



EYE OF THE STORM

Wilderness Trek '92

Leader's Guide

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

LEADERS GUIDE

Saturday Night - The Storm Is Coming

Sunday Night - The Storm Is Here

Monday Night - Damage Assessment

Tuesday Solo Time - In The Eye

Tuesday Night - Back Into The Eye

Wednesday Night - The Aftermath

Thursday Night - Looking For The Next Storm

(Several folks have put in a great deal of time and effort into this guide and the journal. We hope that you will find these ideas useful while on TREK. Yet, please realize that they are only suggestions. Use them as you wish.)



IN THE EYE OF THE STORM SATURDAY NIGHT THE STORM IS COMING

OBJECTIVES

1. To open up the group and set the stage for more serious discussions.
2. To introduce the theme of the week.
3. To get the big picture of the story of Job.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. Wishstone
>Find a nice looking rock and introduce it to the group as a wishstone. It has two wishes for each person. One wish is for the person holding the rock. The wish needs to be about the week to come. The second wish is for someone else.

>After the person makes the wish for someone he/she passes to another person and they have two wishes. This continues until everyone has made their two wishes. Make sure everyone has had the stone.

2. Lead a prayer about some of these wishes.
3. Lead into discussion of Job by asking these questions:
>Pretend you are Job the day before all the terrible things happen. Also pretend that God allows you to see tomorrow night's news. What would you do? Who would you talk to? How would you prepare for the tragedy?

BIBLE STUDY

1. Select eight "drama" type teens to read the condensed version of Job in their journals. This needs to be done before the devotional to give them a chance to practice their reading.
2. Have the eight read the condensed version of Job to the group.
3. Debrief the story.

>Where was God when he spoke to Job? (From the Storm) That is the theme for this week's Trek; "In the Eye of the Storm." We will be looking all week at how God speaks to us from the storm.
>Did Job know the end of the story at the beginning? Do you think he was expecting to get all his stuff back?
>What seems to be Job's biggest concern? (Check Job 23:10)
>Who started all this, Satan or God? Why do you think he did it?
>Was Job the greatest servant of God alive at the time?
>What power does Satan have? What are his limitations?
>Why is this story in the Bible?
>What is the bottom line from the story of Job?

APPLICATION

Level 1. List the things that Job lost. What would that be like losing today? Which of these would you most hate to lose?

Level 2. Name some of the "hedgies" in your life.

Level 3. Did Job see this storm coming? Do we always see the storms of our lives coming? What storms do you see coming in your live?

**FOCUS TIME FOR THE COMMUNION OBSERVANCE
(optional)**

In the gospel of John, the absence of the Lord's Supper is conspicuous. In its place appears one of Jesus' greatest examples of a loving servant for His disciples.

The soon to be Messiah humbles himself in love to the form of the lowest servants of that day and age. Jesus washes His disciples' feet.

(Read John 13:1-17)

(Have the group wash each others' feet. The leaders (guides) should be the starting example.)

(Leaving emphasis on the foot-washing experience, partake of the body and the blood in a traditional manner.)

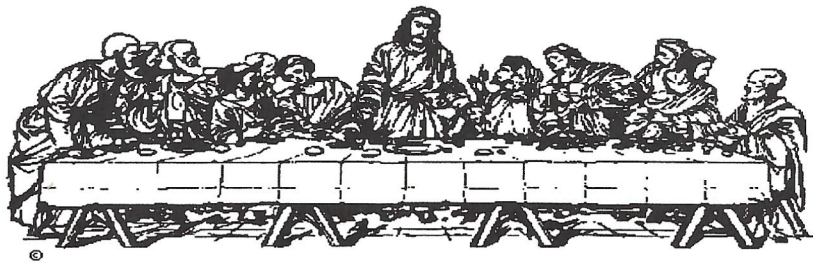
(Read one of the gospel account's of the Lord's Supper. Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-23)

(Focus on the fact that Christ gave His body for each one of us, individually, and that He willingly poured His blood out for our personal forgiveness of sins.)

(Emphasize this focus by personalizing the remembrance of Christ's example of partaking in the emblems of His body and blood...)

With the leaders (guides) being the example, have the campers take a piece of bread for someone else and not themselves. They would give this fragment to their brother/sister saying, "This is the body of Christ, sacrificed for you, (the other camper's name)." The camper would then return this act of servant-love to the initial camper.

This personal focus would continue with the fruit-of-the-vine. The campers would take the cup and offer it to someone else saying, "This is the blood of Christ, which He poured out for the forgiveness of (the



camper's name) sins." The camper would again return this covenant act to the initial camper.

(These example statements would only be a guide-phrase for the campers.)

This communion focus is written and suggested in a one-to-one style, but it could easily be done in a group style, passing it from person to person etc. It would take more time when done in a group style.)

(Read one of the gospel account's of the Lord's Supper. Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-22)

(Look at the pain, passion and emotion that Jesus endured before His sacrificial death for all mankind. Matthew 26:36-39, 67-68; Matthew 27:28-31; Mark 14:33-36, 15:16-20; Luke 23:60b-61)

(Use the chapter, "Alive," from Max Lucado's No Wonder They Call Him Savior as a dramatic listening presentation. Have the campers close their eyes and listen as the words of this chapter are read. (pp.113-15)

(Leaving emphasize on these moving words, partake of the bread and the fruit of the vine in a traditional manner.)



The fourth focus time would have the campers experiencing the cross in a different way. They would be given pieces of paper and asked to write down what "storm" or sin they would especially like or need Jesus to take away. The campers then take their paper and nail it to a "homemade" cross.

(Leaving emphasis on the cross-nailing experience, partake of the body and the blood in a traditional manner.)

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
SUNDAY NIGHT
THE STORM IS HERE**

OBJECTIVES

1. To continue to move the group closer together and build their trust.
2. To explore Job's faith.
3. To create a clear picture of what Faith is.

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

1. If you have repelled today, hold up a figure eight that you used and ask, "If this figure eight could have read your mind today during our reppelling, what would it say?" Pass the figure eight around and let anyone share who wants to.
2. What did you have to have faith in, in order to reppell today? What then s faith? What does it include? What are some other words for faith?
3. We are going to look at Job's faith tonight.

BIBLE STUDY

1. Read the first two chapters again.
2. Ask these questions:

>What three things did Job do when he heard the first round of bad news?

>How could Job worship God in the face of these terrible calamities?

>What does it mean, "Job did not sin by charging God with wrong doing?" What did he charge God with doing?

>What was his wife's motivation for trying to get Job to curse God?

>How would you describe Job's faith?

APPLICATION

Level 1. How much could you lose and still have faith in God? Things? Health? Family? Friends?

Level 2. Where did you get your faith? Is it your faith? What has to happen for you to find out how much faith you have?

Level 3. What storms have you experienced that have shown your faith to be true? What storms have wrecked your faith?

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
MONDAY NIGHT
DAMAGE ASSESSMENT**

OBJECTIVES

1. The group should be able to open and talk honestly by the end of this session.
2. To get the group to see the importance of doubting in the development of faith.
3. To study Job's doubts.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. Do the Sherpa Walk to the campfire.
>Go to each of the crew areas and blindfold the entire group. Tell them they are going to have to find the campfire while blindfolded.
>Take off the blindfolds of two of the crew members and instruct the group that two of their members are able to see, but they can't talk. Challenge the group to solve this problem.

2. After they have all gotten to the campfire ask these questions:
>How were you able to solve the challenge? What faith did it required to get here? Did you have any doubts about making it? How did your doubts cause you to act?
>Did you have any doubts along the trail today?
>What were some of the things you wondered about today? Did you wonder how far it was to camp? Did you ever wonder if you were on the right trail? Did you think that you might not make it?

3. Job also had a lot of doubts. Tonight we are going to study Job's doubts and what became of them.

BIBLE STUDY

1. Read chapter 3.
2. Ask these questions:
>What is Job doubting about?
>Why does he wish that he was never born?
>How are doubts good? Does God condemn Job for his doubts? Will he condemn us if we doubt?
>Is it dishonest to ignore doubts?

APPLICATION

Level 1. If you could ask God one question what would it be?

Level 2. What kind of things do you have doubts about? What do you do when you have a doubt?

Level 3. Have you ever asked God, "Why me?" Have you ever wished that you were never born?

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
TUESDAY SOLO TIME
IN THE EYE**

OBJECTIVES

1. To give our young people an opportunity to be quiet and know God.
2. To teach how to have quiet time.
3. To get them to emotionally relate to Job.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. How often do we have a chance to spend four uninterrupted hours in quiet time?
2. Why is it important to be quiet before God?
3. Have those share, who have done this before, the benefits of doing it.

BIBLE STUDY

1. Have the trekkers take the condensed version of Job and read each section before they read the chapters that it goes with. Have them read the whole book.
2. Have the trekkers note specific statements that are meaningful to them and why?

APPLICATION

1. At the end of Solo time have everyone come back and share their statements with the group.
2. Have them share how they feel about Job, the man and the book.

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
TUESDAY NIGHT
IN THE EYE**

OBJECTIVES

1. To have the trekkers understand the importance of having friends that can help you in the storm.
2. To teach some do's and don'ts about comforting each other.
3. To get them to see the false theology of Job's friends and how they often have the same theology.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. Appreciation Stone.
>Find an appreciation stone and show it to the group. Tell them that this stone allows them to share an appreciation with someone in the group, free of charge. Begin by throwing the stone to someone and telling why you appreciate them. Have them pick the stone to someone else and tell why they appreciate them.
2. After everyone has been appreciated, collect the stone and ask these questions:
>What did it feel like to be appreciated? What did it feel like to not be appreciated?
>Why don't we appreciate each other without the stone? Does it cost us a lot to give appreciation?
3. Job had four friends that appreciated him and decided to come help Job out. Tonight we are going to explore their comfort.

BIBLE STUDY

1. Read Job 2:11-13
2. Ask these questions:
>Were the intentions of the three friends good? What did they intend? Did they really care about Job?
>What did they do when they saw Job? Why did they sit there for seven days without speaking? Who spoke first?
>What were they trying to get Job to do? What had they assumed about Job?
>What was wrong with their theology? What was right about their theology? Before Job experienced all his troubles, do you think he believed the same way they did? (Check Job 12:5 and Job 19:5)
>What did the fourth friend, Elihu, have to say about Job? Is his point right?
>What did God tell the three friends to do in the end? Check Job 42:7-9.

APPLICATION

- Level 1. Tomorrow as we climb the summit who do you think you will be?
>Job - you suffer a lot.
>The three friends - you think others deserve what they get because they aren't in shape.
>Elihu - You think all pain is to make us better.
>God - You are always right.
>Job's wife - You complain a lot.
>Somebody else?
- How are our true friends like the eye of a storm? Do you have friends that are "eyes?" Share who they are and how they help.
- Level 2. Have you ever wondered what was wrong with you to deserve the problems you have? What should you do when you see someone else suffering? How do you honor them with your silence?
- Level 3. Have you ever tried to comfort someone who was really suffering? What happened?

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
WEDNESDAY NIGHT
THE AFTERMATH**

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that God is seen in the storms of life. To get the trekkers to look for God.
2. To show how the climb is like life with it's triumphs and tragedies.
3. To show what Job learned from God.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. Where did you see God today?
2. Was it worth the pain to see God?

BIBLE STUDY

1. Read parts of Job 38-42:6.
2. Ask these questions:

>Where is Job's peak?

>What point is God making to Job by asking him all these questions? Did God ever answer Job's questions? Did God ever explain why all the bad happened to him? How did God just say trust me?

>How did seeing God in the storm change Job?

>What did Job mean by saying in Job 42:5, 6, "My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore, I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes." What did he repent of?

>Do you think that Job thought it all was worth it to see God? Do you think Job thought it was worth it before he got his stuff back?

>Why do you think God gave all his stuff back and even more?

APPLICATION

Level 1. What is your God able to do that causes you to put your faith in Him?

Level 2. What if tomorrow when we get back we find out that everything is gone? What would be your feelings? What would you do?

Level 3. When have you seen God in the storms of your life? What did He look like? Has God ever said, "Trust me" to you?

**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
THURSDAY NIGHT
LOOKING FOR THE NEXT STORM**

OBJECTIVES

1. To have a time when there is real opportunity and atmosphere for confession.
2. To help the Trek experience go home with the trekkers.
3. To have an opportunity to comfort each other.

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

1. All week encourage the trekkers to pick up a rock from somewhere along the way that represents a storm in their lives and their need to find the eye.
2. Build up all week to this sharing time.

APPLICATION

1. Have the group share, as they are moved to, their stone and their storm.
2. Take as long as it needs, respecting each other with silence and patience.
3. Comfort those who need it and follow up with the commitments that are made.
4. Allow the Spirit to do his work at this time.