

MisSion CriTikal

#14 – Mission Quartet

Daenum noticed that three teens from the village were coming to the Story Spot each Sunday afternoon quite regular. More than that, occasionally one or two of them would take brief tours of the Mission Critikal site, being respectful of all the things in the area. There were even moments when the teens would just hang around the area after all the younger Story Spot youth had returned to their homes. Dae saw the opportunity, and acted.

He arranged with the three teen regulars to meet with them before noon the following Sunday. In the tent at the prearranged time the three teens met with Dae and Lenny. The four teens sat on the ground facing Dae, a teen himself.

Dae held up a small cardboard box for each of them to clearly see. He specifically showed each teen a different side of the same box. He then asked each teen to describe 'his side of the box'.

Because each side had different markings, each of the descriptions was a little different. He then asked the teens which of their different descriptions was correct. The four agreed that all the descriptions were correct. In fact, adding the descriptions together actually gave a better description of the box.

Dae put that box on the ground behind him and picked up another small box with a different word on each of the sides of this new box. The first word was KING. The second was an OX. The third was MAN and the fourth was EAGLE. The teens easily agreed the best description of that box would include the four words on its sides. The KING side was assigned to Ben. The OX side was assigned to Andy. The MAN side was assigned to Ian and the fourth side to Lenny.

Like a quiz program, Dae made a fast response game with the teen quartet as to their word to remember – king, ox, man, and eagle. Dae looked at Ben and said, “Ben, pretend you're a king. You're mostly interested in important people and the powerful ways they act around others. OK? You're a pretend king.” Next Dae looked at Andy and explained, “Andy, you're an ox. An ox is a powerful animal used to do farming and pull carts of people and things to places they need to go. Ya got it, Andy? You're an ox – a powerful servant to others.” Andy nodded that he understood that

he was an ox – a servant that helped get important things done.

Dae spoke to Ian saying, “Ian, you're a man. I mean, you're pretending you are a perfect man. That takes some pretending, doesn't it?” he said with a slight grin. Next, he told Lenny, “Lenny, you're an eagle with powerful eyesight always flying around in a beautiful blue sky, watching all that goes on, beneath him, on the ground. With that, Dae quizzed each teen. They were required to explain their object and why they were important.

“Each of your descriptions of the king, ox, man, and eagle sides of the box helps us to understand more about the box, right?” After a pause, Dae held up the box in front of Ben, Andy, Ian, and Lenny and said, “OK, now. I want you to think of the box with these four sides as a person – one single person. So that as you describe your four sides and the associated object, you're actually describing a person; a very important person. In fact, the most important person the world knows anything about.”

“OK. We're going to associate a person's name to each of the four objects and then the name of the box. Ya with me?” All four teens nodded yes.

“Ben, you're the king. The name you'll remember is Matthew. Andy, you're the ox – the servant. The name you'll remember is Mark. Ian, you're the perfect man. The name you are to remember is Luke. And Lenny, you're the eagle with great vision. The name you should remember is John.”

Dae did the quick response quizzing again, to test the names each teen needed to remember with their object. The teens all had fun with the quizzing.

Ian spoke up with, “Well we each got the name and object for each of the four sides. Tell us the name connected with the box. Who do these four objects describe.” Dae responded with, “That's a great question. The answer is – God's own Son, Jesus Christ. Just like the four sides of the box, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John wrote a whole book describing their way of seeing Jesus Christ. We'll see more of this quartet next week. OK?”

What description of Jesus Christ, would you write?