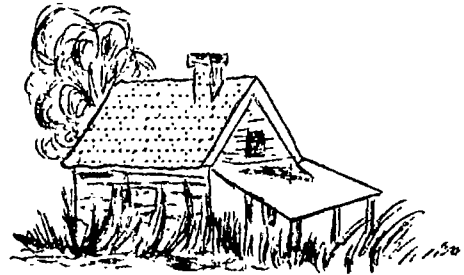


1963

SUMMER BOOSTER PROGRAM



PACK UP YOUR
TROUBLES

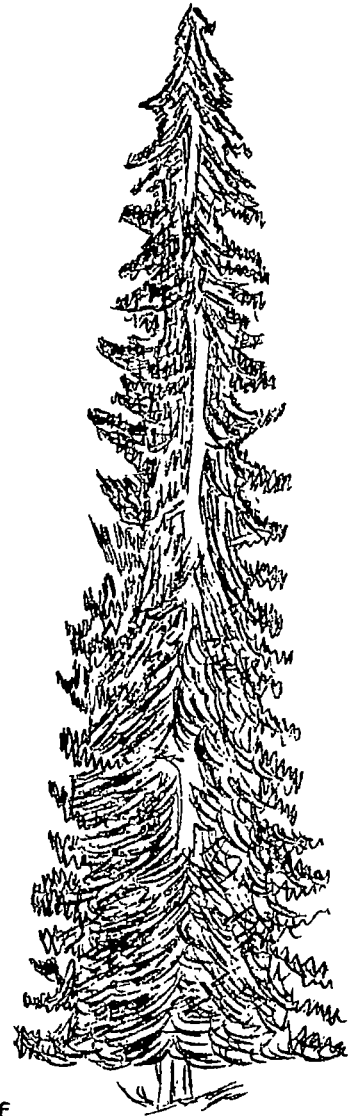
summer camping trip

JULY - AUGUST 1963

Have you ever worshipped with God as you walked through the forest on a cool summer afternoon? Have you ever sung with Christian friends in God's great outdoors while those puffy white clouds tumbled overhead? We hope to recapture some of these moments this summer as you travel with us through Foursquare National Park. You'll have some never-to-be-forgotten moments to add to your Sunday school memories.

When surrounded by God's rich handiwork, we can truly sing "Praise Him" and feel the thrill of His presence as we study the wonders of nature. Let us imagine, for a moment, that we can view the crest of hills, hear a chirping cricket nearby or see the fireflies dancing in the field across the way. All these have been made and given to us for our enjoyment by the Lord Jesus who loves us and wants us to enjoy His great out-of-doors.

The months of July and August will offer vacation fun galore to every student in your Sunday school. We'll be "camping out" for the entire summer as we study the Word of God. The purpose is to provide incentive for your regular summer attendance and add color to your summer Sunday school program. Follow the simple rules under "Camping Trip Competition."



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CAMPING TRIP COMPETITION

I. CAMPING ATMOSPHERE.

If at all possible, set up a camping scene on the platform of your assembly room. If yours is a departmentalized school, be sure there is camping color in every assembly room. If you are unable to secure camping equipment from your people, contact a store in your city selling such goods and ask for a loan during the contest. In return for the loan, you can give the store-keeper free advertising. Articles which will help create your camp scene are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Tent | Packs |
| Campfire | Fishing pole and creel |
| Sleeping bags | Camera |
| Folding table, camping pots and dishes | Axe, shovel, rope, canteen |
| Lantern | Hikers clothing such as boots, hunting cap, plaid jackets, etc. |

II. CAMPING TRIP.

This trip will cover a period of 8 weeks:

| | | | | |
|--------|----|---|------------|-------------------------|
| July | 7 | - | Camp No. 1 | "Base Camp" |
| July | 14 | - | Camp No. 2 | "Pitch Your Tent" |
| July | 21 | - | Camp No. 3 | "Campfire Circle" |
| July | 28 | - | Camp No. 4 | "Fishing Fun" |
| August | 4 | - | Camp No. 5 | "Nature Hike" |
| August | 11 | - | Camp No. 6 | "Wayside Trails" |
| August | 18 | - | Camp No. 7 | "Star Gazer's Pinnacle" |
| August | 25 | - | Camp No. 8 | "Victory Summit" |

III. CAMP PERSONNEL.

A. The Forest Ranger.

The general Sunday school superintendent will be the duly appointed Forest Ranger and will be in charge of all camps and hikers.

1. Camping Permits.

It is suggested that an official "Camping Permit" be given or mailed to each member of your Sunday school on Sunday, June 30.

Sample:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT | |
| _____ | |
| is hereby granted camping privileges in Foursquare National Park for the period of July 7 through August 25 and is assigned to the _____ hiking team. | |
| Date _____ | Signed _____ Forest Ranger |

2. Worship Services.

Each Sunday's camp will conform to the following routine:

- a. *Daybreak Devotions* (Scripture reading)
- b. *Mountain Melodies* (Suggested hymns and choruses)
- c. *Trail Tales* (Devotional thought)
- d. *Forest Ranger Talks* (Announcements and offerings)
- e. *Guides' Report* (Results of class competition with the announcements of last week's winning team of hikers)

B. Guides.

Each Sunday school teacher will serve as a "guide" for his team of "hikers" and as such should be thoroughly informed as to camping regulations. The starting point for all hiking teams is on July 7 - Camp No. 1 "Base Camp." Each class should be introduced by its team name together with the insignia adopted on this Sunday.

C. Hikers.

Every Sunday school class will be a "Hiking Team" and will compete for hiking honors of the day. The team that wins the most often or which compiles the most points will be declared the final "Victory Summit" winner.

Hiking Team Names.

Your Sunday school students may wish to select their own name and create their own "insignia." Initiative on the part of class members should be encouraged. Juniors in particular are "club" conscious and will thoroughly enjoy doing this. The following are a few which might be used by the individual classes:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Mountain Goats | Mule Riders |
| Hill Billies | Toppers |
| Packers | Elks |
| Alpine Aces | Mighty Moose |
| Hiking Hawks | Swiss Yodelers |
| Grizzly Bears | Trailblazers |

Insignias will be selected to go along with the name chosen and should be hung over the classroom door for team identification. For example, the Grizzly Bears would have a bear head insignia, the Hiking Hawks, a hawk, etc.

IV. FIGURING THE FOOTAGE.

Team points may be figured by miles or by footage. There are 5,280 feet in a mile. It will probably be simpler to figure the advance of your hiking teams by footage. If you want your victory summit to represent the highest peak in the world, it can be compared to Mt. Everest which is 29,000 feet high. Estimate the total footage or mileage of the camping trip according to the size of your Sunday school. We suggest that footage be earned as follows:

- ...100 feet for each hiker present in class.
- ...200 feet for the first Sunday a visitor is present.
- ...300 feet for the second Sunday a visitor is present.
- ...500 feet for the visitor who has come three Sundays and is now a member of the class.
- ...100 feet for each member of the class who remains for the Sunday morning church service.

V. WINNING TEAMS.

A. Weekly Awards.

- July 7 - Camp No. 1 "Base Camp." Introduce each class by its team name together with the insignia adopted. Announce the awards to be given on the following Sundays of the contest.
- July 14 - Camp No. 2 "Pitch Your Tent." If possible, actually put up a tent in your church yard or parking area. Allow the class which has increased its hiking team the most from Base Camp to hold its class session in the tent. They'll love this!
- July 21 - Camp No. 3 "Campfire Circle." The winning hiking team for this Sunday gets to go on a wienie bake.
- July 28 - Camp No. 4 "Fishing Fun." Prepare a fishing center by covering a large grocery carton with blue crepe paper. Fill the box with awards which have been wrapped loosely in crepe paper and tied with ribbon. Provide a fishing rod with line and hook. This week's winning hiking team will have the privilege of fishing out an award.
- August 4 - Camp No. 5 "Nature Hike." Today's winning team will go on a hike or an outdoor outing of their choice.
- August 11 - Camp No. 6 "Wayside Trails." Winner arrives at Picnic Pinnacle while losers end up in Goat Crevice. Summertime calls for picnics and the class will enjoy this celebration. If it seems inadvisable for the class to actually go on a picnic during the following week, punch and cookies could be served to the winners at the close of the class session.
- August 18 - Camp No. 7 "Star Gazer's Pinnacle." Secure enough tinfoil to make at least two dozen stars approximately 4 inches in diameter. String these on a wire across your assembly room. Each star should be numbered. Every member of the winning hiking team will go star gazing and select the star of his choice. Purchase 2 dozen small Bible Bookstore gifts. Wrap them and number each one. As the star is selected give the winner the corresponding numbered gift.
- August 25 - Camp No. 8 "Victory Summit." Award the winning hiking team of the day appropriately.

B. Final Award.

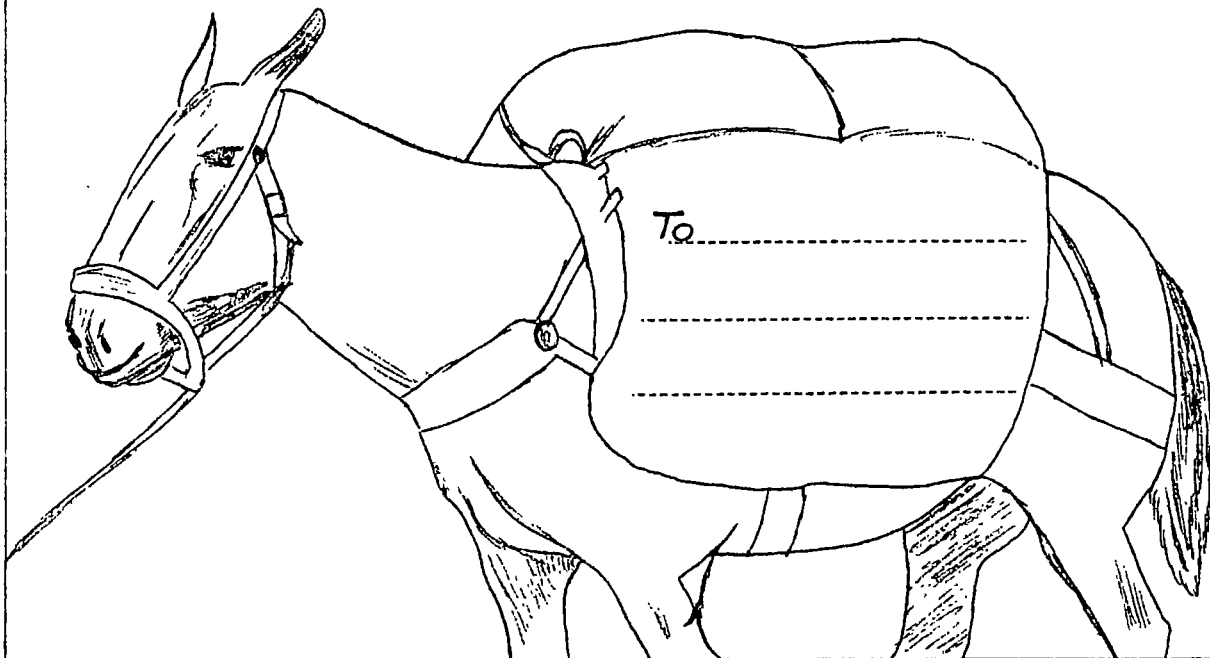
The team which wins the most often or earns the most points will be the final "Victory Summit" winner. You may wish to use one of the following suggestions as an award: *Blackboard and easel, Redecoration of classroom, Overnight camping trip or a trip to a National Park.*

*PUBLICITY: Mimeograph this dodger to mail or hand out
the Sunday before the program begins.*


NOTE: Inside should be information concerning themes, dates and special events of the Summer Program. Also a challenge to continue to be faithful every Sunday.

Suggested beginning would be: *"COME PACK IN WITH US". . . Adventure awaits -
Cool streams abound - Enjoy the fresh air
and the thrill of God's outdoors!*

FROM _____ *Sunday School*




POST CARD IDEAS: to boost summer attendance. Could also be used as bulletin inserts, etc.



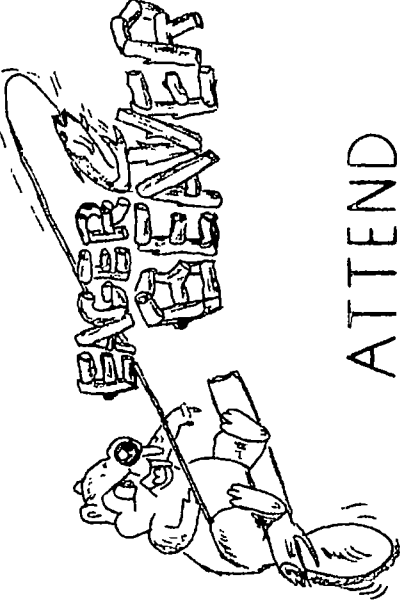
THIS
"BEARS"
REPEATING
.
.
.
.

THIS SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL IS FUN!

This is no
FISH
story... We need you in
SUNDAY SCHOOL!

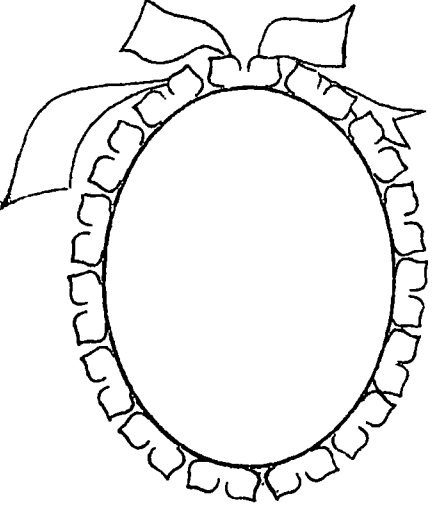


BE AN
EAGER LEARNER



ATTEND
SUNDAY SCHOOL EVERY
WEEK THIS SUMMER —

DON'T
BE
LEFT
OUT
OF THE PICTURE . . .



ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL

CERTIFICATE FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Foursquare National Park

This is to certify that

_____ was a member of the _____ Class that "packed" into Foursquare National Park, ascending to "Victory Summit" and completing eight Sundays of exciting and inspiring Christian Programs. This trip began _____, 1963 and ended _____, 1963.

Signed _____

Date _____

SUGGESTED SONGS AND CHORUSES

PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES

Pack up your troubles, roll them on the Lord
and smile, smile, smile.
Let's take a trip this summer down the trail
We'll hike for miles and miles.
What's the use of worrying
It never was worthwhile - so
Pack up your troubles, roll them on the Lord
and smile, smile, smile!

* * * * *

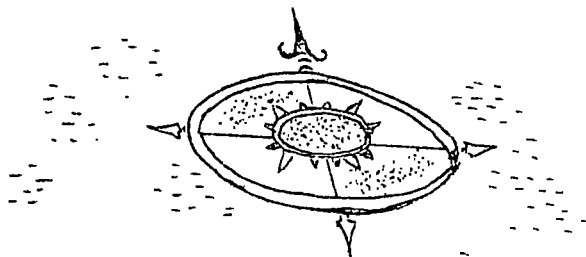
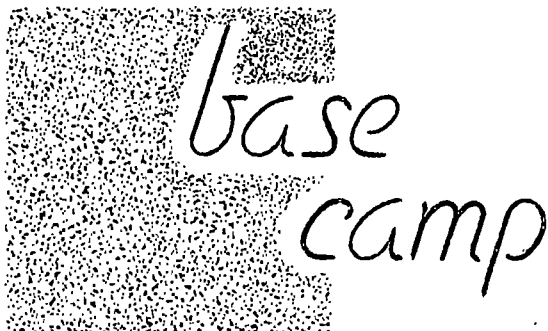
THERE'S A LONG, LONG, TRAIL A-WINDING

There's a long, long trail a-winding
That leads to Heaven above
Though trouble may beset us -
Christ will lead us by His love
There's a long, long trail a-winding
And one day soon it may end
So let us work together
Christ's new kingdom help begin!

* * * * *

WHEN I TAKE MY VACATION IN HEAVEN

When I take my vacation in Heaven
What a wonderful time that will be,
Hearing anthem's by the heavenly choir
And the face of my Savior I see,
Sitting down on the banks of the river
'Neath the shade of the evergreen trees.
There to rest from my worries forever;
Won't you spend your vacation with me.



*JULY 7 - Making preparations for the trip
and starting on our way!*

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Proverbs 14:12 - Bible Drill: Psalm 119:1; II Samuel 22:31; James 5:20;
Genesis 24:42; Matthew 7:13; Proverbs 22:6;
I Corinthians 10:13; Numbers 21:4; Jude 11;
John 14:6.

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"God Leads Us Along"
"We're Marching to Zion"
"I'm Going Through"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (Use the following articles with this talk: Bible, map, compass and field glasses.)

When we think of hiking the long, long trail to heaven, we ought to consider the equipment necessary for the trip.

Even in these days of super-speed highways and well-engineered cars, there are still certain places where special equipment is needed. For example, anyone who packs through the mountains needs a map, a compass and a guide. He will save himself many problems if he takes the advice of someone who really knows the best way to go and will permit this person to be his guide.

Jesus reminds us in John 14:6 that He is the Way to God and to Heaven. Only those who have trusted Him as Savior are on the right trail. The Bible is our map and our compass. It has been given for our instruction and to light our paths (Psalm 119:105). The Bible is our field glass bringing distant scenes into view. How can we know the far-off future? By reading the Bible, God's Holy Word. We may get along without many luxuries on this pack trip, but we can't get along without our Bible. It is our guide, our food for the spirit and our source of encouragement and strength. Is it the compass's fault if we miss the trail by taking the wrong turn? No, it is our own fault, for not following the guide that has been provided. We come to a crossroad every day in spiritual matters, and must make up our minds which way we will take. Shall we travel the popular trail, the one that seems wide and smooth, or will we obey the Lord and take the narrow trail that leads to life?

Many a person has been detoured from the trail by ungodly friendships - it is a rocky trail indeed when we refuse to obey the directions of our Guide, the Lord Jesus. Let's save ourselves some heartaches and troubles by keeping in close touch with our Guide. He has traveled this way before, and knows all the pitfalls and washouts on the trail. Let Him take your hand and walk beside you all the way!

MY LORD AND I

We travel on life's road together,
In sunshine or in rainy weather,
My Lord and I.

He leads me on a narrow road,
He lifts the burden of my load,
And so we walk along life's road,
My Lord and I.

Sufficient grace He sends me ever,
As we travel on together,
My Lord and I.

I thought perhaps He'd not have time
To bother with a case like mine,
But up the hills He helps me climb,
My Lord and I.

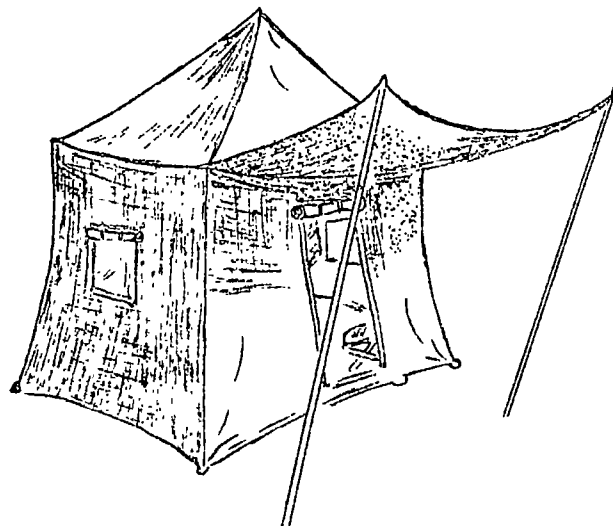
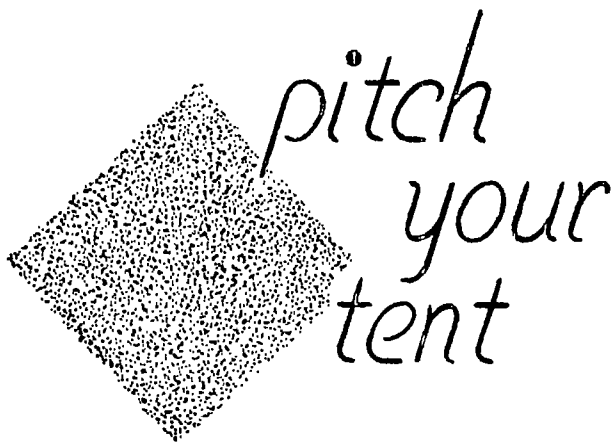
...Grace L. Heller

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Since this is the first Sunday of the program, introduce teams and the insignia adopted by each.



JULY 14 - Carrying out our duty to our church and its Missionary program!

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

II Timothy 2:24-26

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"To the Work"
"We'll Work Till Jesus Comes"
"Redeemed"
"Send the Light"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (Be sure and tie in our own missionary program, Committed to the Commission Until Then...Advance, even if it is necessary to omit some of the following.)

Pitching a tent is work! Building the kingdom of God is work! It requires the faithful service of men, women, boys and girls who love Jesus! We must be true servants of Christ to proclaim the gospel to a dying world! Want to pitch your tent in service for the Lord Jesus Christ? Then you must become a true servant of the Lord. As His servant you must,

1. Not strive. Strife is a failure to get along with others. Give the example of Isaac (Genesis 26). Point out the need for humility.
2. Be gentle to all. A Christian is courteous, kind, considerate to all--not just to those who treat him right. His character speaks for Christ.
3. Be apt (able) to teach. First, he must be teachable, then be able to teach others. Point out from Romans 2:21 the need for consistency.

4. Be patient. He is patient in all events of life, and is awaiting Christ's coming. From James 1:3 show that patience comes as faith is tried.
5. Be meek. He is not overbearing, boastful, or haughty. He does not condemn others, but walks in love, being helpful in all things.
6. Lead captives to Christ. He is faithful in his service, realizing that all sinners are captives of Satan and that they need Christ.

To be of service is to be of help or benefit to someone or something. God has a purpose for each one of us and has placed us on this earth to carry out our duty. We should do the thing for which we are best fitted. The more we do, the stronger we become in working for Christ. The more of ourselves we give to others, the more we develop as Christians. This is what Jesus meant when He told His disciples in Matthew 16:25..."and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

"WHAT CAN YOU LEND?"

Peter lent a boat, to save Him from the press;
Martha lent her home with genuine kindness.

One man lent a colt, another lent a room;
Some threw down their clothes, and Joseph lent a tomb.

Simon lent his strength, the cruel cross to bear;
Mary spices brought, His body to prepare.

What have I to lend? No boat! No house! No lands!
Yet, Lord, I gladly lend the work of heart and hands.

...Benedicte's Scrapbook

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.

campfire circle



JULY 21 - Whether it be close of day or close of camp - there is nothing like a campfire to bring us close to God.

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Romans 12:1, 2

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"Cleanse Me"
"Pentecostal Power"
"Speak, My Lord"
"Fire Up"
"Spirit of the Living God"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES:

Fire speaks of:

1. Approval. When Abel brought his offering to the Lord, the sign of acceptance on God's part was that He sent fire from heaven to consume it (Genesis 4:4). By this sign, God showed his approval of the thing sacrificed. When Elijah had his great test with the prophets of Baal (I Kings 18:38), God sent fire from heaven to show His approval of the one who made the offering.
2. Judgment. Fire came from heaven on a number of occasions as a punishment for evil. God put up with the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah for a time, but at last He sent fire and brimstone from heaven and almost consumed Lot as well (Genesis 19:24).

3. Persecution. Through the years, severe persecution has come on the Bible and the people who believed the Bible. Many thousands of Bibles were burned in an attempt to stamp it out, and Polycarp, John Huss and Tyndale as well as others were burned at the stake for their faith in Christ. (Bring details of their stories, referring also to the words of FAITH OF OUR FATHERS and Hebrews 11:34.)

Or you may turn worship time into a fagot service...

(If possible make a simulated campfire, with young people seated on the floor [on throw rugs or newspapers]. The fire is easily created by placing a light bulb on the floor and covering it with flame-proofed crepe paper or cellophane and twigs, etc.) Young people (and adults) give testimonies, then toss a small twig or chip of wood onto the fire embers, so fire blazes up at each testimony. Testimonies should be about:

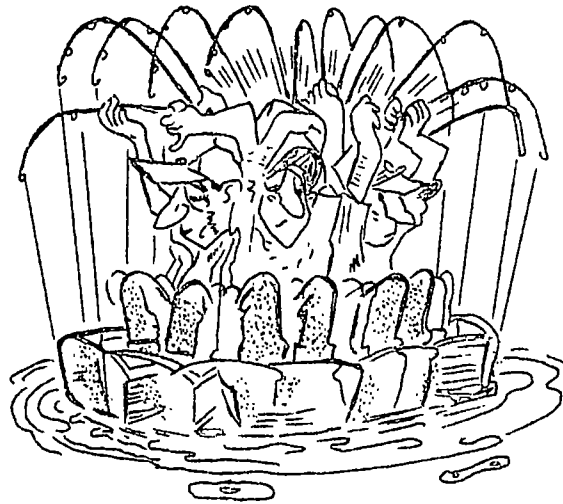
1. Blessings received this summer at Sunday school.
2. Opportunities for witnessing while on vacation.
3. The Lord's protection while traveling.
4. Unusual Christian characters encountered.
5. New decisions made for Christ this summer.

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.



*JULY 28 - Fishing for men can be fun too!
An experience you won't forget.*

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Matthew 4:18-22

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"Give of Your Best to the Master"
"I Will Make You Fishers of Men"
"Bring Them In"
"Follow, I Will Follow Thee"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (If possible, have real fishing equipment to demonstrate this object lesson. This will make it more effective.)

Before we can go fishing, let's ask ourselves, "What do we need?" I want you to suggest things that a fisherman needs, and I'll write them or draw them on this blackboard. Who'll be first?

The Reel: This can represent our emotions, the power behind what we do. A fisher of men needs the reel of love.

The Rod: A rod reaches far, and so does our influence. We all have the rod of influence.

The Line: It must be strong and not easily broken, just like our lives and testimonies. A Christian fisherman must have a lifeline of good quality.

The Hook: It must be the right size for the fish. When we use our hook - a personal testimony - we need to use the language and interests of our hearers.

The Bait: It must be something the fish wants. People want love, joy, peace and satisfaction.

The Sinker: It adds the necessary weight so that the bait will reach the fish. Prayer is our sinker.

Fish: There are millions of souls - over two billion in fact.

Patience: Don't get discouraged. "Wait on the Lord."

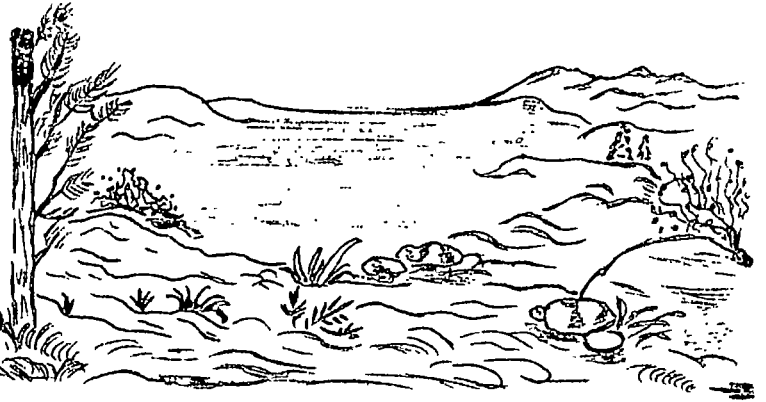
FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.

nature hike



AUGUST 4 - Our trip through Foursquare National Park would not be complete without the talk given by the Forest Ranger.

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Genesis 1:29-31

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"The Lily of the Valley"
"Rock of Ages"
"Honey in the Rock"
"It Is Summertime in My Heart"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (Use real flowers, miniature trees or branches, grass and rocks as examples.)

1. Grass

Read Psalm 103:15-17.

Blades of grass are like sands of the sea--so many that no one could ever hope to count them, and usually so close together that we think of them as all alike. Yet each blade of grass is a wonderful bit of God's creation--a living plant full of nourishment for the animal that eats it.

Grass is used in the Bible to show how quickly life is over and done. Not only in the Psalm we have just read, but also in Isaiah and in other parts of the Bible, people are compared to grass. "All flesh is grass," Isaiah said. It soon withers and dies. "But the word of our God shall stand forever."

If we will think a moment about all the grass that some of us have had cut this summer, we are easily convinced that a blade of grass withers soon after it gets above the surface of the earth. Even if a lawn mower doesn't cut it off, the blade withers when fall comes. When we think of all the accidents, diseases, and disasters affecting people, we can realize that human life, too, is short.

The blade of grass, then, can be a warning to us to be prepared for life to end. There is a great comfort in knowing that, though grass may wither and die, the Word of God stands forever and those who heed His Word will live eternally with Him.

2. Flowers.

Read Matthew 6:28, 30.

Jesus mentioned flowers as an example of how God takes care of everything that He created. He said that if God took care of even flowers, which could give nothing in return but their beauty, how much more would He watch over people, who return His love! Jesus has been compared in the Bible to two particular flowers, the Lily of the Valley and the Rose of Sharon. This is high praise, for these flowers have a rare beauty. So wonderful is Jesus, though, that it is but a small way of expressing the beauty of His holiness. Many songs have been written about Jesus as the Lily of the Valley and the Rose of Sharon, and we have learned to love them all.

3. Rocks.

Read Psalm 18:1-3.

A certain company always uses the Rock of Gibraltar in its advertising as an indication of its strength. It is nothing new to represent strength by the rock, for it is done many times in the Bible. The Lord is our Rock of strength, and He will never fail us.

A rock is a foundation. Jesus told Peter that His kingdom would be built on the rock of Peter's confession that He was the Christ, the Son of the living God. We can be sure that we have a solid foundation for our faith when it rests in the Rock, Christ Jesus.

4. Trees.

Read Psalm 1:1-3; Acts 13: 28-29.

The person who does right and lives for God has often been compared to a tree, as in the first Psalm. A tree digs its roots down deep so that, when the storm comes, it is strong enough to stand firm. A tree produces fruit, too, and so does a Christian--fruit of love, joy, peace and faith.

The tree, however, is the symbol in the Bible of something even more important, for it was from a tree that the cross was made on which Jesus was crucified for the sins of the world. Were it not for what that tree, or cross, represents, there would be no salvation for any of us. We should thank God every day for the tree of Calvary, and if any of us have not bowed at the foot of the cross, right now, while we are learning of the cross would be a wonderful time to do it.

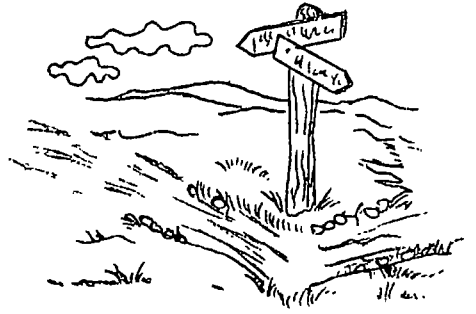
FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.

wayside trails



AUGUST 11 - Go out into the highways and byways and compel them in... by visitation.

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Mark 16:15

John 15:16

Acts 5:42

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go"

"Lord Lay Some Soul upon My Heart"

"What the World Needs Is Jesus"

Choruses suggested in Manual (See next page for this Sunday's special song.)

TRAIL TALES: (Tie in our missionary program, Committed to the Commission Until Then...Advance, even if it is necessary to omit some of the following.)

"OUR COMMISSION"

Panel by four young people, one to act as moderator and three others.

1. What is the Great Commission? - Mark 16:15 states the Great Commission. It is a command to go forth in militant Christianity. He who accepts Christ must be willing to work for Christ. He must put his personal desires second. His joy will be the joy of seeing souls saved.
2. To whom was it given? - It was not given to angels. It was not given to a select few. It was given to everyone who would hear the call of Christ; to fishermen, lawyers, workmen, rulers, citizens, you and me. All who accept Christ accept the obligation of the Great Commission (John 15:16).
3. How shall it be carried out? - The New Testament pattern and basis for success was that every Christian was a personal witness. In order to carry out the Great Commission, we must follow this pattern. The church can carry out this commission if we remember the pattern given in Acts 5:42.

(This may be enlarged and developed by the young people)

Finish this discussion by telling of the visitation program in your church and Sunday school. Give a challenge for others to join this group and visit on their own as well.

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.

(Melody: Battle Hymn of the Republic)

How can they know of Jesus
When we've never brought them in,
When we've never thought to tell them
He will save them from all sin?
How can they receive His blessings
When they have no peace within?
Bring them to Sunday school.

Chorus for stanzas 1 and 2:

We will bring them, we will bring them,
We will tell them of our Jesus;
He will pardon, He will bless them--
Bring them to Sunday school.

Someone went out one morning,
And before the day was done
He had brought a soul to Jesus--
That's how you and I were won.
What if he had never labored
Till the setting of the sun--
Brought you to Sunday school?

Whom can we win for Jesus
When we do not live His ways?
Can they know of His own goodness
When their load we do not raise?
Will they be assured we love Him
When we do not shout His praise--
"All glory, Jesus saves!"

Chorus for stanza 3:

Go and tell them how He saved us;
Go and tell them how He loves them;
Go and tell them of His blessings--
Tell them of Christ, our Lord.



star gazer's
pinnacle

AUGUST 18 - *Is there any place nearer God
than when gazing up into God's
canopy of stars?*

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Psalm 147:4
I Corinthians 15:41

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"Some Golden Daybreak"
"I'm Going Higher"
"When We See Christ"
"Yesterday, Today, Forever"
"Heavenly Sunshine"
"Beyond the Sunset"
"It Took a Miracle"
Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (Prepare a large star to illustrate.)

"Star light, star bright,
The first star I've seen tonight.
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish, I wish tonight."

How many of us as small children would gaze into the great heavens and repeat those simple words? When we consider the history of the stars, their creation, their uses, their beauty, they point us back to God.

1. The star led the wise men to Christ and there revealed God's glory. (Matthew 2:2). We are told those wise men were looking into the heavens, searching for something or perhaps just star gazing, when they noticed an extremely bright star in the heavens lingering so near the earth. If we were as intelligent as those wise men, we too would look to that "star" to lead us to Christ. They found Christ as a babe in a manger, we today find him as an all sufficient master!
2. The great North Star is a compass to lost navigators. Shining bright always in the same spot, never wavering or changing. This star can be so helpful to the lost. Christopher Columbus was an astrologer as well as a navigator. He

realized the importance of the guiding ability of the stars. If we are lost on the sea of sinfulness we can look to the bright star, Jesus Christ, and find our course that would lead to a haven of rest!

3. "God made the stars"...we read those words in Genesis 1:16, and He flung them into space and there through countless ages they never cease to fascinate man. The huge 200 inch Palomar telescope that reaches far into the night, only helps prove the beauty and magistry of God.
4. Abraham as he gazed into the heavens in Genesis 15:5 was unable to number the stars. God asked him to number them, and as he gazed into the skies realizing the promise God was giving him to bless his seed as the stars, surely he marveled at the handiwork of God. In Job 38:7 we read, "the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy." The stars sang as a great choir, glorifying God.
5. Revelation 22:16, Christ himself declares I am "the bright and the morning star." Christ has pictured himself as many things,...The Bread of Life; the Lily of the Valley; The Door; The Way; all these things at a particular time in our life are full of meaning. As in His phrase "I am the bright and morning star," how wonderful to gaze into the heavens and see that scripture in its fulness after a stormy, fretful night.

What a precious night when we could look into the heavens and say in our hearts, I know the "bright and morning star," I know the God who put those stars in place. On the other hand there are those who as Abraham, could not number the stars; you cannot number your sins. Christ has promised to separate us from them, to bury our sins in the sea of forgetfulness, to place them as far from us as the East is from the West.

When we permit Christ to cleanse us and we take this step, we can join in with the stars as mentioned in Job and sing together and shout for joy. Someday, as Christians it will be our lot to join in with the multitudes and make a glorious chorus. We can take singing lessons from the "stars."

As we gaze into the heavens may we not only see the stars, but the kind, loving God that made it possible for us to enjoy life and the wonderous beauties He has placed at our disposal. Let's "star gaze" often, and glorify God.

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team.

victory summit



AUGUST 25 - Mountain top experiences can
be found in prayer!

DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS:

Matthew 17:1-8 (the event of the transfiguration of Christ)

MOUNTAIN MELODIES:

"Climb, Climb Up Sunshine Mountain"

"Got Any Rivers?"

"I'm Going Higher"

"Higher Ground"

Choruses suggested in Manual

TRAIL TALES: (Have a young man attired in a hiker's outfit to illustrate.)

People do not climb mountains just to be climbing or with no objectives. Nor do they climb, as the popular adage goes, "Because it is there." There are many reasons for climbing mountains, depending on who is climbing. Some like the feeling of being able to conquer--some love the great unknown and scorn gravity--as one mountaineer put it "Have you ever envied a bird as he soared in the sky? Didn't you ever want to fly?" To the men who conquered Mt. Everest, it symbolized "a triumph of the human spirit over the world's most towering physical obstacle, the world's only hope of achieving solutions to problems even greater than Everest."

Do you need to rise above the problems you experience in your daily living? Do you want the feeling of conquest? Want to soar like the birds on wing? You can have mountain experiences as a Christian! You will see a view here never seen before!

I. THE CHALLENGE OF SPIRITUAL MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

- A. Lives of great men of God inspire us, make us want to do more for the Lord (Moody, Hudson, Taylor, Billy Graham, Spurgeon, etc.).
- B. They paid a price to reach the top, and so must we. Must be set apart from sin, worldliness, and anything that would hinder (II Corinthians 6:17, 18; Romans 12:1, 2; II Timothy 2:22, 23).

II. THE PREPARATION NEEDED

- A. Must prepare route, estimate food and equipment needs, establish base camps, etc., to be successful in climbing peaks.

- B. Must not be discouraged by failure. Whympers failed six times at climbing the Matterhorn, but learned from each failure. It's no shame to stumble--only when we stay down!
- C. The climber must watch each step--so must the Christian. One slip may mean eternal death to some one who is depending on us for the gospel.

III. THE REWARD OF THE CLIMBER

- A. No one needs to be told when a mountain climber succeeds--they can see it in his face.
- B. When we have been alone with Christ, people will know. Moses' face shone when he had been with God on Sinai (Exodus 34:30), and we shall show in our lives our relationship with God. After a spiritual mountain-top experience, we are changed.

I saw the mountains stand
 Silent, wonderful, and grand,
 Looking out across the land
 When the golden light was falling
 On distant dome and spire,
 And I heard a low voice calling,
 "Come up higher. Come up higher,
 From the lowlands and the mire,
 From the mist of earth-desire,
 From the vain pursuit of self,
 From the attitude of self,
 Come up higher. Come up higher."

...James G. Clark

FOREST RANGER TALKS:

Announcements and offerings

GUIDES' REPORT:

Report class competition results and winning team for the day. Announce final winner and award.