

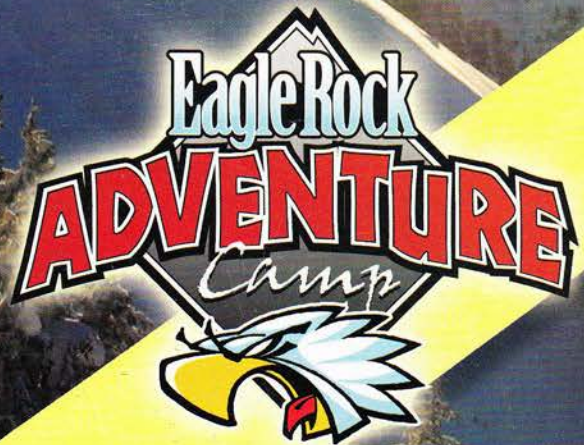


High Adventure

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF ROYAL RANGERS

*Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?
He who has clean hands
and a pure heart, ...
Such is the generation of
those who seek him,
who seek your face,
O God of Jacob.*

— PSALM 24:3,4,6 (NIV)



— SEE PAGE 6 & 7

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High Adventure

ISSUE 04 WINTER 2006

*Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
who finds great delight in his commands.*

— PSALM 112:1



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GOLD MEDAL of Achievement

The Value of Royal Rangers

by Benjamin **HUFF** — OUTPOST 82
Hayfield Assembly of God, Gore, Virginia

I come from a large family and have always enjoyed the chance to get together with other Christian boys. I have been attending Royal Rangers at my home church, Hayfield Assembly of God, for almost 4 years.

One of the reasons I enjoy Royal Rangers is that I've been able to learn how to tie different knots, build different fires, work with other boys as a team, and I've also been trained how to be a good leader at Junior Leadership Training Camp. Other things I enjoyed at this camp were hiking and setting up tents. I made friends and I learned how working together is very important. I also liked it when we made up different patrol names, songs and yells.

Another important benefit, and probably the most valuable, has been that Royal Rangers has taught me more about God and has brought me closer to Jesus. It excites me that I can help in the Great Commission by raising money for Light For The Lost. I was blessed when I watched the video showing how "Edward and the Elephant" literature is used to reach children in other countries. It was an encouragement to read how people had different ideas to raise money for this valuable ministry and how God always provides.

A couple of years ago my brothers and I were able to go to Ranger of the Year. Afterwards, the commanders were so helpful with the things that I had trouble with or had forgotten. It was such a good learning experience. It was really exciting when my brothers and I went back this year and took first place in Discovery, Adventure, and Expedition.

My favorite merit is the Camping Merit because when I am out camping, I really have a chance to appreciate

God's creation. I love being in the woods, watching any wildlife and hearing the sounds all around me throughout the night. This has to be my favorite part of Royal Rangers.

Royal Rangers has brought my brothers and me closer together. When I first started Royal Rangers, I went on a winter camp with my brothers, and we had so much fun that we are planning to do it again this year. We spend a lot of time working together to earn our merits and helping our younger brothers as they learn the Rangers ministry.

Royal Rangers is a great program for boys of all ages. It teaches boys not only God's Word, but also how to apply it in our daily lives. Outdoor activities like camping, archery, canoeing, swimming, and other opportunities are fun ways to appeal to any boy while ministering to his heart, and hopefully shaping his heart for his future.

by J. Michael **HUFF** — OUTPOST 82
Hayfield Assembly of God, Gore, Virginia

To me, Royal Rangers is a fun and effective way to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ. I have been in Rangers for three years now, and in that short time I have seen the great impact this valuable program has had on both boys and men alike.

Royal Rangers reaches boys by appealing to their interests. I am 17 and have been saved since I was about 5. I was also baptized in the Holy Spirit last year. Out of the nine kids in our family, I am one of six boys. We have always loved the outdoors. We thought that the more challenging the campout, the better. When my family and I came to our new church, where Rangers is held

Wednesday nights, my brothers and I jumped right in, and in no time were getting merits left and right.

I loved the merits, especially Camping, Bachelor, Carpentry, Rope Craft, and Backpacking. I have enjoyed the district and sectional powwows. My parents were really happy when I started to work on the Bachelor Merit, because I was forced to help out around the house and I learned how to sew and iron.

When I earned my Carpentry Merit my dad had me fix things he didn't have time to fix. I cannot count how many times I've used my rope craft skills. Last summer my Expedition group and I went on a 50-mile hike on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. I have never had a better camping experience.

Royal Rangers teaches boys, not only about the outdoors, but also about the Creator of everything. The first time I went to the Ranger of the Year I had been in Rangers for only one year. It was a great experience and I couldn't wait to go again. Recently I came back from regional testing, where I came back with even more knowledge.

Royal Rangers keeps boys for Christ by giving them a jump-start on the world. Not only will the lessons help them in their relationships with God and their camping skills, but it will also help their leadership skills and teach them how to treat other people properly. At Junior Leadership Training Academy, I learned how to develop these qualities. This summer I will strive to become an Expedition Commander in my outpost upon my successful completion of LTA in March.

Because of Royal Rangers, not only have I learned so much about the outdoors and about my personal Lord and Savior, I have learned how to be a better person and how to respect others. I have had the opportunity to meet incredible men who have been excellent examples. I have shared unforgettable times with my brothers and my brothers in Christ. I have gained the confidence that, with God's help, I can be all that He has called me to be!

by **Stephen Parks** — OUTPOST 209
Calvary Temple Assemblies of God
Yuba City, California

The value of Royal Rangers to me is immeasurable. In 10 years I have learned many things about God and the wonderful world He created. I have made many friends with both boys and the commanders. I have gone to camps and seen many beautiful

Because of Royal Rangers, not only have I learned so much about the outdoors and about my personal Lord and Savior, I have learned how to be a better person.

things I would never have seen otherwise. I have gained invaluable life skills and leadership abilities.

I started off in Straight Arrows playing games when I was in kindergarten. Then one night I asked the commander how to earn pins. From then on, I worked to earn every pin. When I graduated to Buckaroos, I got a new red uniform and a new set of pins to earn. Up until then, my only camping experience was one overnigher on the church softball field. But all that changed when I graduated.

In my new class, Pioneers, I got a lot more out of Rangers. Not only were there new pins to earn and a lot of merits, but we also started to do stuff and go places. We took day trips and went on campouts. I went up for Ranger of the Year several times and did well in Pine-wood Derby races. In my last year in Pioneers, I went to my first Rangers powwow. I had so much fun out in the woods for four days, but the best part was the altar call during the second evening service. I felt very close to God as I prayed. That night several of my friends and I were filled in the Spirit and spoke in tongues for the first time.


In Trailblazers I went to two more powwows and several more camps. I learned leadership skills at the Junior District Leadership Training Camps. For the 15-mile hike requirement for the Hiking Merit, I hiked 20 miles climbing the back side of Half Dome in Yosemite. Along the way I saw waterfalls, bears, and sweeping views. I was tired but satisfied when I made it to the top. Carefully looking over the edge (there are no guard rails), I saw the entire Yosemite Valley, a sea of dark green pines broken only by the ribbon of the highway and the white specks of the tent cabins we slept in the night before.

In Rangers I have learned how to tie a bowline, identify a poisonous snake, make a snare, fish, and build a shelter. I learned how to use a compass, an axe, a saw, and how to lash a Chippewa kitchen. I have also learned how to do all these things safely. I have learned a lot about God in devotions, Bible studies, and the God and Me, God and Family, and God and Church classes. Royal Rangers has been invaluable to me, especially my time with the commanders. Without the commanders I've had, getting this far would have been impossible. Thanks to God and my commanders for helping and guiding me to achieve.

In 10 years I have learned many things about God and the wonderful world He created. I have made friends with both boys and the commanders. I have gone to camps and seen many beautiful I would have never seen otherwise.



Eagle Rock ADVENTURE Camp



Get "READY" for the Eagle Rock Adventure Camp

by Steve SCHULTZ

Adventure and Expedition Rangers, how would you like to attend a national camp specially designed for you? Would you be interested in water-skiing, rock climbing, rappelling, archery, swimming, paintball, mountain biking, building small wood projects or using BB guns, air rifles, .22-caliber rifles or black powder rifles? These are some of the exciting activities you can participate in at the Eagle Rock Adventure Camp scheduled for June 24-29, 2007. You will receive top-notch instruction as you work on merits related to the above activities.

Imagine yourself staying in the Deaverton frontier town at Camp Eagle Rock. The camp staff will provide all meals at the Johnnie Barnes Lodge, allowing you more time to participate in the great activities. The camp will start Sunday afternoon, June 24th, with a pizza party so you can get to know other Rangers from around the country. The first evening will kick off with a special Council Fire service followed by great devotions each morning and evening.

Do any of these activity tracks sound interesting to you?

- Track A: (Rappelling, Rock Climbing, including Low Ropes, High Ropes)
- Track B: (Mountain Biking, Paintball)
- Track C: (Shooting Safety, BB Gun, Air Rifle)
- Track D: (Smallbore Rifle, Safety & Shooting)
- Track E: (Black Powder Rifle, Safety & Shooting)
- Track F: (Swimming, Water-skiing, Carpentry)
- Track G: (Archery, Advanced Archery, Carpentry)

Each of the five tracks will be limited to 20 campers. This will allow for more individual instruction and a great learning experience. Campers must be current Adventure or Expedition Rangers to attend, due to the high action level of the camp. The camp fee of \$200 covers 5 nights of camping, 14 meals, all equipment necessary for each track, and a top-notch staff to give you the best camping experience of you life. Track C, D, E and F (shooting disciplines) will allow each camper to compete in the national championships through the annual postal competition.

So if you think you would like to earn some high-action merits at Camp Eagle Rock, Missouri this summer, visit our national website at royalrangers.ag.org/adventurecamp to get further information. Download the application and send it in soon so you can reserve the track of your choice. Our great staff is looking forward to seeing you there!



Feature Creature

by Neoma FOREMAN



The Eagle

A Symbol of Freedom

Many years ago, Paul Harvey, a noted radio commentator, told this story. "Two youngsters planned to outwit an old man living in the mountains. One said to the other, 'I'll catch a bird and take it up hidden behind my back. When the old man guesses right, and he will, I'll ask him if it is dead or alive. If he says, "Dead," I'll let it fly away. If he says, "Alive," I'll squeeze it to death.' He approached the man who correctly guessed he had a bird. When asked if dead or alive, the wise old man replied, "The choice, Son, is up to you.""

We have the same choice in freedom. God has blessed this country beyond any other because it was founded on Christian beliefs and people willing to work for those rights. We can have private ownership of land, freedom to go wherever we want and to do whatever we please, as long as we do not infringe on the rights of others. Our pioneer forefathers didn't ask the government for anything. They sacrificed, fought, bled and died for that freedom. Visit any veteran's hospital in the country if you want to see the price paid.

Storms will always be a part of life. Wars come and go. Choices have to be made. During heavy rainstorms, chickens pile up on top of each other and die. An eagle uses the storm winds and goes above the storm to sunshine. Maybe that is why the eagle was

chosen as the national emblem in 1782, when the great seal of the United States was adopted.

One of the largest and most powerful birds in the world, the eagle looks fierce and proud as it gracefully soars high in the air, hunting for food. Wild eagles generally live from 20 to 30 years. Bald eagles will usually build their aeries (nests) in the tops of tall trees that are near water. Bald eagles lay white eggs, and usually only two a year. The eggs must be warmed for about 40 days before they hatch. The female sits on the eggs during most of that time. The male sits on them occasionally and brings food to the female while she is sitting. Both parents guard the nest and take food to the young.

Eaglets are hatched with their eyes open. They are covered with a grayish-white down (fuzz). It is four months before their feathers start to grow. They are not able to tear up their own food until they are six or eight weeks old. The parents stay near until the eaglets can leave the nest when they are 11 or 12 weeks old and can hunt well enough to get their own food.

Even though eagles often hatch two eggs, it is unusual for both eaglets to survive. That is one of the reasons the eagle cannot be hunted. However, the eagle population is making a comeback due to increased wildlife preservation areas.

You can see the bald eagle with outspread wings

ROYAL RANGERS HIGH ADVENTURE *Leader*

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NUMBER 4

— Honored to Serve —

I trust the holiday season was great for you and your family!

It has been a privilege to be your national commander for the past seven and a half years. I will continue to be involved with Royal Rangers at the local church and at the district and national offices as requested. LeeAnne and I look forward to a new chapter in our lives, ready with excitement that He has a plan for each of us. We have made many friends and great memories as we traveled throughout the U.S. and around the world. You have always been so kind and made us feel welcome.

The past seven and a half years have seen some great accomplishments for Royal Rangers.



• New program advancement system and curriculum for all age groups was completed. It was developed to be commander friendly. With a circular, merit-driven advancement system, the program allows boys to advance with more ease.

• Royal Rangers Alumni (RRA) was founded for leaders to continue to help Royal Rangers at all levels when health and age may not permit work at weekly outpost meetings.

• Royal Rangers International (RRI) was developed to provide assistance to other nations in growing Royal Rangers to its full potential in their countries.

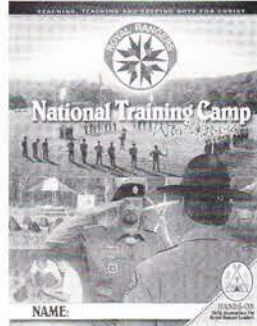


• Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF) was revitalized with advancement merits that helped train boys and leaders in the skills needed for advancement in FCF. They also increased the boy's ability to become an active participant.



• Pathfinders developed Bronze, Silver, and Gold categories to promote participation in missions projects in both US and World Missions.





- Leadership Training Academy (LTA) was updated with modules to bring consistent nationwide training to districts and RRI.
- National Training Camp (NTC) was updated with improved teaching methods and topics, a student workbook, new regional trailers, and new camping equipment.
- PCCNA (Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America) denominations were approved for chartering with Royal Rangers. This provides a means for tremendous growth and support for Royal Rangers in every community.
- Eagle Rock Campground is now available for use by Royal Rangers outposts, youth groups, or churches. It can host retreats and the future National Camporamas and Rendezvous.

I would like to recognize the incredible staff that has worked with me here at the national office and who made so many things possible to move Royal Rangers forward. Mike Laliberty was an integral part of the development team and the deputy national commander/training coordinator. Brian Hendrickson was also an integral part of the development team and the programs coordinator. Doug Marsh, missionary to Costa Rica, came to be the Royal Rangers International director (RRI) and has done a great job developing a worldwide vision for Royal Rangers. Steve Schultz is our boys' camps and Ranger of the Year coordinator. His portfolio includes Camporama and Rendezvous. Rick Dostal was the campground construction coordinator and assisted as needed in other areas. JR Whinery is the products development and inventory manager. John Hicks is the publications and website coordinator. Roger and Barbara Heppner are the campground maintenance and groups' coordinators. They have been doing a wonderful job. We have been blessed with a great secretarial staff with Sandra Blanchard and Beverly Ayers. Others who were with us and have moved on are Paul Stanek, Marshall Bruner, Jerry Parks, Ralph and Becky Glunt, and Paul and Florence Litner.

The Royal Rangers Executive Committee and National Council members have been a pleasure to work with. I look forward to continuing friendships and to speaking at camps, conferences, and seminars.

I personally believe that Royal Rangers is "ready" more than ever to provide a clear presentation of the gospel to every boy in every community across the United States and with RRI around the world.

Comander, I salute you for your dedication and service to your church and outpost. My prayer will be that you continue to keep our mission to "Reach, Teach, and Keep boys for Christ" as your goal. May God continue to richly bless you, your church, and your family!

Sincerely "Honored to serve,"

Richard A. Mariott
National Commander

Richard Mariott announced in October 2006 that he would be stepping down from his position as National Commander at the end of the year. The national leadership team expresses our sincere appreciation to Rich for his years of valuable service to the Royal Ranger ministry.



MIKE LALIBERTY



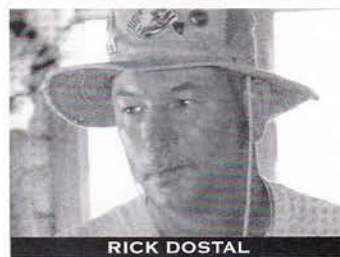
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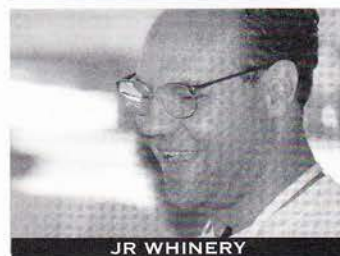
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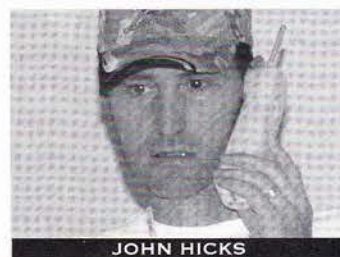
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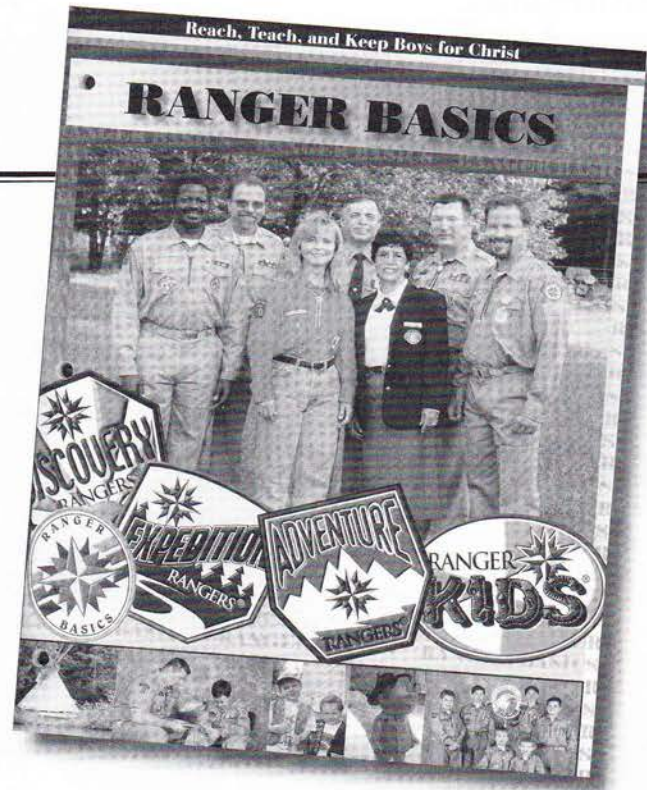
RICK DOSTAL



JR WHINERY



JOHN HICKS



Ranger Kids Gold Trail Awards

In response to Ranger Kids leaders' requests, the Royal Rangers ministry is offering a "Gold" level of advancement for the Ranger Kids program. Prior to the release of this award, the Ranger Kids program had no method for recognizing boys who had completed all three of the annual advancement trails of Elk, Wolverine, and Cougar. These new Ranger Kids advancement awards can also be worn on the standard khaki uniform and tan denim awards vest worn by the Discovery and Adventure Rangers programs. As a result, a boy entering the Discovery Rangers program after having completed all of the Ranger Kids advancement awards now has an award to display on his uniform.

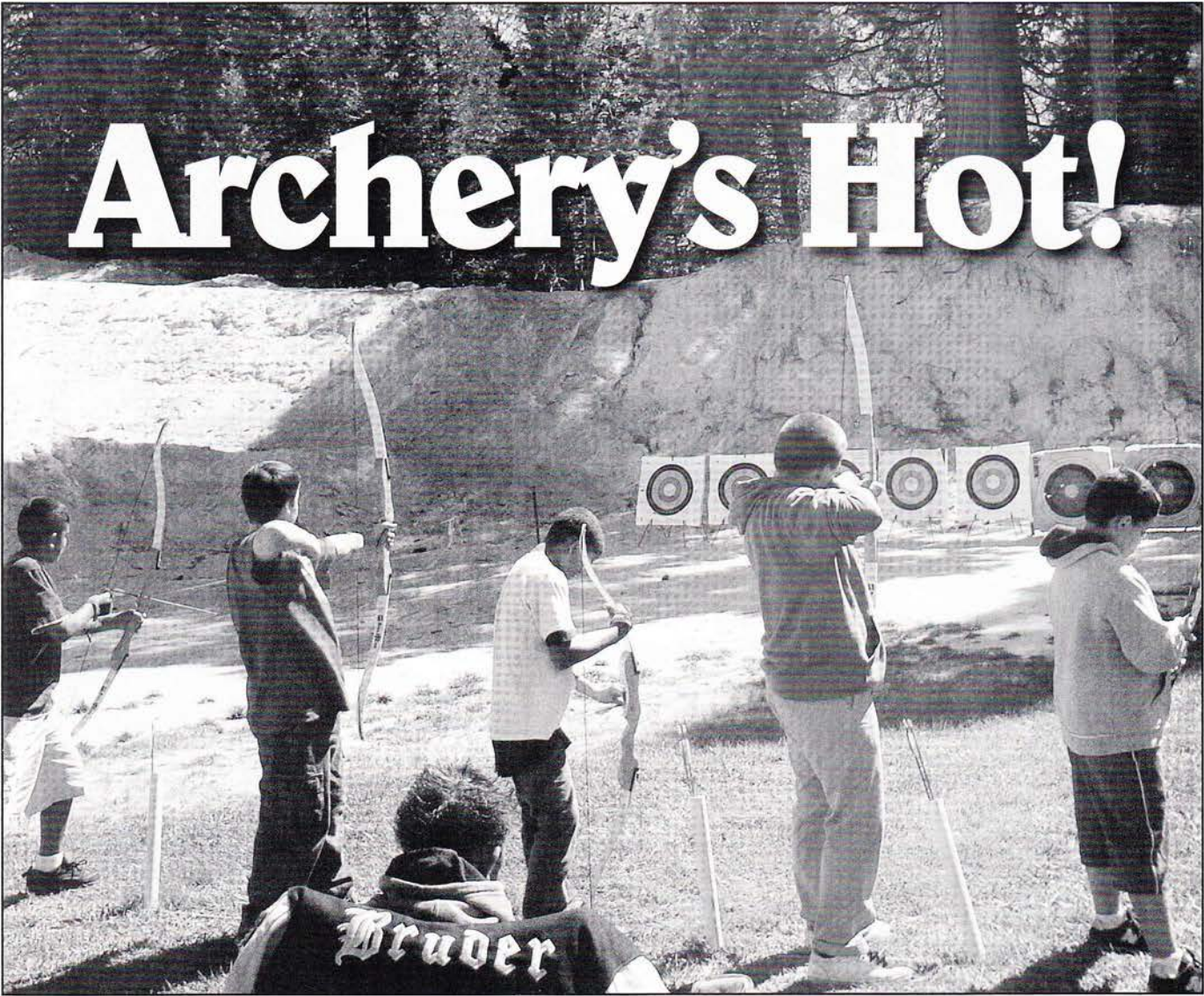
The Ranger Kids Gold Trail Award provides three methods of recognition, just like the Discovery and Adventure Rangers programs. The three methods are the:

- Gold Trail Medal – This may be worn on a Class A or B uniform, or an awards vest.
- Gold Trail Ribbon – This may be worn on a Class A or B uniform.
- Gold Trail Patch – This may be worn on a Class A or B uniform, or an awards vest.

Call GPH at 1-800-641-4310 or go online at www.gospelpublishing.com to get yours today.

- Gold Trail Medal – GPH Item #15-1144
- Gold Trail Ribbon – GPH Item #15-1145
- Gold Trail Patch – GPH Item #15-1146





Archery's Hot!

By Harry WALKER

Are you looking for an activity that provides exercise, improves math skills, teaches etiquette, requires focus, reduces stress, and is a lot of fun? Archery provides all these benefits and is gaining in popularity all over the U.S. in schools, clubs, and retirement communities. Students are often introduced to archery in physical education classes, summer camps, or youth clubs. Archery is rated as one of the safest sports for youth according to the National Safety Council.

If you are interested in starting an archery program in your outpost, section, or district, consider the following to help in getting started:

1. AREA (OR RANGE): Is there a location or site with enough room for a shoot (church, local park, campsite)? Both merit and postal match shoots require a minimum of 15 yards from shooting line to target line. Plan five to 10 yards clearance behind the shooting line, at least 15 yards clearance to the right and left sides of the shooting area, and at least 50 yards beyond the targets. Some kind of backstop (safety net or hill) that rises at least 8 to 10 or more feet above and behind the targets works well. For indoor ranges, follow the same guidelines, incorporating archery nets behind targets and securing all entries to the area. Use extreme caution when dealing with new and young shooters indoors.



2. TRAINED INSTRUCTORS: Instructors need a thorough knowledge of safety rules, procedures, equipment and basic coaching techniques. How many instructors do you have (two minimum)? What are the ages and experience levels of the kids? Where can instructors get training?

- a. Beginners and/or young archers: One to three archer(s) maximum per instructor
- b. Beginners 9 to 11 years old and beyond (able to safely follow range rules): Four to eight archers per instructor
- c. 12 to 15 years old (beyond basic instruction): 12 archers per instructor
- d. Instructor training is available nationwide and certification is commonly provided at the annual National District Leaders Seminar, held in conjunction with the National Royal Rangers Council. (More information can be found at royalrangers.ag.org.) You can also contact National Alliance for the Development of Archery (NADA) at www.teacharchery.org to locate a class in your area.

3. EQUIPMENT: What are the ages and experience levels of your archers?

- a. Bow sizes: Typically 15- to 20-pound bows should be fine for youths. Most 5 to 6 year olds tend to have a hard time pulling the 15 pound, so it might be helpful to have a couple 8- to 12-pound bows available. Some general guidelines are 48" height for 6-8 years old, 54" height for 8-10 years, and 60" plus for 11 and older. For older "kids" a couple of 25/30/35-pound bows are good.

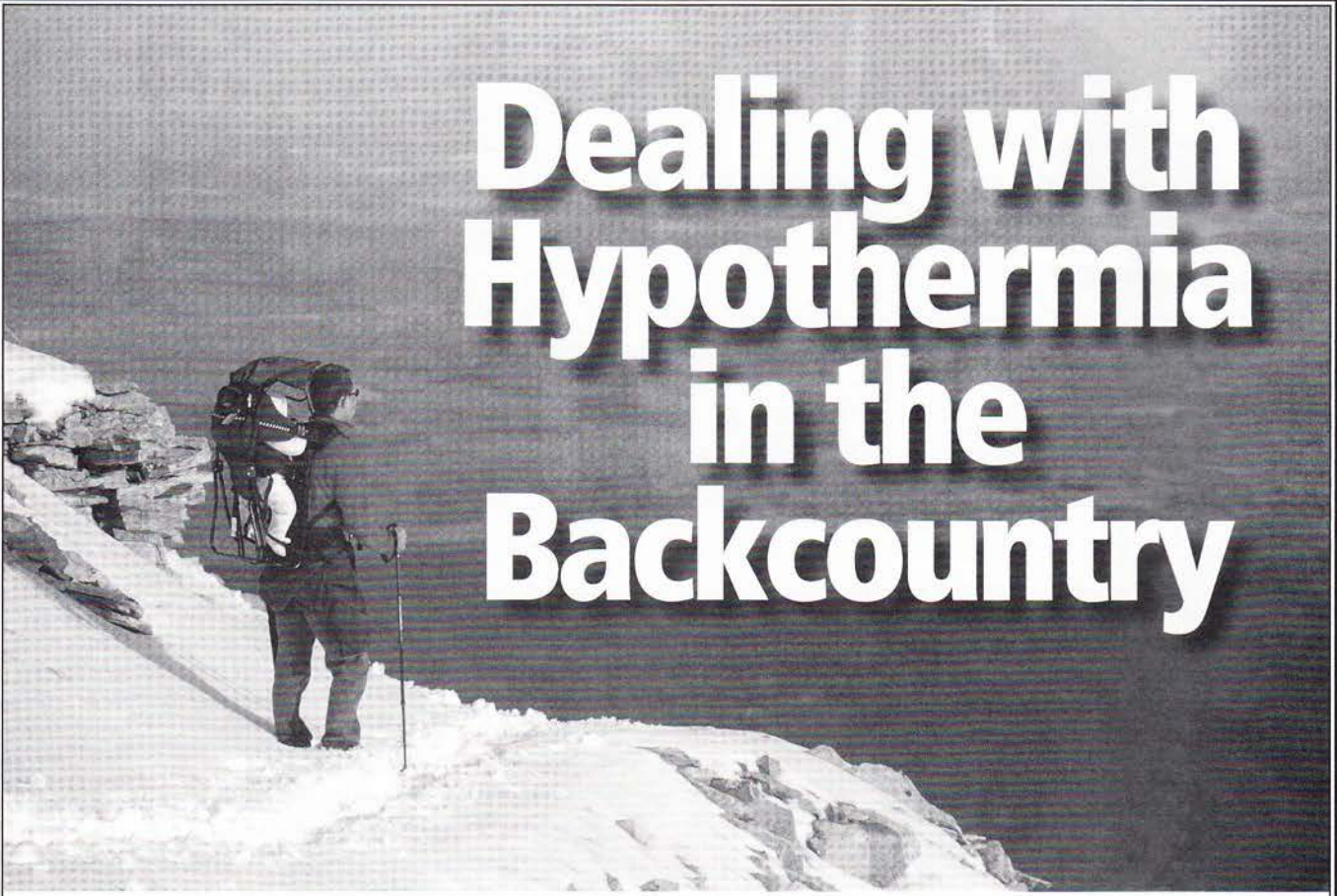
b. Bow types: Primarily Recurve, Longbow, Compound, or the new Genesis. NADA has some great package deals on Recurves and Genesis. The Genesis bow, although it is easy to adjust the draw weight (10-20#), is way too heavy for most 5 to 7 year olds. The Mini-Genesis bow is about a pound lighter.

Generally one left-handed bow is recommended for every 5 right-handed.

- c. Arrows: Light aluminum arrows work great for youth programs. Arrows need to be long enough to be safe. Typically 24 inches for 8 and under, 26 inches for 9 to 11 year olds, and 28 to 32 inches for ages 12 and up. Never allow an archer to shoot an arrow that is too short for him or her.
- d. Other equipment: Arm guards, finger tabs, gloves, and quivers. Every archer needs arm and finger protection and a place to safely carry their arrows.
- e. Targets and Target Butts: How many targets and lanes do you plan to have? The major concerns about target butts are that they are large enough and that they stop the arrows. Straw is typically the cheapest, but is heavy and doesn't hold up well when exposed to weather. For both merit and competition, a target butt large enough to hold an 80-cm target face (postal competition) and a 35-cm target face (merit) is needed. Be sure to have enough target faces and replacements.

The NADA has some great starter setups. They have 6-, 12- and 18-bow box sets (which include a bow square and a bow stringer) that can be tailored to your needs. Each box has 6 arrows, 1 arm guard, 1 finger tab and 1 quiver per bow. NADA sets the nocking point on the bowstring for you, so all you have to do is put the top limb on and string the bows, and the bows are ready to go.

Harry Walker is both an NFAA Intermediate-level and NAA level 3 coach and currently serves on staff with the Southern California district Royal Rangers.



Dealing with Hypothermia in the Backcountry

By John HICKS

Cold-weather activities have long held a special appeal to those hardy souls who dare to venture into the wilderness to test their skills against some of nature's harshest conditions. Careful planning, preparation and attention to detail are crucial to the success of any winter activity. But regardless of the preparations made, adverse conditions may arise unexpectedly, leading to hazardous situations that must be addressed promptly and effectively.

The most common hazard faced by outdoor enthusiasts in winter is hypothermia. Defined as any condition in which the temperature of a body drops below the level required for normal metabolism and/or bodily function to take place, hypothermia is a constant hazard during any outdoor activity in cold or wet weather. It is therefore essential that every participant be familiar with the effects and warning signs of hypothermia, as well as its prevention and treatment, before venturing into the cold.

CONDITION

Normal core body temperature (taken orally) is 98.6 degrees F. As a victim's core temperature drops significantly below this temperature, signs of hypothermia may begin to appear. Core temperatures down to 90 degrees are considered mild to moderate hypothermia, while core temperatures below 90 degrees are generally considered to be severe hypothermia. When the core temperature falls below 83 degrees, the victim's heartbeat may become irregular and cardiac arrest becomes a possibility.

Although very few people actually freeze to death in the back country, fatalities do commonly occur as a result of hypothermia-induced poor judgment and incoordination. It is therefore important to recognize the signs of hypothermia and know how to prevent it.

PREVENTION

Heat can be lost from the body in four general

ways, each of which can be prevented or minimized by the use of simple precautions.

Radiation is the direct loss of heat from a warm body to a cooler environment. Much of a body's heat is typically lost through the head and neck, which can largely be prevented by wearing a hat and scarf or hood.

Conduction is heat loss through direct physical contact between a warm body and a cooler surface, such as lying or sitting on the cold ground, ice, or snow. Insulating your bed or seat from the ground with foam pads or similar materials can help to prevent this.

Convection is heat loss due to cool air circulating around the body. The rate of heat loss is relative to the velocity of the wind (i.e. wind chill factor). Windproof clothing and shelters can help to reduce this type of heat loss.

Evaporation is heat loss through the evaporation of sweat or other moisture from your skin. Use of a "vapor barrier" layer of clothing next to your skin can help to minimize heat loss while allowing perspiration to escape.

RECOGNITION

Recognizing the early warning signs of an oncoming hypothermic condition can make the difference between life and death in some situations. Be familiar with the following common indicators of mild to moderate hypothermia:

- Victim feels cold and shivers significantly
- Victim's coordination and speech become impaired
- Victim develops apathy and/or amnesia, or displays poor judgment

TREATMENT

- Remove the victim from the cold environment and place into shelter.
- Remove any wet clothing and replace with dry, insulated garments.
- Wrap the victim in blankets, sleeping bags, trash bags, tarps, or other materials to provide additional insulation. Huddling together with the victim in a sleeping bag can also help to prevent additional heat loss.
- Give the victim warm food and a lot of warm sugary liquids, such as hot chocolate, warm Kool-Aid™, or warm liquid Jell-O™. Sugar will provide the victim's body with fuel to help generate its own internal heat.

- Avoid using hot-water bottles or heat packs that warm only limited areas of the victim's skin but add little heat to the body core. Focus your efforts on raising the body's core temperature while preventing additional heat loss.

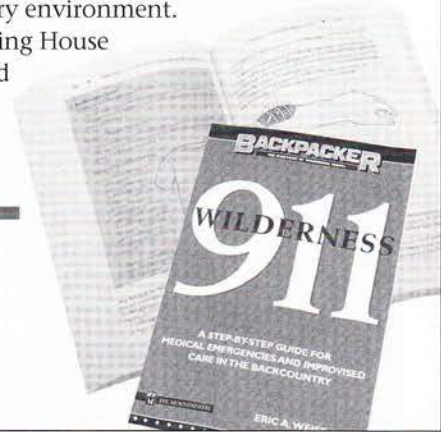
SEVERE HYPOTHERMIA

If adequate treatment is not provided and environmental factors continue, a victim's condition will deteriorate and may become a life-threatening situation. Signs of a severe hypothermic state may include disorientation, irrational behavior, lethargy, or loss of consciousness. Severe cases of hypothermia require immediate medical attention by trained medical personnel. Evacuate the victim as quickly as possible. If immediate evacuation is not possible or transportation is delayed, care must be focused on stabilizing the victim while preventing additional heat loss. The same treatment options apply as stated above except for these notable exceptions:

- Use extreme care in handling the victim. Rough handling may cause the victim's heart to stop beating, further complicating his condition. Do not massage or rub the person.
- Do not attempt to give any food or drinks to an unconscious victim due to the possibility of choking or vomiting.

Although hypothermia will always be a potential hazard in cold-weather conditions, proper education and prevention, as well as prompt recognition and treatment can prevent it from becoming an obstacle to the enjoyment of our nation's wide-open spaces in wintertime. So go ahead and join those hardy souls of winter, and *get out in it!*

Additional information on this topic may be found in the book "Wilderness 911", by Eric Weiss, MD, © 1998 by Backpacker Magazine. This book is an excellent resource for improvised emergency medical care in a backcountry environment. Call Gospel Publishing House at 800-641-4310 and ask for item #03TW7166 to order yours today!





EVANGELISM

Finding Others Who Need to Know

By Sharon ELLARD

*Sunday School
Promotions Coordinator
National Sunday School
Department*

I recently listened to adult Christians describe memories of childhood witnessing. Certain words stood out:

**Fearful Guilty Awkward
Embarrassed**

**Didn't know what to say
Didn't know how to start**

Sound familiar?

I grew up believing I should tell my friends about Jesus. I wanted to tell them, but I wasn't sure how to do it naturally and effectively. Most of the time, I felt very guilty.

Today, our goal is to equip kids to find others who need to know Jesus.



Here is a “witnessing starter kit for kids.” If you’re a children’s pastor, give copies of this page to Sunday school teachers. If you’re a teacher, transfer ideas from this article to a calendar. Scatter the ideas throughout the months ahead as reminders to periodically equip your students to “find others who need to know Jesus.”

1 Encourage elementary children to start a friendship prayer journal so they can pray for unsaved friends by name. Prereaders might ask parents to help place photos of friends and family in a prayer album. Prayer keeps kids alert to times when the Holy Spirit wants to use them to connect their friends with a new Friend—Jesus.

2 Brainstorm ways to introduce unsaved friends to Christian media: Christian music CDs, Christian websites with games, or Christian videos like Veggie Tales or “Who Cares?” from BGMC.

3 Kids today want to make the world a better place. Plan “make a difference” ministry projects that will draw positive attention to what kids are doing in Sunday school. Ask students to invite friends to help with the projects.

4 Use spiritual illustrations that kids can repeat during the week. For example, Rob Evans, known as the Donut Man, uses a doughnut to illustrate life without Jesus—there’s a hole in the middle of your heart. Include similar illustrations in your Sunday school lessons. Encourage the kids to repeat them to unsaved friends.

5 Introduce kids to spiritual belongings. A few years ago, it might have been WWJD bracelets or Bob and Larry pencils. Today this might be FROG pins (stands for “Fully Relying On God”), or PowerMark comics.

6 Introduce stats about kids and salvation. Build confidence that childhood is the best age to witness.

7 Teach them fun “magical” illusions or paper-folding stories that will be fun to show to friends. Watch for these on the Internet or in teaching resource books, and periodically include them in Sunday school lessons.

8 Create a prayer center where kids can write the names of their friends and record spiritual conversations.

9 Ask adults in the church who became Christians as children to share salvation stories—especially if their testimonies involve being influenced by childhood friends.

10 Ask your pastor and board members to brainstorm ways they would witness if they were kids today. Have kids select their “Top 10” from the list. Print and distribute these to the kids, pastor, and board.

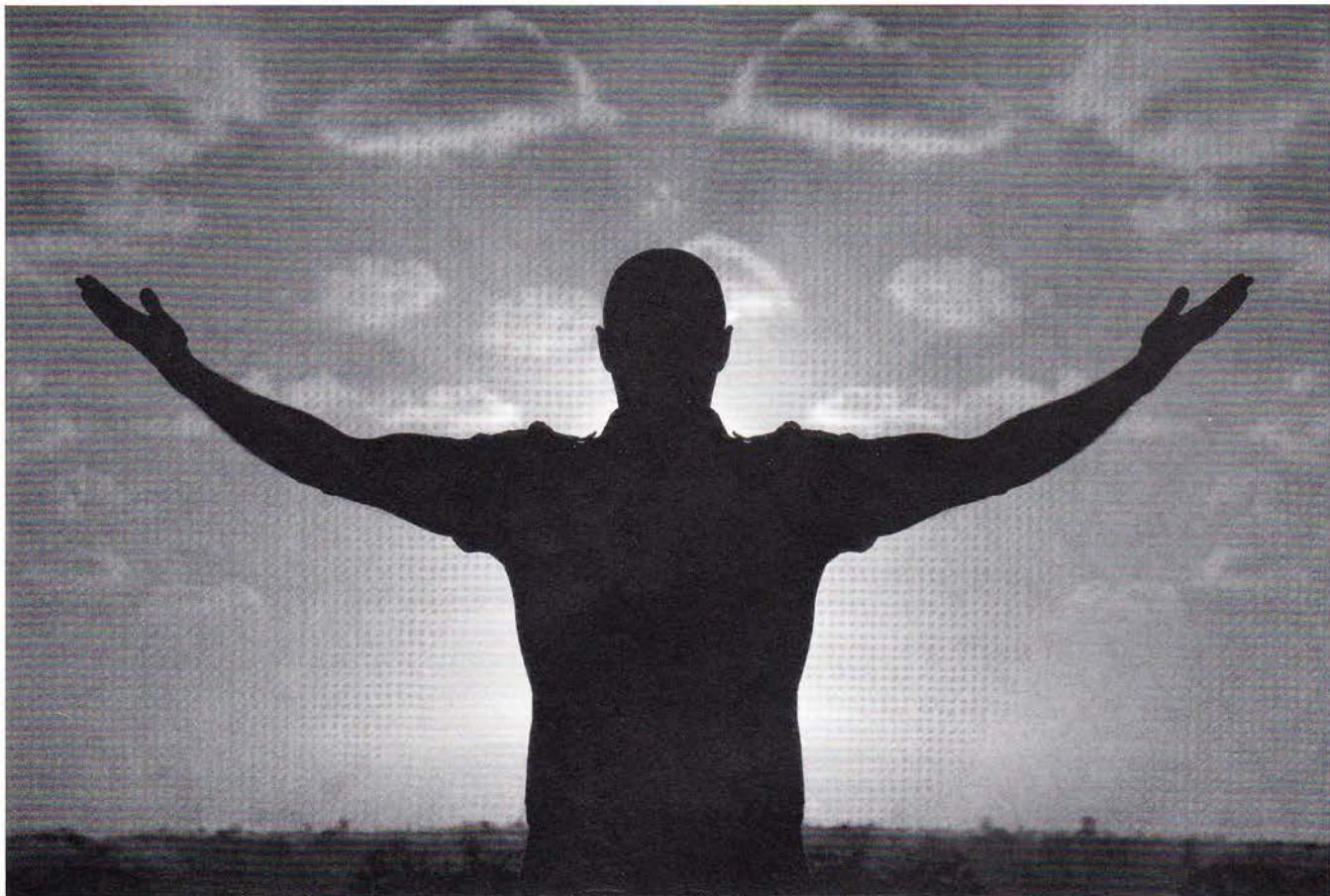
11 Exchange “faith stories” in Sunday school about how Jesus is helping class members. Encourage kids to watch for good times to repeat the stories to unsaved friends.

12 Impress on kids the importance of showing others through their choices as well as telling others with words about the change Jesus brings.

Choose which of the 12 ideas in this article are do-able for the children you serve. Write down ideas for putting these methods into practice.

This is just one of the many articles that are a click away on the Radiant Life website. Use the Radiant Life site as your teaching resource—24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Come visit us at www.radiantlife.org.

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ThinkOne: PRAYER

*Royal Rangers:
70 nations,
Six regions,
One
foundational
discipline—
Prayer*

*by Douglas Marsh, Director
Royal Rangers International*

Author and speaker Edwin Louis Cole often made a vivid statement that Royal Rangers can easily picture: “Too often we build our tents and pitch our altars, rather than build our altars and pitch our tents.” There is no substitute whatsoever for the “altar” in our lives, which is prayer. In fact, E. M. Bounds said, “A person who does not pray cannot possibly be called a Christian.”

We build an altar each time we bow our heart or bend our knee to pray, and when we do, we can anticipate a divine meeting with God. Jesus taught His disciples “they should always pray and not give up” (Luke 18:1).

There are six essential principles of prayer that serve as the foundational disciplines of effective ministry.

PRINCIPLE #1: Faith is the Condition of Prayer

In 1 Chronicles 5:20 we read, “He answered their prayers, because they trusted in him.” Faith is the only condition God places on prayer.

Jesus said He could perform no miracles in Nazareth due to unbelief (Mark 6:1-6). James instructed his readers to “believe and not doubt.” In fact, he said doubters “should not [expect to] receive anything from the Lord” (James 1:5-8). Unbelief is a sin because it casts doubt on the reliability of God’s Word.

Two things build confidence in our prayer life:

1) *Praying in the will of God.* Lewis Drummond put it this way, “Christian prayer is God-centered, not self-centered. It’s not getting

things from God; it's finding out what God wants and getting ourselves into cooperation with that." Hear the words of the Apostle John, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (1 John 5:14). Praying in the known will of God always leads to a bold prayer of faith (Matthew 6:33; Colossians 3:1).

2) *Hanging out in the presence of God.* We usually need to pray long enough that the Holy Spirit can give us the inner assurance that our prayer is heard (Psalm 38:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:17).

God is true to His word! He reveals himself as the one who "rewards those who earnestly seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). He provides assurance that "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." We, like Jesus, can say, God, "I know that you always hear me" (John 11:42).

The very act of calling out to God is an act of faith sufficient to move mountains (Matthew 17:20). God is eager to hear your voice and to respond. Cry out to Him in full assurance that He hears. Faith, not word choice or volume, is the only condition God places on approaching Him (Hebrews 4:16).

PRINCIPLE #2: Obedience is the Power of Prayer

The obedient person is submissive, humbly accepting the authority and legitimacy of the One to whom he or she prays. Obedience is not merely the avoidance of sin. That is far too passive. As Rangers, we must actively seek to do what pleases God. John said, we "receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him" (1 John 3:22).

Edwin Louis Cole said, "Power is released into the life of the believer to the degree of his or her obedience and no more." (1 Samuel 15:22; Proverbs 21:3.) King Solomon would agree, "If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable" (Proverbs 28:9). King David echoes this point, "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened" (Psalm 66:18). Elsewhere the Psalmist said, "God is present in the company of the righteous" (Psalm 14:5). James states emphatically, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (5:16).

As we actively obey God and do what pleases Him, the power of our prayers increases dramatically. Jesus affirms, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you" (John 15:7). Obedience is the power of prayer.

*The very act
of calling out
to God is an
act of faith
sufficient
to move
mountains.
God is eager to
hear your voice
and to respond.*

PRINCIPLE #3: Godliness is the Fruit of Prayer

Sin will keep you from prayer—just ask Adam and Eve. Sin caused them to hide from God (Genesis 3:8)—but prayer will keep you from sin. The Bible says that King Rehoboam "did evil because he had not set his heart on seeking the Lord" (2 Chronicles 12:14). There is a direct connection between seeking God and growing in righteousness. King David said, "You who seek God, may your hearts live! (Psalm 69:32). To discipline yourself in godliness, you must discipline yourself to seek God. Christlikeness is formed in prayer.

PRINCIPLE #4: Passion is the Soul of Prayer

Passion is born when we recognize a need and determine to do something about it; like the drowning person gasping for air. Prayer becomes passionate when we realize how much we depend upon God. When we discover we need him more than air, we "call out to the Lord" with a cry (Joel 1:14).

We cling to God in prayer when we realize:

- How weak we are and how powerful He is (Psalm 34).
- How foolish we are and how wise He is (James 1:5; 3:7).
- How mired in sin we are and how free He is (Isaiah 64:6).
- How unfaithful we are and how true He is (Psalm 50:15).
- How frail we are and what a Healer He is (1 Kings 17:17-22; Mark 10:46-49)

Prayer born from a passionate dependence on God has soul and calls to the One who can mend the deepest human hurts-- our own and those of others. Passion is the soul of prayer.

PRINCIPLE #5: Perseverance is the Test of Prayer

Psalm 13 records a difficult time for King David; he was discouraged and God seemed very distant. In these difficult times—due to finances, sickness, or loss—God may appear to pay no attention to our cry. Yet, like David, we persist in prayer because we trust in His unfailing love (Psalm 13:5). Like the persistent widow Jesus described in His parable, we persevere in spite of silence or delayed answers (Luke 18:1-8).

But perseverance is also needed in the daily grind. It is instinctive to cry out to God in trouble.

— Continued on page 16

Life Changing!

by Sandy Friesen



Like most developmental processes, moral maturity involves a unique set of tools and strategies. There is no shortcut to instantly obtain "moral kids." However, there are principles that will help you guide your students toward moral maturity. To understand these principles, let's start with the basics.

WHAT DOES research say about moral development?

Specialists who examine the intricacies of making solid, healthy, Christlike decisions say that there are six stages of how we make our choices.

Levels of Character Development

6	Do right because it is the right thing to do.	"Hitting hurts others, so choose another way to express your anger."
5	Do right because all agree it is the right thing to do (church focus).	"No one else in the class hits, so you shouldn't either."
4	Do right because it is the law (male focus).	"The rule is no hitting, and we follow rules, don't we?"
3	Do right and people will like you (female focus).	"I like it better when you don't hit."
2	Do right and get a reward.	"If you don't hit, you'll get a sticker."
1	Do right or get punished.	"If you hit someone, you'll get a time out."

Interestingly, research has also discovered that in our culture, girls tend to make moral choices based on wanting to be perceived as good, or from a nurturing perspective (Level 3). On the other hand, boys tend to make their moral choices based on justice, rules, or what is acceptable to the authorities (Level 4). *Continued on next page*



WHICH LEVELS of character development are best?

Some children's leaders and parents say that there's nothing wrong with any of these motivations. They believe that as long as their children make the right choices then the reasoning behind it should not matter. This concerns me. How important is motivation? If a child doesn't steal because he or she doesn't want to get punished, is that child as trustworthy (or mature) as the one who doesn't steal because it's not healthy for our culture?

Children can attain higher levels of moral development. Punishment or reward is not enough to keep students on the straight and narrow. As children's leaders, want children to learn to do what is right because they have a sense that each person is here to fulfill God's plan. And to do so they must treat others as they themselves would want to be treated. Each person must come to the place where he or she does the right thing because it is the right thing to do.

WHAT IS the leader's role?

To guide character development, leaders should first learn to recognize a child's motivation (and their own) to help the child discern his or her reasoning and to continue the process of maturing. It's also helpful to identify typical guiding responses that adults use for each level.

Review the *Levels of Character Development* and determine your response tendencies. Think about your teaching strategies. Do you tend to focus your training on higher or lower levels of students' development? Do you vary your approaches? Do you base your reasoning on students' individual needs? Or are you stuck in a rut of threatening or rewarding?

HOW DO resources like HighPoint help?

HighPoint is the large group, small group that focuses on developing character traits that are from the Bible and highly applicable to life today. Topics cover anger, respect, responsibility, overcoming disappointment, and more. Small groups provide safety and relationships, so leaders can help kids really think about how each character trait should look like in their lives.

WHERE'S THE best place to begin?

Guiding kids toward good moral character may appear to be a trial-and-error search for each individual. While many factors come into play, including the child's learning style, the issue or event, and the consequences, you can get started by practicing the following principles:

- 1 **MEMORIZE the levels.** This will help to assure that you are not getting stuck on reinforcing one motivation.
- 2 **MONITOR students' motivation.** Help them think about why they want to do the right (or wrong) thing. Help them consider higher levels of reasoning.
- 3 **MENTOR by example.** If you constantly state "You don't want to get in trouble, do you?" or "You want a reward, don't you?", you may inadvertently be keeping the child on a lower level of moral development.
- 4 **MAINTAIN a teaching/problem-solving attitude.** Life's lessons are learned in the everyday incidentals. Make every moment an opportunity to mature in Christ.

And remember, moral development is a process and not just an event. It's many decisions over a long period of time. With these principles, you'll be able to make teaching character development a life-changing goal in your ministry.

Sandy Friesen is the former Curriculum Development Specialist for *Radiant Life Resources* and a professor at Evangel University. Previously, she was the Managing Editor of Essentials Christian School Bible Curriculum.

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Devotionals for Boys

By Rev. David Boyd

Scripture verses cited from the New International Version

The Bread of Life

Provide as many different types of bread as you can find (pumpnickel, wheat, white, rye, or rolls, hot dog and hamburger buns, etc.). Ask the boys what the slices have in common and what they are for. (Desired answer: Each of these is bread to eat.) Explain that all around the world people eat bread. Some people eat bread that seems as hard as a rock, but everybody eats it for the same reason: to give nourishment to our bodies. Some children may only have a piece of bread as their only food for the day.

Explain about making bread from different grains. Grains are good for us and help keep us healthy. Allow the boys to discuss what they think Jesus meant when He said that He was the Bread of Life. Jesus wants to nourish our spiritual lives. Every time we spend time with Jesus, we are feeding our spiritual lives.

Explain that people around this world are all different, like the various types of bread. But Jesus is the Bread of Life for every different person in the world, no matter what they look like on the outside. Jesus cares about everyone.

Jesus is the Bread of Life. He will nourish us spiritually every time we spend time with Him by praying, reading our Bibles, going to church, etc. The whole world needs to be told about the "Bread of Life."

Our Life "Buoy"

Bring to class a life preserver of some kind. A cheap inflatable life preserver can be purchased from the local store if you cannot find one to borrow. Tie a rope on it.

Ask the boys what it is and what it is used for. They will know and give pretty good answers on how it is used.

Play act. Choose a volunteer to pretend he is in the water drowning.

Have him call for help. Toss him the life preserver and pretend to pull him to safety.

Write the word "Jesus" on the life preserver. Explain that God knows we are all drowning in our sins and God the Father threw His Son to us in the form of a baby. Jesus grew up and died on the cross that we might be saved from our sins. Every person who grabs hold of Jesus and lives for Him will be saved. God will forgive their sins. Jesus is our life "Buoy."

God sent His Son Jesus to the earth to be the life preserver to save us from our sins. We need to confess our sins and Jesus will forgive us. First John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (*Unrighteousness* is a word that means "bad things we have done." If we tell Jesus what we have done wrong and ask Him to forgive us, He will wash our sins away.)



Knock, Knock, Knock

Choose three child volunteers. Take them to a room where they cannot hear what is going on. Give them all the same instructions. Tell them that you will send for them one at a time. When you send for them, they are to come to your classroom and knock until the door is opened. (The door will be shut and, if possible, locked.)

Send for the first boy. As he knocks on the door, do not open it for a full 2 minutes. See what he does. Does he continue to knock? Does he pound? Does he shout? Does he give up? Relate this to prayer. Jesus said in Matthew 7:7, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." We are supposed to keep on asking Jesus for our requests. This is like knocking on a door. Jesus himself created this object lesson.

Send for the second boy. See how his knocking differs. Ask the boys if they noticed the difference in how the first two boys knocked on the door. Again compare this to prayer and not giving up.

Send for the last boy and repeat the process.

Children need to realize that prayer is much like knocking on a door. Sometimes the answer comes quickly and sometimes the answer takes a long time in coming. God's Word teaches us to keep on knocking.

Mushy Apples

Have a bowl of apples on the table. Explain that everyone in the world probably has seen an apple. Have just enough apples so there is one apple for every two boys. On the day before your class, badly bruise about half of the apples by hitting them against your countertop. This will cause them to be brown and mushy.

Cut each apple in two. After cutting it will soon be evident that some of the apples are good and some of the apples are bad. Give each boy half an apple. Ask the kids what a farmer would do if he had trees that only produced mushy apples. He would most likely cut down the trees. The whole purpose of an apple tree is to produce good apples that you can eat.

Compare this to Scripture. John 15:16 says God chose us to bear good fruit. Mark 16:15 commands us to go and share Jesus with other people. Every person we win to Christ is like good fruit.

All of us try to bear good fruit for Jesus by doing good things. One example of bearing good fruit is telling other people about Jesus. Another example is when we support a missionary financially or with prayer.

When Jesus looks at us, what type of fruit does He see? John 15:16 says, "You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last."





— Continued from page 11

But when life is moving along well, at a normal pace, consistent prayer can suffer. The Word says, “Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway” (Proverbs 8:34).

Periodic difficulties and the daily routine will equally test our commitment to pray. Paul commands us to be “faithful in prayer” and to “pray continually” (Romans 12:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:17). If we pass the test of perseverance, we will receive God’s blessings (Hebrews 10:36). Persevering prayer = much blessing; no prayer = no blessing. Perseverance is the test of prayer.

**PRINCIPLE #6:
Building God’s Kingdom
is the Function of Prayer**

By way of intercession, petitions, fasting, praying the Scriptures, and corporate prayer, “God’s Kingdom comes” (Matthew 6:10). John Lindell writes, “If we pray, the rest of the work is easy.” If we work, we work; if we pray, God works. The Psalmist understood this well: “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain” (Psalm 127:1).

If Royal Rangers is to achieve its fullest potential to reach, teach, and keep students for Christ, it will be accomplished first through prayer. E. M. Bounds said, “Prayer is the soul of a man stirred to plead with God for men.” The marks of a strong

ministry are wet eyes, calloused knees, and a broken heart. Most people who come to Christ can point to someone who had been praying for them. Building God’s Kingdom is the function of prayer.

God is calling Royal Rangers worldwide to ThinkOne. In previous articles we discussed our *purpose*, evangelism; our *distinctive*, Pentecostal-Charismatic; our *leadership ideal*, God-called leaders using God-methods; and our *motive*, to build a community to extravagantly love the hurting world. These will only be achieved if we have discipline. Prayer has been described as the Christian’s bedrock discipline. George Buttrick said, “Prayer is not a substitute for work, thinking, watching, suffering, or giving; prayer is a support for all other efforts.”

Please think back on the words of Edwin Louis Cole from the opening: “Too often we build our tents and pitch our altars, rather than build our altars and pitch our tents.”

As leaders, let’s remember the prominence and priority prayer must have in our lives and ministry. God alters lives at the altar; prayer is foundational to all our efforts.

Let’s **THINKONE: PRAYER**. God has established Royal Rangers in 70 nations, six regions, and gives us to one discipline, prayer—that we might not sin against the Lord and this ministry by failing to pray (1 Samuel 12:23).



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on a United States half-dollar or on a quarter. It appears on the great seal of the United States and on many documents.

Alone in majestic surroundings, the eagle represents freedom as he soars over the tops of lofty mountains, strong and powerful.

The United States is also strong and powerful because God has allowed it to be. As long as the churches proclaim the great message of salvation, and the people, who are the government, refrain from moral decay, God will continue to bless this great nation and help us fly above the storm like the creature that is our national emblem.



Do you know Jesus as your personal Savior?

In the book of Genesis the Bible tells us God created all things, including all the unique creatures of the world. But His most prized creation is you! If you haven't asked Jesus into your heart as Savior and asked Him to forgive you of your sins, it is as simple as following these steps:

- A. ADMIT YOU HAVE SINNED.** *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23).
- B. BELIEVE IN JESUS.** *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).
- C. CONFESS AND LEAVE YOUR SIN.** *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9).

If you would like someone to pray with you about your decision to know Jesus as your personal Savior, talk with your Royal Ranger commander, your pastor, or call the National Prayer Center at 1-800-4PRAYER.

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ROYAL RANGERS
ADVENTURES



SCRIPT, LETTERS, & COLOR:
CRAIG W. SCHUTT
PENCILS & INKS: JAVIER SALTARES
STORY PLOT: JOHN HICKS

QUIT MESSIN' AROUND, AARON, AND GET YOUR SNOW CAVE BUILT!

IT'LL BE DARK BEFORE LONG AND YOU'LL BE SORRY!



WHAT?

SORRY THAT I HAD FUN ON OUR WINTER RANGER CAMPOUT WHEN ALL YOU GUYS DID WAS WORK?

I DON'T THINK SO...



...BESIDES, HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT REALLY TAKE TO DIG A HOLE IN THE SNOW?

PIECE O' CAKE, I SAY...

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER...

WOW, AARON--YOU REALLY DID DIG YOUR CAVE OUT FAST!



LIKE I SAID--IT WAS EASY...

AARON, YOU DIDN'T BUILD A SLEEPING SHELF LIKE COMMANDER CHRIS TOLD US TO. IT'S GONNA BE A LOT COLDER ON YOUR FLOOR...

AND YOU MADE YOUR ENTRANCE SLOPE DOWN? YOU'RE GONNA LOOSE A LOT OF HEAT THAT WAY.

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH --WHATEVER.

COME MORNING, I'LL BE AS WARM AND RESTED AS THE REST OF YOU KILLJOYS...



MORNING...



Hey, Aaron!

COME ON OVER TO THE FIRE!

F-F-F-IRE?
F-FIRE
G-GOOD...



DUDE, WE TRIED TO TELL YOU--YOU JUST WOULDN'T LISTEN.

C-CAN WE M-M-MAKE THE F-F-FIRE BIGGER, P-PLEASE?

THAT WOULDN'T HELP, AARON.

IF YOUR CLOTHING INSULATES YOU FROM THE COLD, IT'LL INSULATE YOU FROM A BIGGER FIRE, TOO. IT'S BETTER TO WARM YOURSELF FROM THE INSIDE OUT...

...HERE--THIS HOT CHOCOLATE SHOULD HELP.



THANKS, COMMANDER. MY FEET ARE SO COLD, I CAN'T FEEL MY TOES ANYMORE!



SPLAT!

HEY, TELL ME IF YOU CAN FEEL THIS!



C'MON--I THINK WE CAN REBUILD YOUR SNOW CAVE BEFORE BREAKFAST IS READY!

THANKS, GUYS...



— 2006 —

NATIONAL RANGERS of the Year

by John HICKS

The National Rangers of the Year were honored at the 2006 Camporama at Camp Eagle Rock, Missouri in July. These eight young men achieved this honor as a result of their exemplary efforts in Royal Rangers as well as in other ministry areas, and they serve as fine examples of the ideals and standards of the Royal Rangers ministry.

During Camporama these young men served as the color guard, raising the flags each morning in front of the Johnnie Barnes Lodge. After Camporama they were treated to a trip to Branson, Missouri, where they spent the weekend enjoying various attractions, including Silver Dollar City and the Incredible Acrobats of China.

National Rangers of the Year receive honorary membership on the National Royal Rangers Council and serve as volunteer members of the national staff for one year. They also receive complimentary admission to the next National Camporama, National FCF Rendezvous, and Eagle Rock Adventure.

The National Rangers of the Year for 2006 are as follows (*in order shown*)

NORTHEAST REGION

Christopher Slimm

Sicklerville, New Jersey

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Kiah Bennett

Cedar Hill, Texas

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

John Barth

Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

GREAT LAKES REGION

Jason Varughese

Woodstock, Illinois

SOUTHWEST REGION

Kevin Douglass

Torrance, California

GULF REGION

Jonathan Woods

Rogers, Arkansas

NORTHWEST REGION

Daniel Brooks

Sequim, Washington

SOUTHEAST REGION

Christopher Hardesty (*not shown*)

Swinsboro, North Carolina

Christopher Slimm

Chris first joined Royal Rangers in 1996 and credits the program for the many friendships he developed over the last 10 years. He also states that the Rangers event that most impacted his life was the Junior Missions Camp he attended where he experienced the ministry of Royal Rangers through service to others.

Kiah Bennett

Kiah lives in Cedar Hills, Texas with his large family, including five boys and two girls. Kiah's most memorable experience in Royal Rangers to date was the North Texas Advanced Junior Training Camp. He states, "I can't describe everything that happened at AJTC, but the Lord filled me with the Holy Spirit again....It was awesome."

John Barth

John has been involved in Royal Rangers ever since he was old enough to attend. When he was 11 years old he attended Junior Leadership Training Camp (now JTC) where he began to experience God in new ways. Prior to JLTC he says, "I never really thought about what God really does. I used to go to church because my parents told me to. But after JLTC I realized that God will save me if I believe in Him." John is now an Expedition Ranger and credits the Spirit Challenges for helping him in his spiritual growth. He states, "I have been praying more and gotten in touch with God a lot more than I would have without Royal Rangers."

Jason Varughese

Rangers has played an important role in Jason's life. "Royal Rangers has been very important to me," Jason says. "I live with a single mom and haven't seen my dad since I was 3 years old. Royal Rangers has given me a male influence and role model through my group commander, Tom Kesteleyn." He adds, "Royal Rangers has given me a desire to witness to my friends and kids in my school. Now I witness to people at my lunch table, in class, and on my sports team. It has instilled in me a commitment to setting aside time for personal devotions every day and has put me at peace with God." Jason began attending Central Bible College this fall, pursuing a call to full-time ministry.

Kevin Douglass

Kevin has always loved being a part of Royal Rangers and credits the program for enabling him to develop a great number of friendships and learn a variety of skills through the years.

Jonathan Woods

Royal Rangers has been a central part of Jonathan's life since he earned his first Straight Arrows badge at age 5. He states, "My understanding of the Bible and my relationship with God have grown tremendously as a result of the countless devotions and Bible studies I have participated in during Royal Rangers. And I will always cherish those times of sitting around the campfire with a bunch of guys talking about God, girls, spirituality, Christianity, and other things."

Daniel Brooks

Daniel credits Royal Rangers for playing a vital role in developing his relationship with Christ. He states, "Royal Rangers has had an incredible impact on my life. It has brought me closer to God than ever before. Through Rangers I have committed and recommitted my life to God and have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Royal Rangers has given me an example of how to live for God and has helped me determine where God wants me to go."

Christopher Hardesty

Chris first got involved in Royal Rangers at an early age but had to drop out of the ministry when his family moved to Berlin, Germany, for several years. Upon returning to the U.S., Chris was able to rejoin Royal Rangers in North Carolina and immediately began to progress. Chris credits Royal Rangers and his committed outpost leaders for helping him to develop a closer personal commitment to Christ. He states, "Through my involvement with Royal Rangers I have been given tremendous aid in expanding upon and growing in my walk with Jesus throughout my years as a teenager."

More information about the Ranger of the Year program can be found on the National Royal Rangers Ministries website at royalrangers.ag.org/roty.

MISSIONS in FOCUS



AT LEFT: The Royal Rangers class at Christian Life International Church in the Canary Islands

BELOW:
Juan Felipe and his mother.



Dear Boys and Girls:

It is with a happy heart and a lot of excitement that we write to say, "Thank you for all you are doing for missionaries around the world."

We received our first disbursement of BGMC funds of \$1,300 in the beginning of October 2004. We immediately put it to use by purchasing Royal Rangers teaching materials, class supplies, a CD player, TV/VCR combo, children's church worship CDs, teaching materials, and a fax machine. Can you believe that the first disbursement covered all this? It was amazing!

God has used BGMC to help us in reaching the children in our country of the Canary Islands. I want to tell you about Juan Felipe Estrela. Juan Felipe arrived from Columbia, South America, with his mom and dad, to the Canary Islands five years ago at the age of 6. They had never been in church, and they weren't sure what went on inside the building. For several weeks, Juan Felipe rode his bike past the open door of the church. On Wednesday evenings, his mother Luz started attending the English class being offered at the church.

Juan Felipe was soon invited to Royal Rangers, which met at the same time his mom was attending the English class. This seemed to work great because he would not be outside or at home by himself during this time. Juan Felipe began attending the class. After two weeks, he accepted Jesus as his Savior. Now Juan Felipe and his mom have made the church their second family, and they love being there. And we love having them.

Thank you, BGMC, for making it possible to purchase the needed items for teaching the Word of God to the children of the Canary Islands.

With much thanks,

Larry and Melinda Henderson
Missionaries to the Canary Islands

www.larryandmelinda.com





"According to the thermometer, you've got a slight fever!"

An unemployed handyman looking for work jobs knocks on the front door of a house. When the owner answers, the handyman asks if there are any odd jobs the owner needs done. The owner says, "well, I was just about to paint my porch around back. I'd pay you good money to do it for me." The handyman agrees, and the owner gives him a bucket of green paint and a clean paint brush. A little while later the handyman knocks on the front door again and announces that he's done. "But there's something you should know," he says. "That car of yours isn't a Porche, it's a BMW."

COMEDY CORNER



What do you call 100 rabbits jumping backwards in unison?

(A receding hare line!)

What do you call the small rivers that flow into the Nile River?

(Juveniles!)

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

(A very nervous mailman!)

A snail got beat up by two turtles. The snail went to the police, who asked, "did you get a good look at the two turtles?" The snail replied, "no, it all happened so fast!"

A guy goes to his doctor, who has bad news for him.

"I'm sorry to say that you have a fatal disease."

"Oh, that's awful! I want a second opinion!"

"OK, you're ugly too!"

What do you call a camel without a hump??

(Humphrey.)

If at first you don't succeed, stay away from skydiving.



Eagle Rock

ADVENTURE

Camp



- RAPPELLING
- ROCK CLIMBING
- HIGH ROPES COURSE
- LOW ROPES COURSE
- MOUNTAIN BIKING
- PAINTBALL
- ARCHERY
- SHOOTING SAFETY
- BB-GUN

- AIR RIFLE
- SMALLBORE RIFLE
- SAFETY & SHOOTING
- BLACKPOWDER
- WATER SKIING
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Commanders