

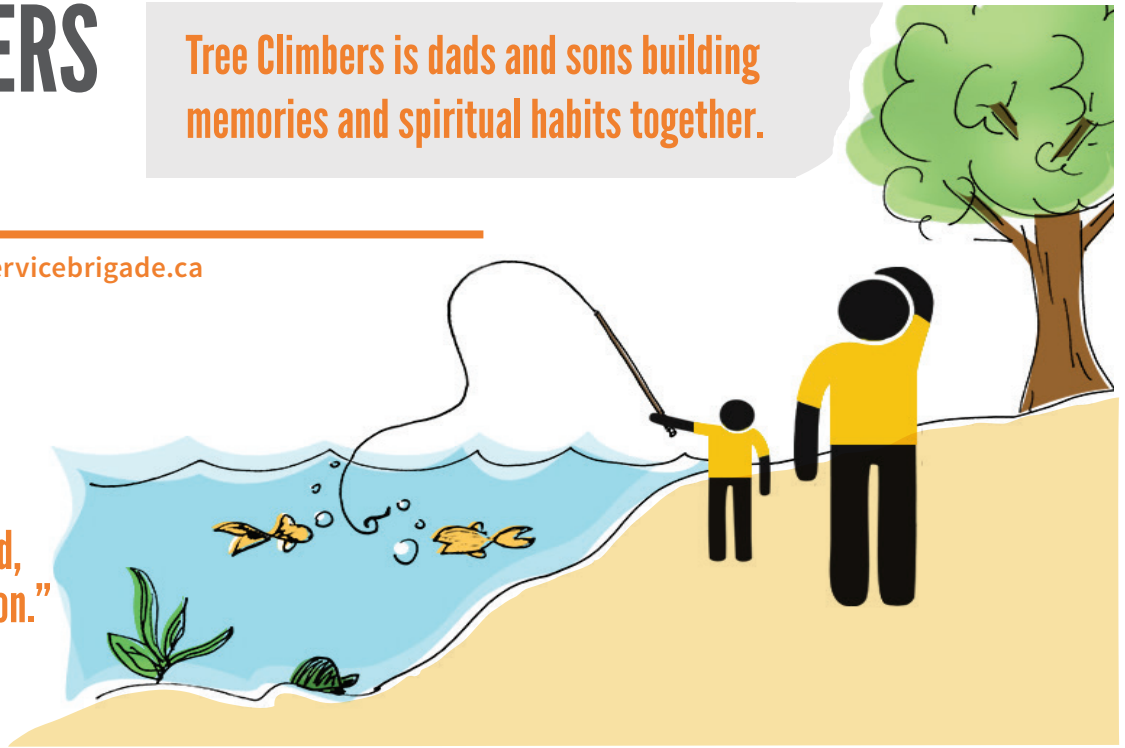
TREE CLIMBERS OVERVIEW

Tree Climbers is dads and sons building memories and spiritual habits together.

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“Godly men taking responsibility to serve, lead, and disciple each generation.”



TREE CLIMBERS is Fathers and Sons, Men and Boys

Boys need their dad and Tree Climbers brings intentionality to meeting this need. Tree Climbers provides the context for a weekly engagement of a dad being involved in his son's life, building a strong relationship between them. For the fatherless boy a grandfather or another man in the church is matched with the boy. Tree Climbers allows men to learn together with other men in the raising of their sons.

TREE CLIMBERS is Fun Activities

Games, projects and stories form the core of the meeting; all of which is tied to a Biblical theme. Each week men and boys go on an adventure together to explore and discover the beauty and wonder that is God's Creation.

TREE CLIMBERS is Learning Spiritual Habits

Through age-appropriate materials dads and sons develop the spiritual habits of prayer, Bible reading and fellowship. These habits will serve both father and son for a lifetime of practical Christian living. Tree Climbers equips men with the tools to instill God's Word in their sons' hearts.

TREE CLIMBERS is THE First Step

Tree Climbers is just the beginning of a 14-year discipleship track where godly men invest in a boy as he journeys from boyhood to manhood. Tree Climbers is the beginning of the boy's life-long journey of pursuing Christ. Dads are invited to join their son as he moves on to the Stockade program and beyond.



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 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 lapidary group.

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.

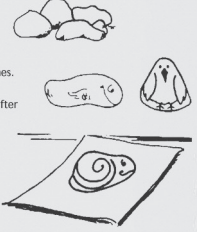


Fun To Do!

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.

1. 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.
2. The goal is to locate all objects on the list and write their numbers next to their names.
3. 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 his tale:

Once there were three sailors who had been at sea for a long time. They were hungry and had no food.

"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 to eat. The meal was so good that it had begun as a meal of stones.

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 and began to roast the stones.

"Stone soup?" said a townsfolk who approached the sailors. "What are you doing?"

"We're making a piece of stone soup," Barney said. "What'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.



A 15-year Discipleship Path

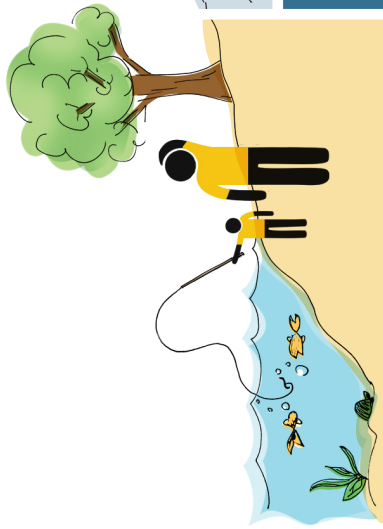
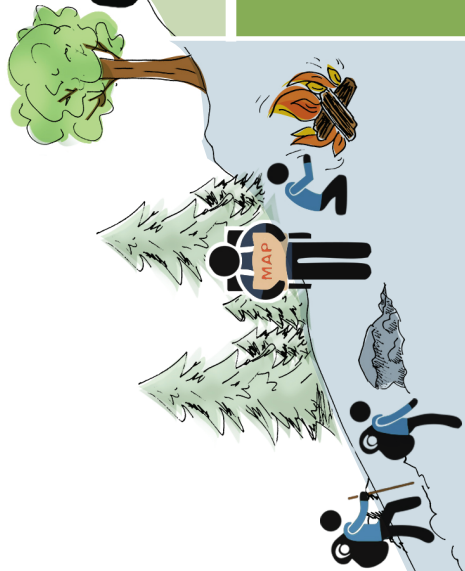
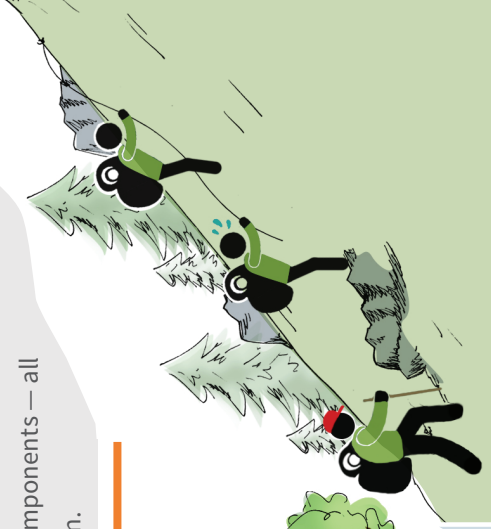
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Godly men taking responsibility to serve, lead, and disciple each generation.

- Action-Focused
- Relational
- Single-Gender
- Comprehensive
- Flexible

Core Program Elements include:

Games, Action-Focused Activities, Engaging Stories, Personal Achievements, Leadership Development and Group Discipline components — all designed to help Men Disciple the Next Generation.



HERALD OF CHRIST:

HoC SETS A BIBLICAL STANDARD OF
GODLY MANHOOD
HoC is CSB'S PINNACLE
RECOGNITION
HoC LEADS TO INFLUENCING THE
WORLD FOR CHRIST
HoC is A DISCIPLESHIP PATH



BATTALION: Grades 7-12

Battalion is MEN
Battalion is YOUNG MEN
Battalion is LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
Battalion is SERVICE
Battalion is BECOMING A GODLY MAN



STOCKADE: Grades 3-6

Stockade is LARGE GROUP
Stockade is SMALL GROUP
Stockade is ONE-ON-ONE
Stockade is MENTAL, PHYSICAL,
SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL GROWTH



TREE CLIMBERS: Grades K-2

TC is FATHERS AND SONS
TC is FUN ACTIVITIES
TC is LEARNING SPIRITUAL HABITS
TC is the FIRST STEP

