANTC

FEBRUARY 6 - 9
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL



Academy

JUNE 5 - 8
Camp Wilderness
Fort Meade, FL



NTC

SEPTEMBER 25 - 28
Family Life Center
Forsyth, GA

GREAT LAKES

RKTC

APRIL 4 - 6
Lake Placid Conference Center
Hartford City, IN



NTT

MAY 22 - 25
Beaver Lake Community Church
Lachine, MI

GULF

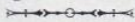
NTC

MAY 22 - 25
Camp Ambassador
Goodlettsville, TN



Academy

MAY 22 - 25
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO



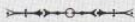
Advanced Academy

MAY 21 - 25
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO



NCE

JUNE 26 - 29
Tyler Bend Campgrounds
Buffalo River, AR



ANTC

SEPTEMBER 11 - 14
Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO

SOUTH CENTRAL

ANTC

MAY 1 - 4
Lakeview Camp
Maypearl, TX



NTC

OCTOBER 9 - 12
Lakeview Camp
Maypearl, TX

NORTH CENTRAL

NTC

MAY 1 - 4
Camp Wilderness
Waupaca, WI



ANTC

MAY 15 - 18
Lake Placid
Pillager, MN



Academy

AUGUST 21 - 24
Lake Placid
Pillager, MN

NORTHEAST

RKTC

APRIL 10 - 12
Potomac Park Conf. Center
Falling Waters, WV



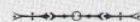
NTC

MAY 15 - 18
Boys Scout Camp
Whiteford, MD



NTC

SEPTEMBER 4 - 7
Camp Roosevelt
Woodstown, NJ



NCE

SEPTEMBER 11 - 14
Camp Collier
Gardner, MA

NORTHWEST

NTC

MAY 15 - 18
Glacier Bible Camp
Hungry Horse, MT



Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost: Partners in the Kingdom

by Waketa Williams
National LFTL Councilmen Secretary

Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost enjoy a long-standing and productive working relationship. RR and LFTL have worked together on several projects with the purpose of reaching the youth of the United States and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In 1993 Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost began a joint effort to give Royal Rangers boys greater exposure to missions by developing the LFTL Junior Councilmen program. To become a Junior Councilman, a Royal Ranger must first earn his LFTL Merit. As a Junior Councilman he is involved in the effort to help missionaries win the lost. Also, he receives a Junior Councilmen pin to proudly wear on his uniform and a subscription to the Spotlight.

In 1995 Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost created the *Royal Ranger Book of Hope*, a selection of scriptures designed for inner-city boys, dealing with such subjects as drug and alcohol abuse, AIDS, abstinence, fear, death, the Bible, and salvation.

Also in 1995, Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost joined forces to raise funds for the comic book *Edward Elephant Says* (EES.) EES is an AIDS-awareness comic book that teaches:

1. What to do if you have AIDS.

2. How to prevent AIDS infection.
3. How to find Christ as your Savior.

Millions of copies of EES have been distributed to school-age children in most African countries. EES has also gone around the world as EES and in a slightly altered version known as *Danny Dolphin Says* (DDS.) Danny Dolphin was created for distribution first to the Philippines, then to other Asia-Pacific countries.

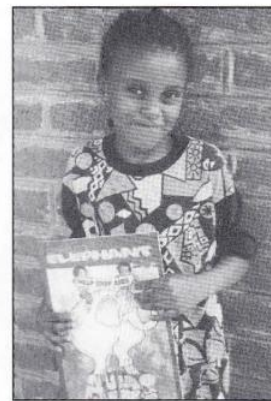
In 1998 Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost began a fundraising effort to create and distribute *The Last Best Thing*, John's Gospel printed in the Contemporary English Version, to the youth of the United States. *The Last Best Thing* includes articles addressing anger and rage, death, fear, spiritual freedom, and the plan of salvation.

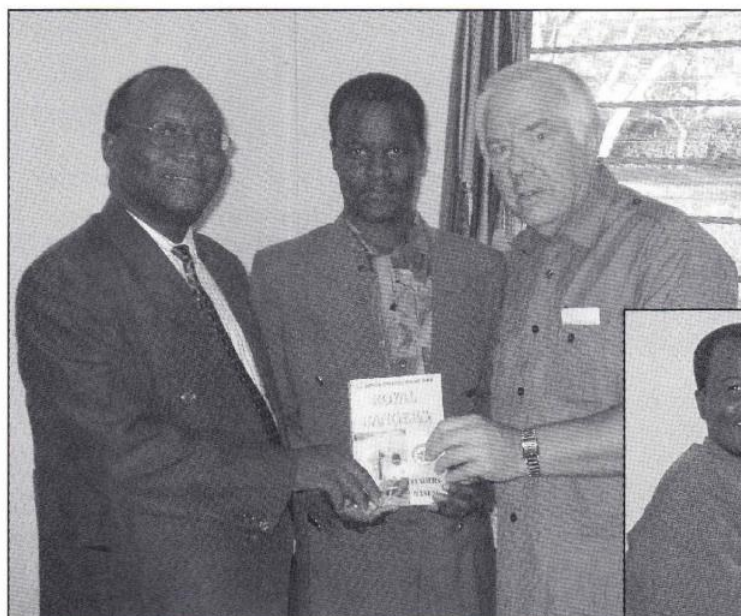
In 2001 Light for the Lost partnered with Royal Rangers of Kenya by providing funds to re-create the Royal Ranger curriculum for the boys of Kenya and East Africa.

In a recent Kenyan government census, it was determined that there are approximately 17 million Kenyans under the age of 15. This is an unprecedented opportunity for evangelism in Africa. One form of evangelistic outreach is through providing Royal Rangers and Missionettes ministries.

During the start of field-testing the materials, Rangers programs have exploded in each church studied. This has been followed with incredible responses from men who, as RR commanders, are leading boys to Jesus Christ in extraordinary numbers!

Launching this ministry required the





Pictured at left:

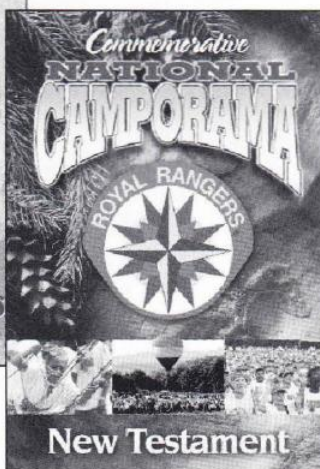
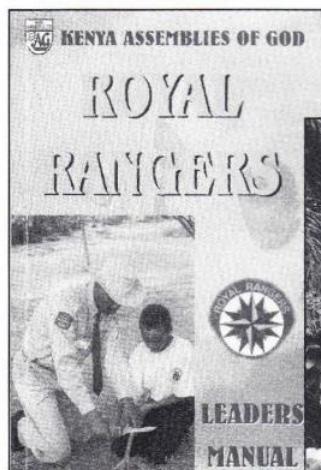
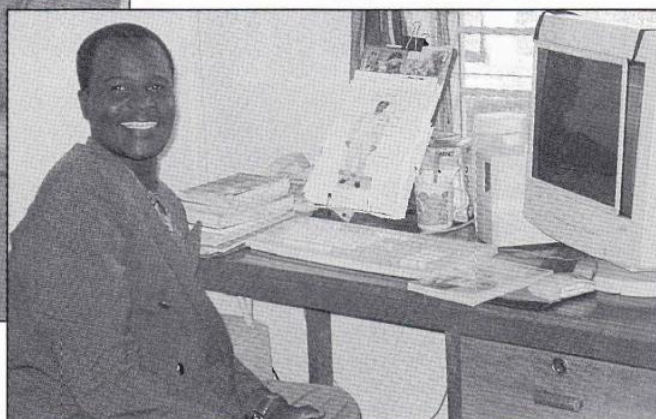
Harris Gichuhi, *National Men's Ministries
Director Kenyan Assemblies of God*

Kennedy, *Chief Editor
Kenyan Royal Ranger Curriculum*

Benny Ferguson
National Light for the Lost Director

Pictured below:

Kennedy, *Chief Editor
Kenyan Royal Ranger Curriculum*

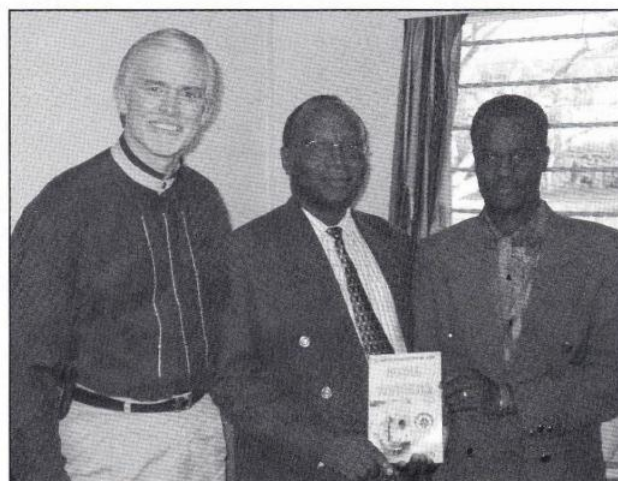


development of African-based, culturally-sensitive ministry materials, six books that include necessary Ranger evangelism materials. Men of professional writing experience, skilled in developing Royal Ranger materials, were invited to Kenya to consult with and write together with knowledgeable, African national counterparts who were familiar with the unique cultural needs of East Africa.

In 2002 Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost joined together to print a *Commemorative New Testament* for the 2002 National Royal Ranger Camporama. This Contemporary English

Version of the New Testament was given as a keepsake to every boy attending the 2002 National Camporama. It contains special features including Seven Promises for Boys, Do You Know Jesus?, and the Royal Ranger Motto, Emblem and Pledge.

Until Jesus comes, Royal Rangers and Light for the Lost commit to a continuing partnership to bring the light of Jesus Christ to our world!



Missionary Charles "J.R." Gould, Harris Gichuhi, and Kennedy.



West Nile Virus

With all the news coverage of West Nile Virus I have had several questions about this disease. This is some information that should help to answer some of your questions.

West Nile Virus had been present in Africa, Eastern Europe, West Africa and the Middle East for many years, however it was first detected in the United States in 1999.

West Nile Virus is transmitted by the bite of a mosquito that is infected with the West Nile Virus. Mosquitoes become infected by feeding on birds that infected. The mosquito then transmits the virus to humans and animals while feeding on them.

People over 50 years of age are more likely to get the severe form of the disease than are younger people. However, the risk of contracting West Nile Virus is very low and the risk of developing serious illness from the West Nile Virus is even significantly lower.

The best advice for prevention that can be offered is to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. Listed below are some steps you can follow to decrease your chances of being bitten by mosquitoes.

- Stay indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors
- Spray clothing with repellents containing permethrin or DEET since mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing.
- Apply insect repellent sparingly to exposed skin. An effective repellent will contain 35%

DEET. Higher concentrations of DEET will not provide additional protection

■ Repellents may irritate the eyes and mouth, so avoid applying repellent to the hands of children.

■ Whenever you use an insecticide or insect repellent, be sure to read and follow the manufacturer's DIRECTIONS FOR USE, as printed on the product.

■ Install or repair window and door screens so that mosquitoes cannot get indoors.

■ Note: Vitamin B and "Ultrasonic" devices are not effective in preventing mosquito bites.

- Empty any containers of water, such as pet bowls, cans, buckets etc that provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Who are at the highest risk for contracting the West Nile Virus? Although anyone can

The risk of contracting West Nile Virus is very low and the risk of developing serious illness from West Nile Virus is even significantly lower.



become infected the following are at higher risk.

- People over the age of 50
- Anyone with an illness that suppresses the immune system
- Anyone on medications that suppress the immune system (such as drugs for rheumatoid arthritis or organ transplants.)

Most people who become infected with West Nile Virus do not develop a severe illness. Only 1% will develop a severe illness and only 3-15% of that 1% will die from the disease.

It is important to remember only 1% of mosquitoes in an infected area carry the West Nile Virus.

In the rare case that a mosquito bite leads to a West Nile infection these are the symptoms that may occur:

For mild infection:

- Fever
- Headache
- Body aches
- Occasionally skin rash and/or swollen lymph glands

For the more severe infection the symptoms may be:

- Headache
- High fever
- Neck stiffness
- Stupor
- Disorientation
- Coma
- Tremors
- Convulsions
- Muscle weakness
- Paralysis
- Rarely, death

If a person becomes infected with the West Nile Virus there is no specific treatment to the disease. Treatment consists of comfort measures. In mild cases medication to relieve the symptoms are used. If you suspect that you or a family member had contracted West Nile Virus you should contact your health care provider. If you or anyone in your family develops the symptoms of a severe infection you should contact your health care provider immediately.

Treatment in the severe cases may include hospitalization, intravenous fluids, breathing support, if needed, and prevention of other infections until the person recovers.

It is important to remember that ones chances of contracting the West Nile Virus are very low. The media has given the statistics of people infected and people who have died from West Nile Virus. Last evening I believe it was 12 deaths in the United States this year. If we put that into perspective and compare it to the number of people who died in auto accidents in the United States in the last 2-3 months we will find that the number of those who have died in auto accidents far exceeds the number killed by West Nile Virus. We still travel in cars, we just try to take precautions to prevent auto accidents. We should adopt the same philosophy with the West Nile Virus. We should take precautions to avoid mosquito bites but should not be overly concerned about this disease.

Information on West Nile Virus obtained from the CDC Internet pages.



Assemblies of God National Center for the Blind **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY!**

The National Center for the Blind is seeking volunteers to be the eyes for a blind person. If you have time to read a book and while reading it, tape it onto a cassette recorder, you can bring great joy to a blind person who cannot read a book.

If this is a ministry that you would like to participate in, contact:

Caryl Weingartner
National Volunteer Readers Coordinator
National Center for the Blind
1445 N. Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802-1894
417-862-2781, ext. 1240
Cweingartner@ag.org



TRUE MISSIONS STORIES

Protection in Peru



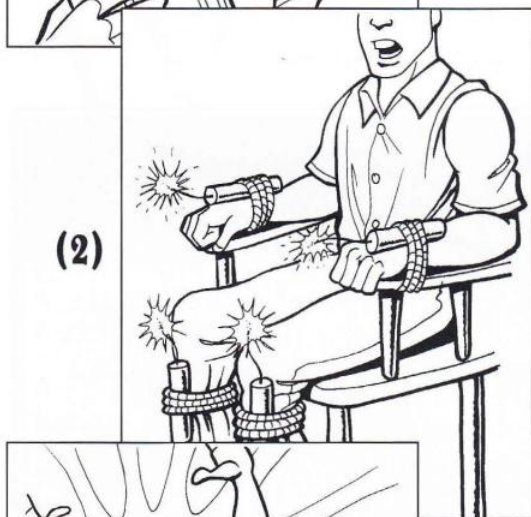
(1)

(Picture 1)

Julio*, a young lay evangelist, had been threatened by a terrorist group. "You must stop preaching," they said. "If you do not obey us, you will pay with your blood."

This terrorist group had taken control of the area where Julio walked from town to town to preach. They had closed the police outstations and governed the region by their own rules. Any individual or group which would not cooperate with them was in danger.

Julio ignored the threats and continued his usual rounds, preaching in the small mountain churches and encouraging the believers. Again the terrorists warned Julio, and again he disregarded the threats against his life. The terrorists were outraged. "Our vengeance will be complete. We asked your cooperation, and you disobeyed us. Now we will make an example of you," they said.



(2)

(Picture 2)

A few days later Julio was ambushed and taken to the center of one of the larger towns in the area. A crowd gathered to witness the sentencing. The terrorists hoped that Julio's fate would put fear into the hearts of Christians and perhaps even result in closing some churches.

Julio was tied to a chair and carried to the middle of the square. Sticks of dynamite were tied to each of his arms and legs. The fuses were lit as Julio began singing praises to God. Other Christians joined him in praise, encouraging him with songs about heaven.

Then came the miracle! Suddenly there was a loud boom as the dynamite exploded. The terrorists thought nothing would be left of Julio. But when the smoke cleared, there sat Julio unharmed and still singing praises to God! The terrorists were shocked! They were so overcome by fear that they ran away. At the same time, all the Christians were saying, "It's a miracle of God!"



(3)

(Picture 3)

Julio left the square with the Christians. He continued his ministry in spite of persecution. He held firmly to the truth that Jesus gives strength to be courageous when needed.

For 20 years, believers in some areas of Peru have faced danger and persecution. Terrorists have killed several hundred pastors for preaching about Jesus. But during these difficult days, God has shown His power. In miraculous ways, He has protected His followers and reminded them that He is in control. Because of things like this, it is so important to pray for our missionaries. There is power in prayer!

* Name has been changed.

Information for this story was provided by Rich and Wanda Ferguson, missionaries to Peru. It is also a reprint from the August 1990 edition of Mountain Movers and is reprinted with permission from the Division of World Missions.

How Did God Do It?



(Picture 1)

Missionaries Jack and Georgia Belin were driving up a steep road in El Fuerte, the pre-Inca ruins high in the Andes Mountains of Bolivia. They were driving in their Speed-the-Light Mitsubishi vehicle.

It was Wednesday morning and the team was having its day off in the country. There were seven people in the van. The cliff roads in the mountains are incredibly steep and narrow with no guardrails.



(Picture 2)

Suddenly, the van hit a puddle and slid to the right—toward the cliff. There had been a landslide in the previous night's rainstorm, and a large portion of the road was washed out.

Missionary Belin saw in an instant that the road was gone but there was nothing he could do to avoid rolling over the cliff since they were in a free slide in the mud. Everyone in the van thought that they were surely going to die.

As they braced themselves for the fall, a miracle happened. They passed over the landslide without feeling so much as a small bump.



(Picture 3)

Missionary Belin stopped the car and they all got out to take a look. They couldn't believe their eyes! The tire tracks of the van were clearly off the road—over a cliff thousands of feet high—and then they reappeared about five feet on the other side of the landslide!

Everyone in that van was astonished! They had never seen anything like that before. Missionary Belin said that they must have driven over a bridge of angels! We serve an awesome God who can do anything!

This story was written by Missionary Jack Belin and is used by permission from the Division of World Missions. It was reprinted from a DFM publication.



Royal Rangers & BGMC Results: **LIVES** **Changed for** **ETERNITY**

by David Boyd & Carolyn Burwill

Since Royal Rangers has partnered with BGMC, exciting things have been happening. God has been moving in the hearts of boys to give to missions. Exceptional stories of boys giving to missions have been received.

Because of the generous giving of boys and other children, BGMC has done phenomenal things for children in countries around the world.

CAMPS

Usually when you ask a Royal Ranger to share his favorite part of Rangers, his response will include something to do with camping. If you were a boy in South Africa, the response could possibly be the same. BGMC provided funds to develop a beautiful camp there called Jackson's Ridge. Missionaries Ed and Sonja Corbin can not say enough thanks to BGMC for their help.

This camp is awesome. It is in a beautiful setting that looks like exactly what you think Africa would be even if you had never been there. The dorms are round buildings with thatched roofs. The camping program offers speakers, puppets, music, and classes. It also has a high-rope course and a challenge-initiative program. Would you believe they have their own lake? It is named Lake Buddy. BGMC has also purchased John Deere Gators to use to get around the large campground.

The best part about Jackson's Ridge is that it is a place where boys find Jesus as their personal Savior and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Jackson's Ridge also allows girls to attend camp, and training seminars for children's workers are also held on the grounds.

In Russia, BGMC has provided money so that over 200 children's camps could be held. Over 10,000 kids have attended camp. Almost every one of them has accepted Jesus as his or her Savior. After attending the camp, the children are invited to Sunday School. BGMC funds pay for the camps and food.

FEEDING PROGRAMS

Missionaries Darrell and Sandy Blatchley have started a feeding program for some very hungry children in the Philippines. They have been able to feed 200 people for only \$20 (U.S. dollars). BGMC provided money for a stove, refrigerator, freezer, dishes, and pans. Before each meal, the gospel is presented, and then the children are fed a good meal.

PRINTED MATERIALS

Around the world, BGMC is paying for printed material for children. In Iceland, the first PowerMark comic book was translated into Icelandic. In Eurasia, a magazine called Al-Ashbal was printed for children. In Arabic it means "lion cubs."

BROADCASTING

International Media Ministries is broadcasting Christian programs for children in many countries that have never had a Christian program. God is opening doors so kids in countries closed to missionaries can learn about Jesus.

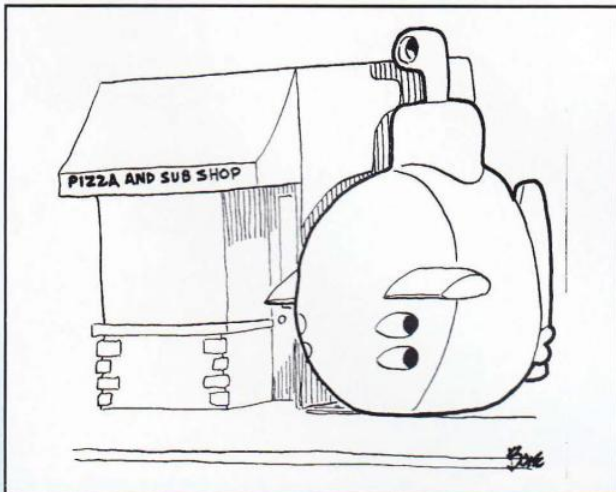
RANGERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Boys like John and Michael Teifel have made a commitment to give to BGMC. They held a garage sale and hosted a lemonade stand to earn money. Last year, Conner McGrath from Springfield, Mo. went door to door asking for pledges for his children's pastor to go up on a billboard. Conner raised \$1,500 for BGMC.

Joshua Keck from Colchester, Ill. has been making a pledge to BGMC for several years. He gave over \$1,000 in 2000 and over \$3,000 in 2001. He is well on his way to achieving his pledge of \$5,000 for 2002.

Two boys in California have seen that God will provide when they make a faith pledge. They both pledged \$5 a month for BGMC and had no idea where they would get the money. They are boys from a bus route. The two boys came up with a plan to "Vacuum for BGMC." They went door-to-door asking if they could vacuum carpets. In one afternoon each boy made \$20. They excitedly brought the \$20 to church. God miraculously provided four months of their pledge.

God is always faithful, and if we do our part, God will never fail. Thank you, Royal Rangers, for giving to BGMC. The lives of children around the world have been changed for eternity because boys in the United States have given to BGMC.

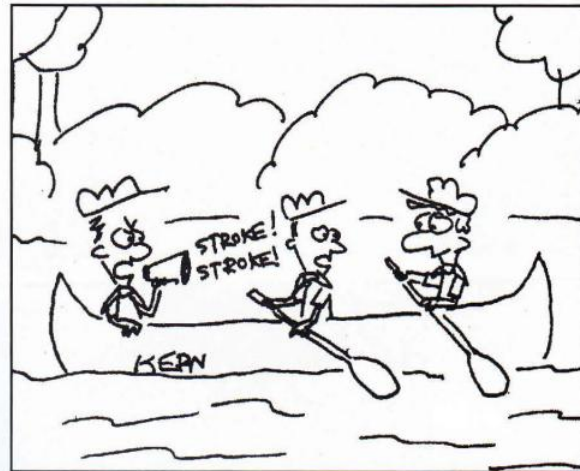


"Let's make sure we stay together on this hike because the life you save could be mine."

What's a carnivore's favorite game? *Swallow the leader?*

What turns everything around but does not move? *A mirror.*

COMEDY CORNER



"Joey's taking this canoe trip much too seriously."

What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with a dog?

A very nervous mailman.

Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain on Earth?

Mt. Everest, it just hadn't been discovered!

What is greater than God,
more evil than the devil,
poor people have it,
rich people need it,
and if you eat it you will die?

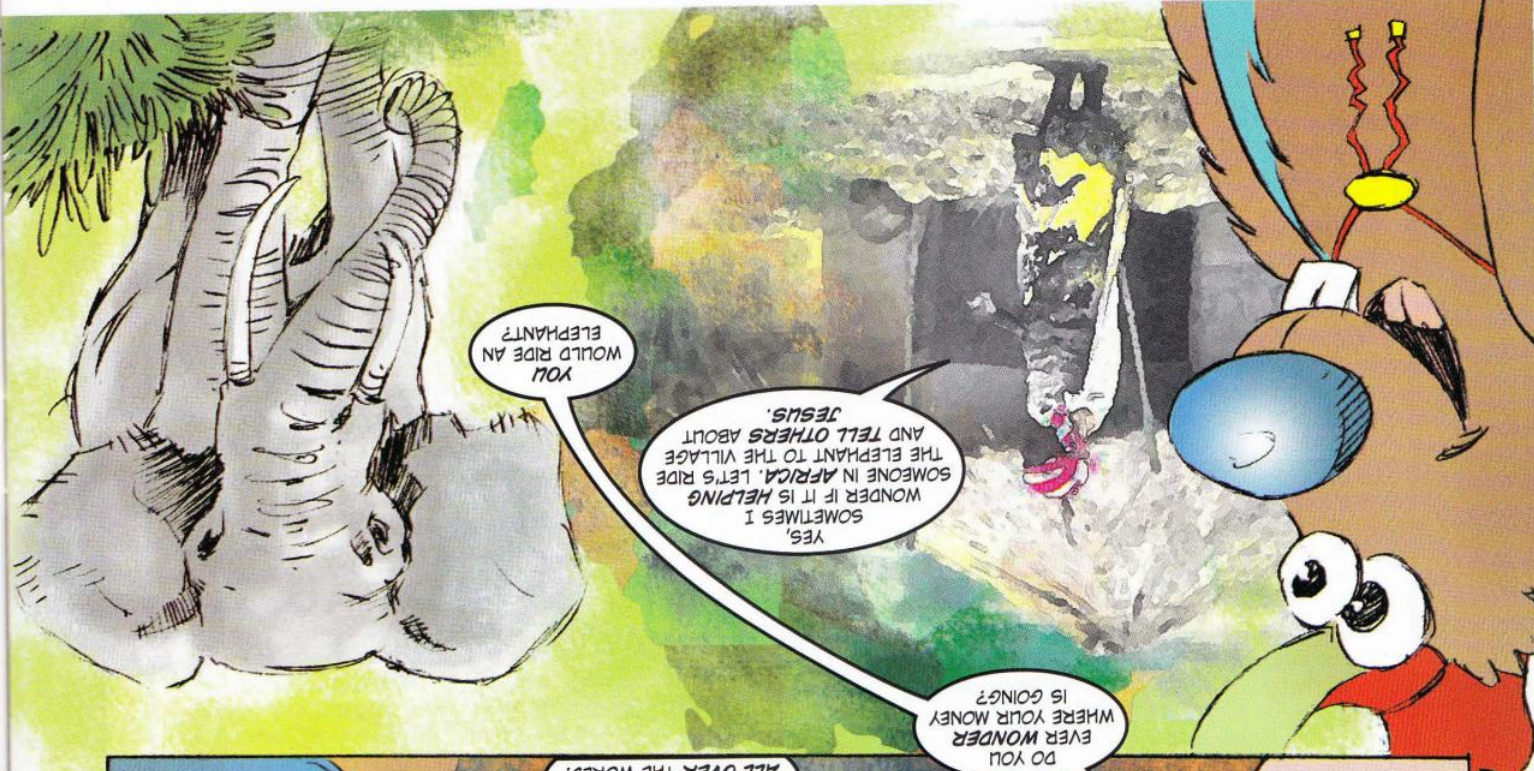
Nothing!

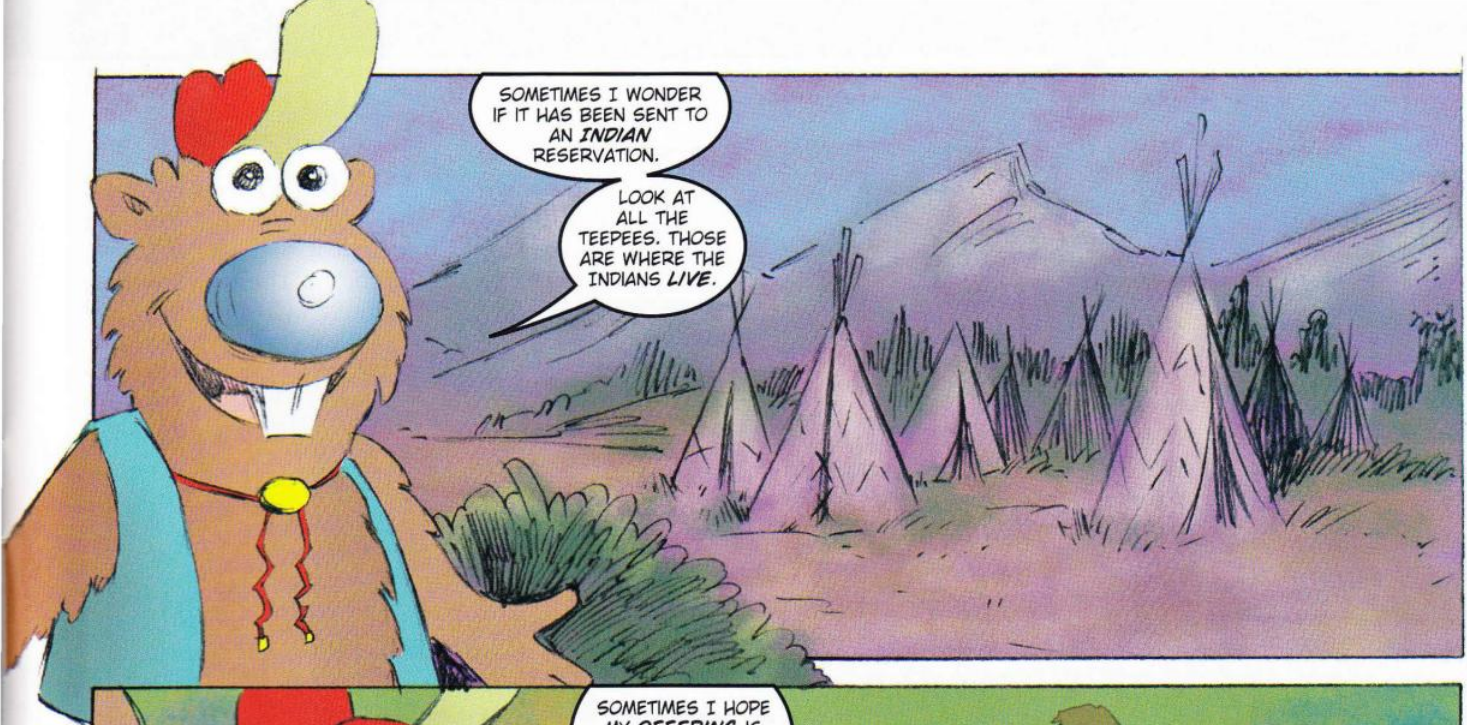


"I don't like fast food. It's too hard to catch."

Why did the baker stop making doughnuts? *He got tired of the whole (hole) business.*

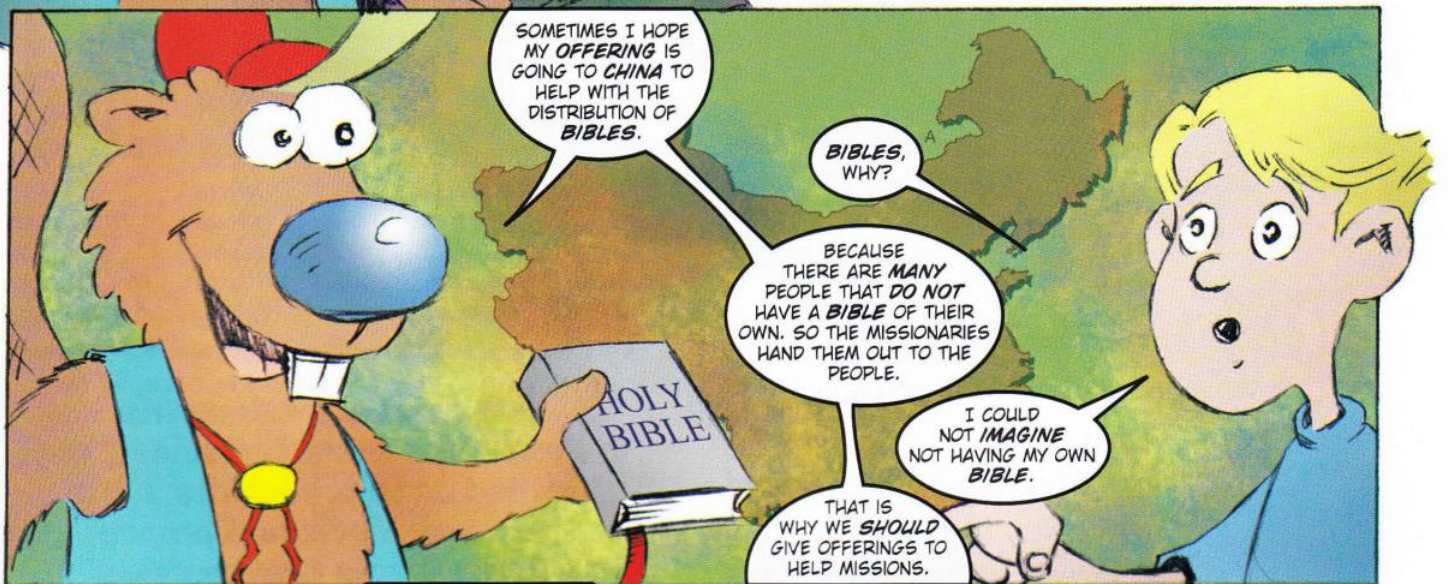
What makes a chess player happy? *Taking a knight off!*





SOMETIMES I WONDER
IF IT HAS BEEN SENT TO
AN **INDIAN**
RESERVATION.

LOOK AT
ALL THE
TEEPEES. THOSE
ARE WHERE THE
INDIANS LIVE.



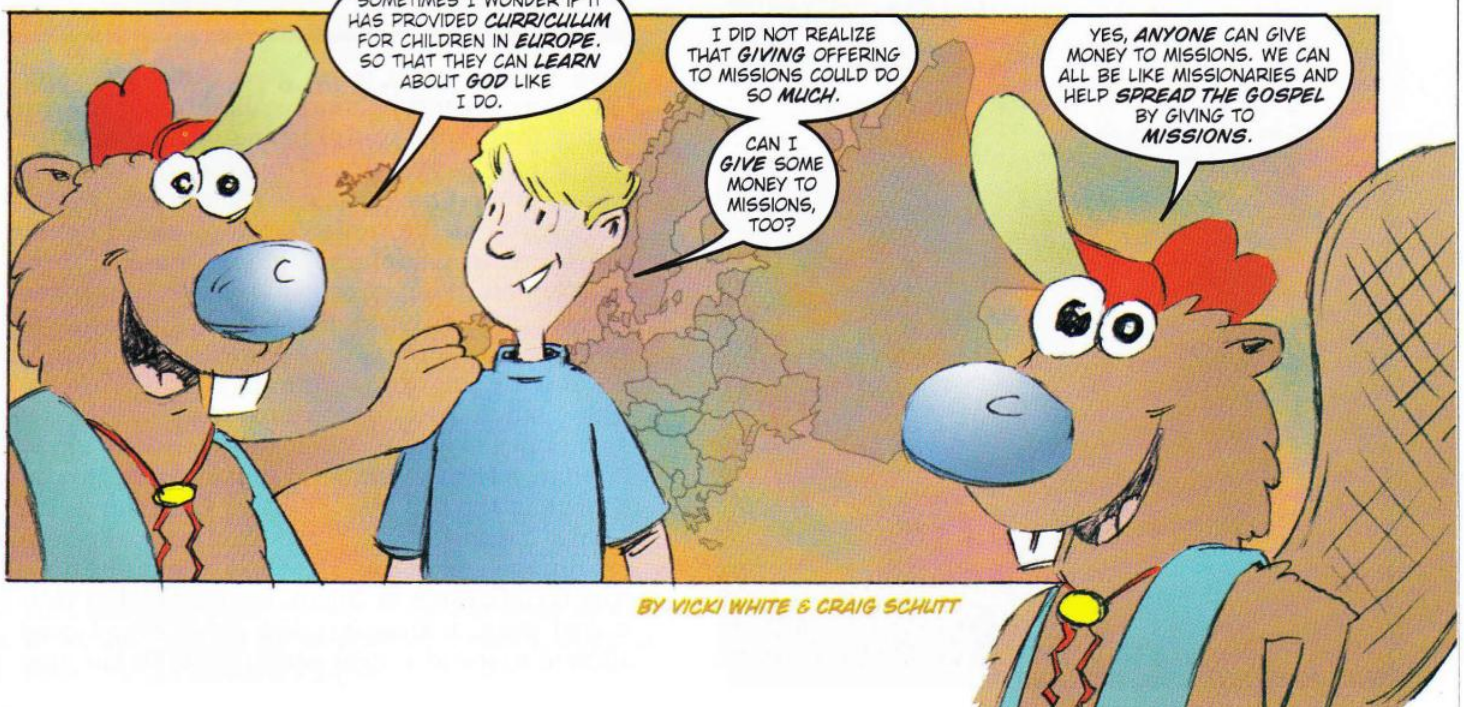
SOMETIMES I HOPE
MY **OFFERING** IS
GOING TO **CHINA** TO
HELP WITH THE
DISTRIBUTION OF
BIBLES.

BIBLES,
WHY?

BECAUSE
THERE ARE **MANY**
PEOPLE THAT **DO NOT**
HAVE A **BIBLE** OF THEIR
OWN. SO THE MISSIONARIES
HAND THEM OUT TO THE
PEOPLE.

I COULD
NOT **IMAGINE**
NOT HAVING MY OWN
BIBLE.

THAT IS
WHY WE **SHOULD**
GIVE OFFERINGS TO
HELP MISSIONS.



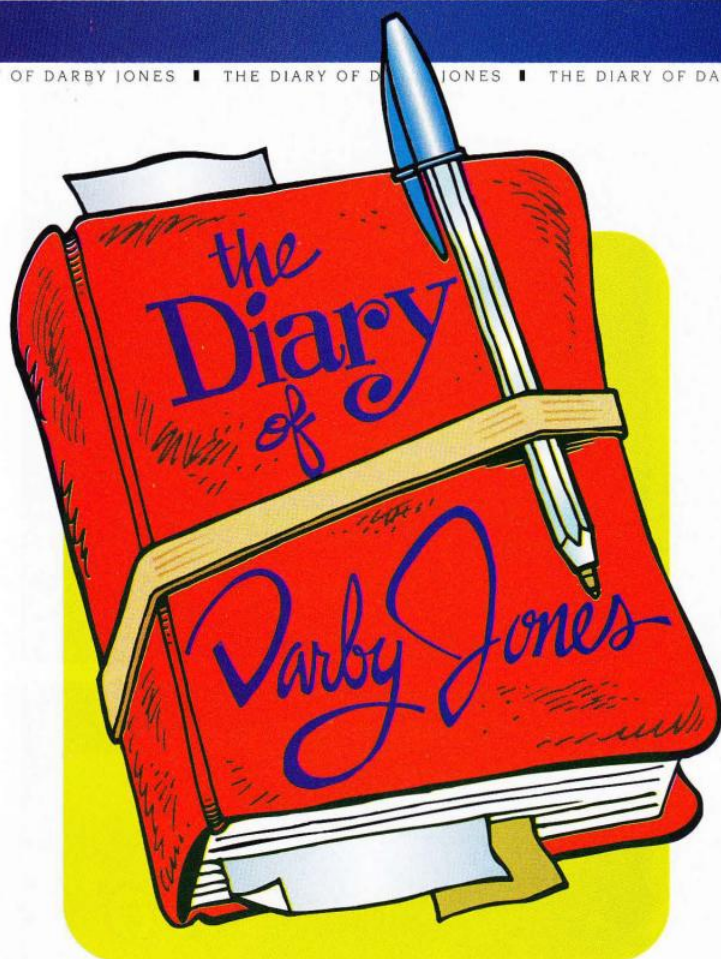
SOMETIMES I WONDER IF IT
HAS PROVIDED **CURRICULUM**
FOR CHILDREN IN **EUROPE**.
SO THAT THEY CAN **LEARN**
ABOUT **GOD** LIKE
I DO.

I DID NOT REALIZE
THAT **GIVING** OFFERING
TO MISSIONS COULD DO
SO MUCH.

CAN I
GIVE SOME
MONEY TO
MISSIONS,
TOO?

YES, **ANYONE** CAN GIVE
MONEY TO MISSIONS. WE CAN
ALL BE LIKE MISSIONARIES AND
HELP **SPREAD THE GOSPEL**
BY GIVING TO
MISSIONS.

BY VICKI WHITE & CRAIG SCHUTT



by Rev. Robb HAWKS

A true medieval castle in the middle of the city! The original castle was built around 868 by Count Baldwin I, rebuilt and expanded by the Count of Flanders around 1180. The Gravensteen was the seat of the Council of Flanders. The following story is true and happened in 2000 to Missionary Robb Hawks.



The sword sliced through the air with lightning speed. Clang! It rang like a bell as another sword blocked it. Blow after blow was thrown. Clang! Clang! Clang! The two knights slowly backed away from each other. They each were clad in steel armor and helmets. Jean, the Count of Flanders, wore a yellow surcoat with a black lion while his opponent, Prince William, wore a yellow and blue surcoat with white hawks and red crosses.

The two knights slowly circled one another. Each waited for the other to make his move. Then, faster than an eye could blink, the knights charged, exchanging sword blows. Clang, clang, clang. Finally the Count and the Prince backed away from each other. Slowly their swords lowered.

"Huzzah! Huzzah!" A mighty cheer went up from the ladies, pages, and squires who were watching. Squires stepped forward to remove the knights' helmets. The two men were smiling.

"Well fought!" Prince William said.

"That indeed!" Count Jean replied with his heavy Dutch accent.

The sun had slowly set on one of the most incredible days of my life. I could hardly believe my eyes. Here I was, standing on a castle wall in the Belgium city of Ghent. The yellow and red light

While on a missions trip in Belgium, a Flemish medieval club invited us to participate in the first ever Medieval Campout in the Castle Gravensteen.

from torches cast a warm glow across the castle courtyard. Knights in armor walked back and forth along the castle wall keeping guard. Looking through the parapet walls I could see the river that wound around the outside of the castle forming a deep moat. In the castle courtyard were brightly colored tents. Campfires burned in front of them and the soft sound of people speaking French and Flemish could be heard. And I, Darby Jones, Jr., was having the adventure of a lifetime.

You see, my dad is Prince William. Well not really, but that is the pretend name he uses at medieval club events. While on a missions trip in Belgium, a Flemish medieval club invited us to participate in the first ever Medieval Campout in the Castle Gravensteen. The castle had originally been built in the year 868 and had been the castle of the counts of Flanders in Ghent. For the last 100 years it had been a museum, and no one had been allowed to spend a night within its walls. But now,



for the first time, its gates had been opened, and we were allowed to be a part of it. Today the castle belonged to us. Tomorrow the public would be invited to enter and see the castle brought to life by us with our costumes and armor.

The sun slowly rose. Throughout the castle voices could be heard as the knights strapped on their armor and ladies donned their fancy dresses. My dad had been trying to witness to people in Belgium but it was very difficult. The Belgian people are very private and do not open up very easily. But that was about to change.

"Your excellency, the mercenaries are armored and ready to begin," a squire announced to the Count of Flanders.

"Good. We will begin our parade and walk through the streets of Ghent inviting people to visit our castle today," Count Jean said.

"Your excellency, as the count of this castle, is it not your obligation to provide a priest for these people's morning mass?" Prince William asked.

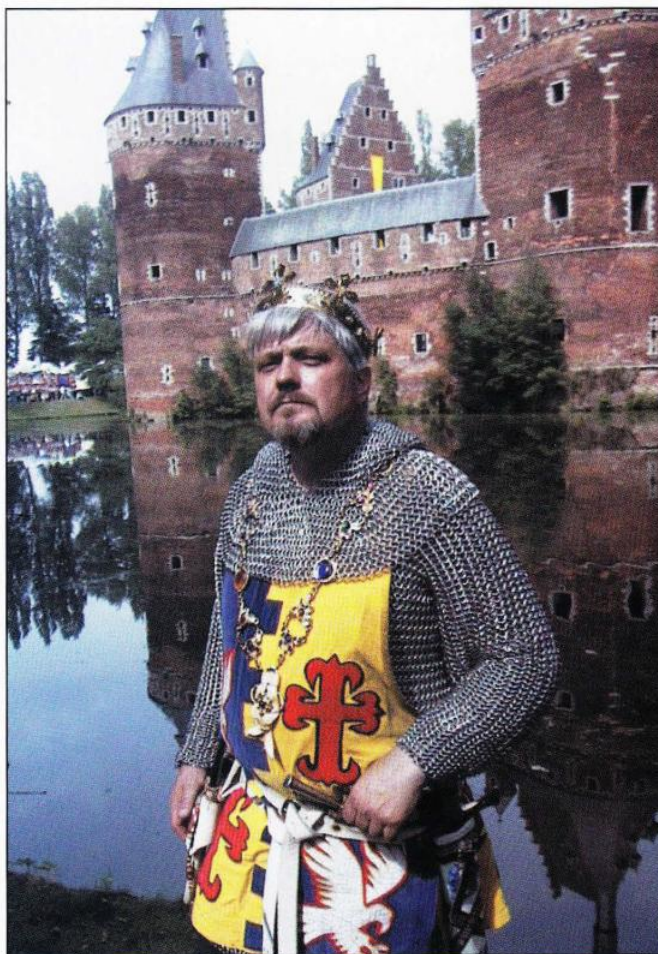
The count thought on this for a moment. It was Sunday morning, and he was the count.

"You are correct. Would you like to do the mass?" the count asked my father? A big grin crossed my dad's face. A few minutes later I watched as Prince William walked through the crowd of nobles, knights, and mercenaries to climb the steps up to the front door of the castle keep. There he turned, and with great joy, preached the gospel to them all.

Who would have ever thought that dressing up as a knight and carrying a sword would open such a great opportunity to share the gospel? I guess the Apostle Paul was right when he said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22).

These are some of the knights and mercenaries I witnessed to. The man in red with yellow stripes is Jean Marc, a French knight.

This is the castle where I was the king of the tournament!



Andrew, God's Quiet Missionary

by Sonia A. Randall

Whenever Andrew is mentioned in the Bible, it is usually in a listing of the disciples or simply as the brother of Simon Peter. Nothing is known about his ministry after the Resurrection. There is no mention of a successful public preaching career like Peter's. No famous declarations are attributed to him except, "I have found the Christ!" which he exclaims to his brother, Simon Peter. But a quick review of several passages where he is mentioned tells us something both interesting and encouraging.

In three different situations Andrew is found introducing someone to Jesus. First there was his own brother, Simon Peter (John 1:40-42), whose dramatic successes and failures have provided material for thousands of sermons. Think about how different the early Church might have been if Peter had never met the Master!

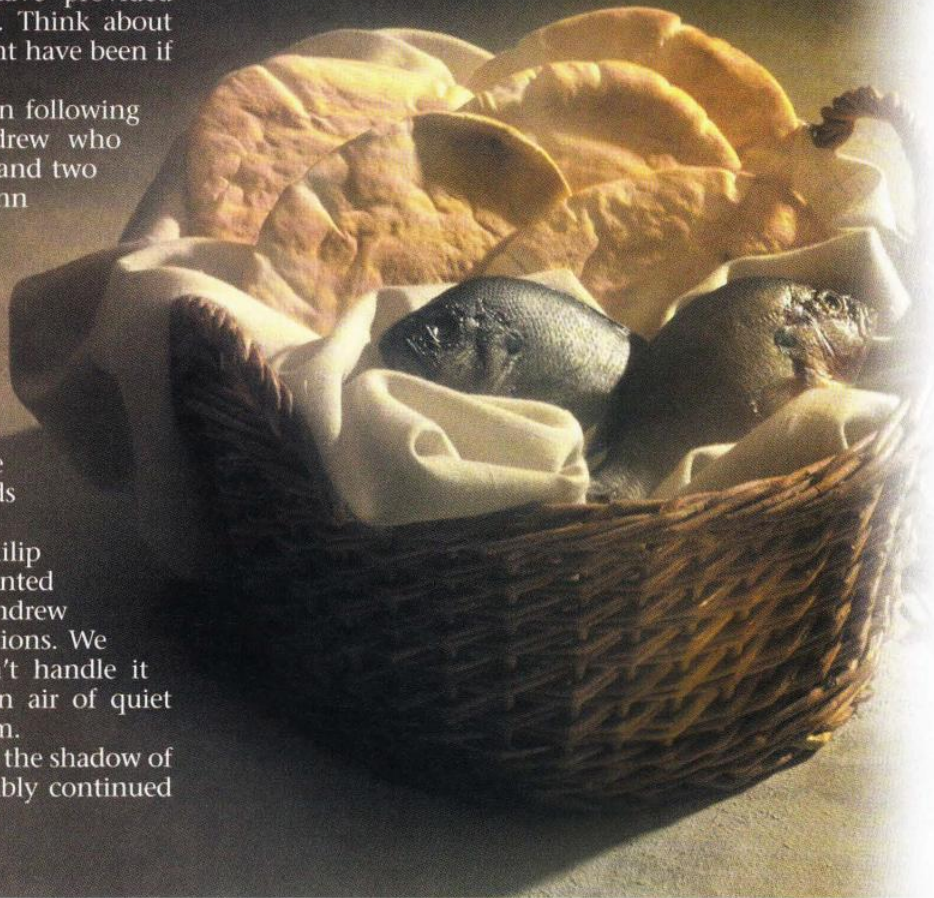
When the crowds who had been following Jesus became hungry, it was Andrew who found the boy with the five loaves and two fishes and brought him to Jesus (John 6:8-9). Andrew admitted the obvious—that this wasn't much food among so many people—but it didn't discourage him. He simply brought the boy and his lunch to Jesus and left it in the Master's hands. Very likely he did not expect a miracle, but Jesus had compassion on the crowd and used the little that was available. In His hands it was enough.

Again it was to Andrew that Philip came when some Greek strangers wanted to meet Jesus (John 12:20-22). Andrew once again performed the introductions. We can only wonder why Philip didn't handle it himself. Andrew must have had an air of quiet competence and authority about him.

Though he lived his entire life in the shadow of his dynamic brother, Andrew probably continued

his quiet ministry of introducing people to Jesus. Perhaps, like the Greek travelers, people were brought to him for that very purpose.

Not everyone can be a great evangelist like Peter and many are intimidated by the thought that God might expect them to imitate Peter. But to be like Andrew—now that seems possible! It is very encouraging to realize that each act of love or kindness which testifies to faith in Jesus Christ has value. We still cannot predict what marvelous accomplishment God may bring out of it, but in His hands it will always be enough.



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66	6.8%
70	7.2%
73	7.6%
76	8.0%
80	8.9%
83	9.7%
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