



Young boys spending quality time  
with their dads and other Christian men



## **Tree Climbers**

**For boys in 1st and 2nd grade and their fathers**

### **WHAT WILL TREE CLIMBERS DO FOR YOUR CHURCH?**

Running a Tree Climbers ministry offers several benefits. Your church will:

- Encourage fathers to be involved with their children and the church
- Provide Christian role models to primary age boys at a critical stage of their development
- Offer an evangelistic outreach to fathers and boys in the community
- Prepare both men and boys for leadership and involvement in other ministries

### **WHAT IS TREE CLIMBERS ALL ABOUT?**

If you want to empower men to speak into the lives of first and second grade boys, Tree Climbers is for you! Tree Climbers is designed to engage men in becoming spiritual fathers to their sons and to boys without dads in their lives. This weekly adventure offers men the opportunity to spend dynamic, profitable time teaching boys God's Word.

Tree Climbers is for kids and for men! It's an investment that will pay rich dividends for years to come.

### **WHAT DO WE DO IN TREE CLIMBERS?**

Simple projects and games help men and boys build relationship in a fun, comfortable atmosphere. Relationship along with memorization and life application of God's Word facilitates discipleship, creating a growth experience for both the men and the boys. The key word in Tree Climbers is simplicity. A program for young boys and busy men should be uncomplicated and easy to operate.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IN A TREE CLIMBERS MEETING?**

Tree Climber guide books offer simple meeting plans to help men implement this dynamic process. Each of the lessons offer specific emphasis on spiritual development and a nature theme. The theme ties the elements of the meeting together.

Equip dads and other men to spend quality time with young boys exploring creation and growing closer to God.

Fun Themes build bridges into God's Word.

Clear Spiritual Objective keeps men intentional about discipleship.

Scripture Memory and Bible discussion is designed to empower men in practical discussion of God's Word with their sons and other boys.

Options add Flexibility to your planning.

**DISCOVERY 1**  
**We Ask God for Help**  
**ROCKS**

**Unit Aim**  
To recognize that our help comes from God—we can pray to him who cares for us.

**Scripture Memory**  
Your Tree Climber will memorize verses about prayer and God's help during the next four sessions. You are a vital example to your Tree Climber. Show him how important learning Scripture is. Plan to give him multiple opportunities to hear and speak the words from the Bible. Talk about what Scripture means. If you do this consistently, your Tree Climber will eagerly learn Bible verses and you can guide him to put it into practice.

**Learning Bible Verses**  
Help your Tree Climbers learn Scripture by making it fun, easy and meaningful. We'll suggest some ways you can do this on these unit introduction pages. Repetition is important for 6 and 7 year olds. Quote the verse and reference as you welcome them to this first meeting. Mention it as you move from one activity to the next.  
During Woody's Checkup, read the verse out loud two or three times. Then, say the first word and ask your Tree Climber to repeat it. Say the second and ask him to repeat it. Continue this through the verse. Then say two or three words and have him repeat those. Finally, quote the whole verse and see if he can too.  
As the children leave, give each the first Discovery overview page from his Tree Climbers Activity Packet.

**Dads Demonstrate**  
Throughout the next four sessions, take turns as dads sharing personal experiences about how you have needed God's help. What answers to prayer do you like to share with the kids?

**Optional Activities**  
1. Find out if it is possible to tour a museum, or cave in your area.  
2. Contact a local geologist.

Welcome time offers a comfortable way to transition everyone into the formal meeting.

Games are a great way to burn off energy, build relationships and grow physically and mentally. Boys and men alike enjoy a good challenge and teamwork.

**We Ask God for Help**  
Unit Aim: To recognize that our help comes from God—we can pray to him who cares for us.

**1 WEEK**  
Adventure Verse:  
Psalm 4:3  
The Lord will hear when I call to him.

**Woody's Welcome!**  
Welcome everyone. Show the Rocks sticker for this Adventure and introduce the theme.  
An Alabama woman named Mrs. Hodges woke up one morning in 1954 feeling bruised. When she glanced at the floor, she noticed an unusual rock. Then she looked up to see a hole in her roof!  
Rocks from outer space, which are known as meteorites, enter the earth's atmosphere at the rate of 24 million every year! But out of those only that actually hit the earth, only 2000 are very large. The largest meteor of all time weighed a staggering 100 tons!

**Woody's Games!**  
**Rock Slide** Assign everyone a "rock number" and have them sit on chairs in a circle. One person is "it" and hikes around the chairs. Whenever he chooses, he calls out three rock numbers, such as, "Rocks 3, 6, 7!" The players with those numbers scramble to sit in an unoccupied chair. Meanwhile, "it" scurries to sit in a chair before anyone else gets there. If "it" calls, "Rock Slide!" everyone must switch chairs. Whoever doesn't get into an open chair becomes the next "it."  
**Happy Handful Relay** Use two tables and two equal sets of objects. Players split in two teams and stand in relay lines. At the end of the room, set up two tables. On each table, place several objects. Make sure the objects are identical or very similar for both teams.  
The first player on each team runs to the table, picks up one object and returns to his team. The second player carries the object to the table, picks up a second object and returns to his team. The third player carries the third object and returns to his team. The fourth player carries the fourth object and returns to his team.

**Fun Crafts** break down barriers, helping men and boys build friendships. These relationships enable the discipleship process.

**God's Word** being memorized and applied is a core component of Tree Climbers discipleship. This time gives men the confidence to move beyond the superficial and helps men and boys apply God's Word to their lives.

**Physical Activity** helps young boys stay engaged. It is important to keep an active meeting.

**Story Time** is an interesting way to keep boys attention. Boys love a great story, and this time gives men a chance to gain confidence in teaching.

**Talking Points** make it easy to discuss the life lesson of the story and make it relevant to the boys.

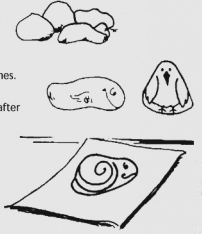


## Fun To Do!

### Paperweights

Provide stones of various sizes, paper towels, acrylic paints & brushes. Stencils optional.

1. Wash and dry the rock of your choice. Think of what to paint after looking at its size and shape. Be creative.
2. You can outline a picture of a bird or animal on the stone, paint an abstract design on it or, use a stencil to put designs on your stone.
3. Fill in the picture by painting in your designs with the acrylic paint.
4. After it dries, it's ready!



## Woody's Checkup

Memorize Psalm 4:3 for this session. Use these discussion questions once you have memorized it.

1. What does it mean to "call on" the Lord?
2. When do you need to ask the Lord for help?
3. What would be a hard time for you to remember that God will hear you? Explain why.



## Woody's Stretch

**Indoor Scavenger Hunt** Provide several objects with numbered tags plus one pencil and one list of objects per player.

Give each player a pencil and a list of common objects that are found in the room where the game is being played. Tag each with a number ahead of time.

The goal is to locate all objects on the list and write their numbers next to their names. The first person to find all the objects and records the correct number for each object wins.



## The Miracle Stones

by Doug Peterson

It was almost midnight and Barney McCullers was still at the Iron Horse Inn. He sat at a small table examining rocks that he pulled from a sack.

"Don't you have anything better to do than stare at silly rocks?" asked the innkeeper. "It's a dumb hobby if I ever heard of one," said a man at the other end of the room—a large, greedy man who was slurping up spoonfuls of soup.

"Rocks aren't as dumb as you think," Barney said, rising to his feet. "I suppose you've never heard of the rocks that performed a miracle."

The innkeeper said "Nope," while the greedy man just laughed and said, "Miracle rocks? Give me a break, mister!"

So Barney pulled up a stool and told the tale:

Once there were three farmers who carried a sack of stones on the entire island.

"Your potatoes aren't as good as my corn!" said another farmer.

Both of them dashed home and gathered up as much potatoes and corn as they could carry. It isn't every day that you can contribute to an amazing meal like stone soup!

For the next four hours, the town was turned inside out with excitement. Everyone jumped into the act by preparing the finest food that they could.

They carried their food to the inn and then they began a meal of stone soup.

Turkey, chicken, dressing, gingerbread, spicy rice, stuffed green peppers, sausage, chocolate cake, English muffins, hot curried raisin bread, cucumber salad ... people shared and laughed and ate and ate, and there were twelve baskets of food remaining when the feast finally ended.

"That's the end of my story," said Barney McCullers as he sat back down and began sorting through his bag of stones.

"That's it?" said the greedy man with the

everywhere they went. Nobody would give them food. Nobody would help, for the townsfolk kept their food and friendliness to themselves.

That's when the sailors had an idea. "I know what we can eat!" shouted the first sailor. He stood in the center of town and shouted loud enough so that the townsfolk could hear. "Let's eat stone soup!"

Several townsfolk looked baffled as the sailors proceeded to collect rocks and pile them in an old, discarded pot. Right there in the center of town, they set a campfire to begin to roast the stones.

"Stone soup?" said a townsfolk who approached the sailors.

"That's the miracle?"

"That was the miracle?" Barney echoed. "Those sailors entered a town where people wouldn't provide food to anyone if their life depended on it. But it only took a few simple stones to excite their imagination. It only took a few stones to inspire them into helping like they never had before. To me, that is one fantastic miracle!"

The greedy man paused and thought about this for awhile. "I guess you're right," he finally said. Then he laughed, snapped a finger and shouted, "Innkeeper! Dish up a bowl of soup for my friend with the rock collection. The treat is on me!"

And so, another miracle had occurred.

### Talking about it

1. What did the people on the island have that they didn't want to give to the sailors?
2. Why didn't they want to help them?
3. What can we remember from Psalm 4:3 about the Lord's help?
4. Recite Psalm 4:3 together. "The Lord will hear when I call to him."

Give each Tree Climber the first page of the Activity Packet. Encourage them to show their families which items people shared to make the soup as they tell them the story.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN CSB MINISTRIES.

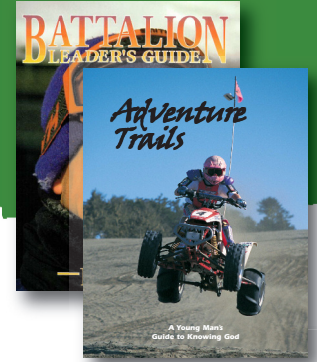
CSB Ministries has been partnering with churches, equipping men to mentor boys toward a Biblical worldview for over 75 years. Our flexible tools and male-oriented formats provide men with a platform to successfully engage young men and boys in discipleship. Action-packed group activities and individual projects drive the journey toward Biblical manhood.

Be sure to check out the other discipleship programs offered by CSB Ministries.

## BATTALION

For men leading young men grades 7-12

Battalion's action-based process helps men meet the energy demands of teen guys while engaging them in a journey of spiritual growth and leadership development. Award patches and medals are available to represent each step of accomplishment.



## TREKS

For men discipling primary and middle school aged boys

Treks' flexible series of guides equip men to disciple boys through the strong use of activity-driven object lessons tied directly to the study of Biblical principles and scripture. It can flex as a guide for a father at home as well as a group of men discipling boys in the church and/or community.



For men leading boys grades 3-6

Men engage boys in discipleship which includes fun activity-based group meetings as well as one-on-one discipleship and skill development. Award patches are available to represent steps of accomplishment.



Additional information can be found on our website: [www.CSBministries.org](http://www.CSBministries.org) • [www.CSBministries.ca](http://www.CSBministries.ca)



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