

gram with its awards, projects, and study manuals provides incentives for boys to develop mentally. Graded instructional programs gear study materials to various age levels.

From Straight Arrows to Air, Sea, and Trail Rangers, boys are exposed to new ideas, facts, and perspectives. They learn about themselves, others, God, and His world while acquiring valuable and useful skills.

Whether learning winter survival skills and ornithology, or memorizing pledges and verses of Scripture, boys develop mentally through Royal Rangers.

*Physically.* The program provides wholesome activities to develop boys physically. Bicycling, swimming, ball playing, exercising, and hiking help boys develop physical skills and control. Strength and good health are encouraged through activity and instruction.

Physical activities are also important in other ways. For example, a neighbor, a friend of my son, was first attracted to our church through

the local outpost's physical activities program. The friend couldn't believe this was "church."

Under the influence of dedicated leaders and boys, a visitor's attention can be focused by the Holy Spirit on his need for salvation and on God's ability and willingness to help with problems and needs.

*Socially.* Between ages 6 and 17 boys grow socially and develop social graces. They develop attitudes and skills in dealing with peers and adults. Boys learn about values and responsibilities of being good citizens and church leaders.

With the supervision and guidance of trained leaders, boys have the opportunity to learn about and practice Christian principles of honesty, sensitivity to others, healthful living, and Christian ethics. They are encouraged to demonstrate good sportsmanship and to realize the value of fellowship with other Christians.

Although Royal Rangers has been in operation little more than 20 years, it is reaching, teaching, and keeping boys for Christ. Boys coming through Royal Rangers are filling places of leadership and influence inside and outside the church. ©

## Healed of lower back problem at Royal Rangers National Training Camp

IN late July 1982 I began to suffer with lower back pain. I was a first aid consultant which involved driving on all types of roads to oil rigs, etc.

I took aspirin to relieve the pain, but finally on Monday, October 18, 1982, it was so intense I went to the emergency room. The doctor said something about a lower fifth disc and the sciatic nerve. He gave me some medication prescriptions, and ordered me to complete bed rest. If I didn't feel better in a few days, I was to see an orthopedic surgeon.

The next day my wife called our pastors, and they added my name to a prayer chain.

The pain continued to spread across my back and down my right leg. At times there was a tingling sensation with numbness.

I went to church the following Sunday and went forward for prayer according to James 5:14,15.

For 6 weeks I had treatments by a physical therapist. On December 17, 1982, the doctor pronounced me able to work, but my job was not awaiting me. And I was still in pain.

I had been involved in many areas of ministry, including Royal Rangers, but I had dropped out due to the distance to church. I again got in-

volved as a lieutenant commander with the Buckaroos.

One Sunday in March I again went forward for healing, as I had done so many times. This time I knew Jesus touched me and began a healing in my back. I claimed my healing although there was no physical change.

Then in May 1983 I attended the National Training Camp at Hungry Horse, Montana. The Holy Spirit ministered to me in many ways during those 3 days, but especially on Friday night, May 20, around the council fire. The Lord made it plain that He wanted me to continue in Royal Rangers ministry, that I was to seek first His kingdom.

At that moment I knew the Master Ranger had finished the work in my back which He had started months before. I realized for the first time I had been seeking my healing, not the Healer. I shared my testimony with the other leaders around the campfire.

The next day I was able to carry from the camp site over 150 pounds of gear with no pain. My healing has remained to this day.—John W. Rossman, Sidney, Mont.

*(Endorsed by Pastor Weldyn B. Houger, Assembly of God, Sidney, Mont.)*

