

UP Working Teens

series ©

presents



Students, Silver Hair,
and Shunned Scripture

An Eduventure

Leader Guide
Book 2

Digging Heaven's Diamonds

1 4 4 5 8 7 1 2 3 6 9 8 7 4 5
 2 1 4 7 8 9 6 3 2 5 8 7 4 1 2
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Comfort of the Scriptures

22 __ 0 64 __ 0
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Nuggets in Num. 26

Words are hidden
 in all directions.
 Answers and more
 puzzles are at:

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Nuggets in Numbers Chap. 26

Every place you look in scripture there are nuggets more valuable than anything you'd take to an assayer. Dig rich lessons to be learned, in 'shunned scripture' like Jewish family trees etc. Let's dig some together... right now.

Turn to the 26th. chapter of the Old Testament book of Numbers. Hey! This was inspired by God too!

Here we'll see the numbers of the 12 tribes and their totals. Remember that the word "score" equals 20. We see, the total of each tribe is written grammatically. Example: Total of Reuben's tribe was 43730 (verse 7) Next fill in that number in the right place of the puzzle list. Repeat those steps for all 12 tribes listed in chapter 26.

Now the frosting on the cake; Add up all the tribes totals for the grand total. Next, see if your grand total matches the grand total also listed in chapter 26. The point is that as Moses penned the book of Numbers, he had bad-hair days just like you and I. If he had written the book without God's inspiration, I bet the numbers wouldn't add up right and therefore wouldn't match the grand total. Wouldn't Satan have a field day with that?!

So the real nugget here, is that God and His protective hand is everywhere His servants are trying to do their best for Him -- even through those bad-hair days. Did I mention He even has the hairs on our head numbered?

The first few verses of the chapter explain these numbers were just a portion of the whole nation of folks like you and I that struggle to please the one in whose image we are fashioned. God knows you and I just like He knows the names of all the stars.

Share the puzzle with others, and remind them that Jesus would still have shed His blood on the Cross for each one. He did that because He knows how wonderful Heaven is, and how indescribably terrible Hell is. Reach out to those around you, and get them into Heavens book of Life and Love. {end}

Introduction

Zeb's every muscle screamed to rescue these young lives and down deep attitudes to the Glory of God with the same zeal as do the trucks and teams and ear bursting sirens. His loving words made up

no pep talk or spotlight speech. Peace, comfort, and purpose are found by the mop room kids in the seemingly annoying repetitious words of **Numbers**, the 4th book of the Bible.

If you are one who easily shuns reading these portions of God's Precious Word... you'd better keep reading...



by
James Curtis

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ReachingYouth.net ChurchKids.org

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Its author, websites, and publishers shall be held blameless for any harm – physical or intellectual, real or imaginary by the reading or construction mentioned on these pages.

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Digging Heaven's Diamonds

7 4 4 1 8 5 2 5 2 6 3 7 5 6 5
6 3 0 7 4 1 8 5 2 9 6 3 7 8 9
4 5 6 0 1 2 3 7 4 1 0 0 0 0 4
1 4 1 8 1 5 5 2 9 6 3 5 2 4 1
7 4 8 5 4 8 9 6 4 5 6 4 7 8 9
8 0 6 4 5 9 0 0 7 2 6 4 5 6 4
5 1 0 0 6 7 5 1 2 5 9 6 3 2 3
5 0 0 4 3 5 4 0 0 5 0 4 6 7 5
6 7 4 1 6 5 1 0 5 5 5 9 6 4 5
6 1 2 3 7 8 5 4 0 1 8 5 9 6 3
4 5 6 1 2 1 1 0 3 3 7 8 9 4 5
6 1 2 3 4 5 6 5 0 7 9 4 1 8 5
2 6 3 7 8 4 9 4 5 2 6 5 1 2 3
8 5 2 9 7 6 3 5 8 2 2 4 1 7 8
9 4 5 6 1 2 3 1 2 7 4 3 1 5 8

Comfort of the Scriptures

10 ___ 0 53 ___ 0
15 ___ 0 54 ___ 0
15 ___ 0 57 ___ 0
18 ___ 0 59 ___ 0
32 ___ 0 60 ___ 0
35 ___ 0 62 ___ 0
40 ___ 0 74 ___ 0
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Nuggets in Num. 2

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Nuggets in Numbers Chap. 2

Every place you look in scripture there are nuggets more valuable than anything you'd take to an assayer. Dig out rich lessons to be learned, in 'shunned scripture' like Jewish family trees etc. Let's dig some together...right now.

Turn to the second chapter of the Old Testament book of Numbers. Hey! This was inspired by God too!

Here we'll see the numbers of the 12 tribes and their totals and subtotals. Remember that the word "score" equals 20. We see here, to total of each tribe written grammatically. Example: Total of Reuben's tribe was 46500 (verse 11) Next fill in that number in the right place of the puzzle list. Repeat those steps for all 12 tribes listed in chapter 2. Then keep the aspirin bottle handy as you search for the key numbers in the puzzle.

Now the frosting on the cake; the nugget is in verse 32. The point is that as Moses penned the book of Numbers, he had bad-hair days just like you and I. If he had written the book without God's inspiration, I bet the numbers wouldn't add up right and therefore match the total. Wouldn't Satan have a field day with that?!

So the real nugget here, is that God and His protective hand is everywhere His servants are trying to do their best for Him -- even through those bad-hair days.

Notice the corresponding counts in chapter 1. Their subtotals (North, South, East, & West) all add up to verse 32 AND ALSO chapter 1 grand total in verse 46. We can depend on the accuracy of scripture, even in 'boring' numbers of the book of Numbers. I love the Old Testament.

Share the puzzle with others, and remind them that Jesus would still have shed His blood on the Cross for each one. He did that because He knows how wonderful Heaven is, and how indescribably terrible Hell is. Reach out to those around you, and get them into Heavens book of Life and Love. {end}

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Digging Heaven's Diamonds

7 4 4 1 8 5 2 3 5 2 6 4 3 4 7
 5 6 5 6 3 0 0 7 2 6 7 1 0 4 1
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 5 8 2 9 6 3 7 8 6 9 5 6 1 2 3

Comfort of the Scriptures

32 __ 0 60 ___ 0
 35 __ 0 62 __ 0
 40 __ 0 74 __ 0
 41 __ 0
 45 __ 0
 46 __ 0
 53 __ 0
 54 __ 0
 57 __ 0
 59 __ 0

Nuggets in Num. 1

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Nuggets in Numbers Chap. 1

Every place you look in scripture there are nuggets more valuable than anything you'd take to an assayer. Dig rich lessons to be learned, in 'shunned scripture' like Jewish family trees etc. Let's dig some together... right now.

Turn to the first chapter of the Old Testament book of Numbers. Hey! This was inspired by God too!

Here we'll see the numbers of the 12 tribes and their totals. Remember that the word "score" equals 20. We see, the total of each tribe is written grammatically. Example: Total of Reuben's tribe was 46500 (verse 21) Next fill in that number in the right place of the puzzle list. Repeat those steps for all 12 tribes listed in chapter 1.

Now the frosting on the cake; Add up all the tribes totals for the grand total. Next, see if your grand total matches the grand total also listed in chapter 1. The point is that as Moses penned the book of Numbers, he had bad-hair days just like you and I. If he had written the book without God's inspiration, I bet the numbers wouldn't add up right and therefore wouldn't match the grand total. Wouldn't Satan have a field day with that?!

So the real nugget here, is that God and His protective hand is everywhere His servants are trying to do their best for Him -- even through those bad-hair days. Did I mention He even has the hairs on our head numbered? The first few verses of the chapter explain these numbers were just a portion of the whole nation of folks like you and I that struggle to please the one in whose image we are fashioned. God knows you and I just like He knows the names of all the stars. Share the puzzle with others, and remind them that Jesus would still have shed His blood on the Cross for each one. He did that because He knows how wonderful Heaven is, and how indescribably terrible Hell is. Reach out to those around you, and get them into Heavens book of Life and Love. {end}

8- The Business of Belly-Aching

The sign surprised the fire house mop room gang of a dozen or so teens as they began arriving for their usual Thursday afternoon meeting. The sign, painted by Ol' Zeb, said "Kids-Only Job Signup."

Every meeting is always opened in the same way, a prayer praising God for all His good gifts and His teaching us how to recognize and use them. Ol' Zeb rubbed his hands together in excitement and said, "Today may be the most important lesson we've studied so far. Can anyone guess where in the Bible we're going to find the lesson?" A couple faint chuckles and Nancy, "Buddy you always teach us lessons that are hiding in Numbers. You told us it was like mining diamonds just below the surface that we'll need to dig just a bit." Nancy got another hand clap from her silver-haired teacher.

He began, "At first I was going to call this lesson 'The business of belly-aching'." He grinned just a bit. Zeb continued, "For some time now, I've been hearing some of you talking about your parents having trouble finding jobs and about the possibility of them getting a business lay-off. But that makes more questions about where the food money, gasoline, and clothes money is going to come from. Parents sometimes talk about loosing the house or car, though they won't say anything about it to you."

"Boys and girls, the Bible gives us evidence from cover to cover that God has a plan. Secondly, He's right on schedule, He's never had to hold an emergency meeting, put out life boats or call in reinforcements. And you can be sure He has all the supplies and things needed to do the job. God's

own Son, Jesus Christ even said once, ‘I must be about My Father’s business’.”

“Well, some Bible scholars say that Numbers is just soaked with Israelite moaners and murmurers. But worse of all, it was mostly aimed at God. Now gang, can you see trouble coming? If there was any group of people that needed to be the most thankful to God, it was Israel. They could have, and should have, spent every day teaching their families all the miracles God has done for them especially.”

“But see, we start taking for granted all the many things God has given us, and then want more and more. God gave them Manna (bread from heaven) to eat but soon they were not satisfied and wanted ‘flesh’ - we would say ‘meat’ to eat. There was so much complaining to Moses that God gave him 70 leaders to help. They complained about water and God had Moses strike the rock and out came enough water for everybody and all the animals too.”

Zeb continued, “Now I’m showing you all this to say a couple things. #1 God can provide for our needs and does. #2 Be careful when you moan about family issues and God’s provision for you. God may very well take it personal. Let’s read chapter 14 verses 2, 3, and 4.”

And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

do it. I have been a Christian for many years and love nothing more than telling others, especially young people, about God's peace, protection, and provision.

I've been hurting a lot lately since I heard about your mop room mission station. I want to begin one like it here in my house, or at least on my large veranda... my big porch. I have super severe back problems and have to remain in bed almost entirely. But I still want to share my inside joy in the Lord with others who are hurting on the inside because they've never learned of God's love for each of us.

My aging husband doesn't speak hardly at all, since his stroke two years ago. But he said he could get some help to move my bed next to our big porch open window and we'd share God's goodness to boys and girls. Bert, that's my husband, has already rounded up about half a dozen old bibles we and some of his fishing buddies had laying around. It puts fire in what's left of these tired bones to think that God still has plenty for us to do, even with tired looking bibles and bodies that have plenty of hugs left. Bert and I have been really praying the Lord would send someone to help us start our own version of a mop room mission station.

Please send someone soon,

(signed) Verdy and Bert"

God Needs Humble Missionaries Right Where You Are.

End.

"Gang, did you notice the people directed their complaining against Moses and Aaron? Well, look at verse 27 of the same chapter."

How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

"God told them that when the Israelites complained to Moses and Aaron, they were actually complaining to God. There are many instances where God rained down pain and death on them for their murmuring."

"Even today, we need to be extremely careful that our complaining and moaning about our circumstances are not being taken by God. If we don't have the latest technical toy, fanciest dress, or expensive food, we'd better praise the Lord that He knows our needs."

"Here's the lesson and here's the job you kids need to be very careful about doing. You need to continually remind your parents or the grownups in your house to ASK God for things, but ABSOLUTELY NOT COMPLAIN about what God has already blessed you with."

"I like Matthew 7:7-11. Let me read it to you."

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

“Now gang, one of the bazillions of promises for us in God’s Word is a verse that tells us about the provisions He has given the Holy Spirit for us. You’ll want to spend some of your at-home quiet time to really dig the golden truths out of it. It’s found in Ephesians 3:29.”

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

“God has provided for our safety and needs that can barely be described by the two words, ‘*exceeding abundantly*’. These two words about God’s provision for us can also be said as ‘super-super abundantly’. Young people, never ever let Satan tell you that you are alone with no one to help or protect you. The Lord is caring for you with both hands. The evidence is the scars in those hands put there when He was nailed on the cross for our sins.”

9- Kid Clay and Jealousy

They never knew what ol’ Zeb was up to as the “mop Room Gang” of a dozen or so early teen boys and girls took their seats on the bench. Sure there were several neat things the gang learned each Thursday afternoon. But the real reason they excitedly returned was comforting truths that Zeb showed them from a rather obscure book in the Old Testament called Numbers.

No sooner had the opening welcome, prayer, and announcements were finished than Zeb stood as tall as he could, in front of the gang. His explanation began, “in my left hand I hold one of my Sweet’s favorite glass elephants. And

movements? No. Not at all. Not ever. As we read God’s precious word each day, we should always be reminded of God’s leading in our lives and His protection as He does it. He can use a cloud, a pillar of fire, an angel, loved one, church leaders, the Holy Spirit, or best of all, His own Son Jesus Christ Himself.

12- Verdy’s Veranda

Something was wrong, seriously wrong, and Smokey the fire dog that hung out with Zeb and the whole fire house mop room gang knew it. It was Tuesday afternoon and Zeb, the gang’s silver haired leader was on his knees with his elbows resting on the bench between the two buckets the young teens sat on, every Thursday. Smokey sensed the stressed old man praying near him and frantically licked Zeb’s cheek like his tongue was trying to use dog talk to calm the old man. The big red tongue would send juicy reminders of the many lessons taught about God being in control and the provider of all our needs as we submit our will to His.

Near one of Zeb’s elbows on the bench was an opened letter from a lady named Verdy that lived in a small nearby town. If Smokey, with his tail wagging big time, could read human words and speak like Balaam’s donkey, he’d read us the letter as follows:

“ Dear Zeb Timkin,

I’m Verdy Samms and I live in a nearby county. I’ve heard loving words of your comfort you’ve shared with you fire house mop room gang there in Freedom on Thursday afternoons. I need to have you or someone teach me how you

clouds? Where did it come from? Who made it? Well, all the Israelites knew that God did. Why did He make it? The answer is to guide the His chosen nation through the wilderness and remind them that He is watching always. The same could be said about the column of a cloud that stood over the people through each day.”

Zeb told the teens, “The pillar of fire and the pillar of a cloud certainly were so majestic that man could never have created such miraculous objects. But gang, that’s only a part of the incredible thing about our God. You need to read some verses before and after verse 14 to see that God is really angry with His people for their disobedience to Him. The point is that even though at this moment, and many others, the people are stiff-necked and disobedient to what He wants, He STILL leads and protects them with the cloud and fire!”

Zeb slowly caressed his bible like he was smoothing the pages. If the truth be known, Zeb had been seeing a couple of the teens starting to touch their Bible’s in a caressing way. He said, “Gang, this just blesses my soul. God is showing us that He punishes disobedience but HE ALSO honors His promises of protection and leadership. Doesn’t that make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside? If that doesn’t bring comfort to you, you’ve not been listening.”

“The first part of a famous Old Testament verse in that same 14th chapter of Numbers in verse 18 Moses is reminding us:”

The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression,

Zeb asked the teen boys and girls, “As Christians, are we to hide under the covers when Satan comes knocking at our door? Are we to be distracted from God’s will for our lives by the warm glittering flames and their hypnotic

here in my right hand I hold a glob of clay that small children play with. I’ll hold both of them as high as I can stretch. One of these two I am going to drop to the floor.” Zeb asked each of the boys and girls that loved him and his Sweetie so much, which one he should drop. Every one of them said definitely the clay.

Monte was the most outspoken of the gang and piped up with, “Zeb – if you drop the clay it won’t break. You can still pick it up and mold it into anything you want. But if you drop Sweetie’s glass elephant it’ll shatter and be destroyed.” All the other youth agreed and said so.

The silver haired leader of the Mop Room Gang then asked, “Well why would the elephant shatter and the clay won’t? I mean my favorite coffee mug is made starting with clay too and I’m sure it would shatter just like the elephant.”

Norma shifted her weight in her wheel chair just a bit and said, “The clay has to still be soft. It has to be able to be shaped.” With a bit of a proud smile she told the gang, “We gotta always shape up or shatter!” Zeb excitedly slapped his leg and told Norma, “That’s a good one! I’ll have to remember always... “Always shape up or shatter.”

He dropped the soft clay with expected results. Smokey the fire dog shot over to the glob of clay and quickly decided it wasn’t on his menu. He returned to his usual listening spot near the pile of worn out fire boots.

“Gang, let’s turn to the book of Numbers to learn another principle of enjoying comfort as a Christian. We need to all go to chapter 16. Let’s read the first 4 verses.” Nancy read them as the gang followed along.

Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men: And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two

hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown: And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD? And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face:

Zeb then explained, “God had put Moses in charge of the nation of Israel with Aaron to help him. But Mr. Korah got 250 others to join him in going against Moses. The reason, pure and simple, was jealousy. God was so angry with Korah and his jealousy that He (God) told Moses to get all the people away from Korah’s tents because He was going to consume them. Bonnie, will you read verses 20 and 21 of Numbers 16?” She did.

“Well gang, the situation gets worse. A lot of the verses before the ones that Bonnie just read tell about Moses trying to change Korah’s mind and to ask God for forgiveness. But he never changed his mind; He remained stubborn and never changed his mind.”

“Boys and girls... let’s face it. Each of us sometimes make wrong choices. And we even get others to go along with us. But our God has a whole warehouse of forgiveness for us. But we must quickly confess to Him those wrong choices we’d made and ask for His precious forgiveness. You’ll know I take great comfort in knowing our God provides His forgiveness according to His written promises in this Bible and yours.”

Monte jumped in with, “But we gotta ASK for it. And mean it too, We gotta ask, believing, or terrible things can happen. Isn’t that right Zeb?” “The silver haired leader shook his head yes, and said, “Absolutely. And the quicker the

11- Night Lights and Security Blankets

Zeb started this Thursday’s lesson by passing around one of those small night lights you plug into the wall that automatically shuts off when the sun comes up. Each of the fire house mop room gang recognized it right away. Before he went any farther, he put on a sheepish grin and passed around a small child’s security blanket that had certainly seen better days.

The silver haired leader of the teens said, “I’ll not ask each of you to tell us if you sleep with a night light on or not. And I don’t think any of you still carry a security blanket. Actually, if I’m staying at a motel or a room I don’t usually stay in, it’s a little comforting to have a night light on. Now I’ll bet that most of us take some measure of comfort in pulling the covers up to our chin at night. I’ve even had days I’d pull those nighttime covers clear over my head.” Zeb confessed with a grin.

“I wasn’t the first one to think of it, but you could imagine that the Israelite nation had a night light and a security blanket like no other. Let’s read about it in Numbers 14:14.

And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.

“Now I don’t know exactly what these things looked like or how God made them, but He did. Could you ever imagine getting ready to go into your tent for the night and looking up to see a monstrous column of fire reaching to the

“It started out as just having something to do, until the unexpected happened. At the fire scene over on Johnson Street two months ago I had the Rehab Truck all set up. I was starting to make the second pot of coffee and make sure we had enough ice on hand, when Barbara, one of the Alpha team firefighters, climbed in the truck and removed her fire hat. She opened her coat and produced two small puppies that must have been about 3 weeks old, scared and shivering.”

“With Barbara’s help we found an empty box, and put in some clean rags for a warm bed,” Gary explained. Before Barbara picked up her fire hat to leave the Rehab truck, she turned to Gary and gave him a super hug and explained, “Gary, all of us are terribly grateful for you providing the Rehab Truck and the help you give. Since the rest of us are real busy with the emergency you care for us in very important ways. Gary, what makes you so special to us is that you put our burdens and pain above your own Arthritis pain.”

Gary told the gang that he went back to the box of scared pups wondering if Smokey the fire house mascot would be interested in lending a hand (I mean a paw) for the time being.

More than one of the gang asked how old they’d have to be to help. Sitting in her wheel chair Norma asked, “Gary is there something I could do for the Rehab Truck?” I can tell you that being a blessing to other needy folks in God’s name has lots of ways to happen.

better. Do you see gang that our jealousy can make us stiff-necked and stubborn kind of like my favorite coffee cup? We need to keep our hearts soft and willing to let God mold us like clay into people He can use to tell others about his warehouse bursting with Forgiveness.”

“Each of you turn to verses 31 thru 33. Ben, will you read them as we follow along?” He did.

And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

Zeb reinforced the truth that can bring comfort or destruction. With good eye contact, he told each of the gang that God clearly tells us how to obey Him. And He also knows that with our old nature inside us, we’ll want to be jealous and maybe even coax others to join us in dishonoring God. But God also offers us forgiveness as we confess our sin to Him and ask for forgiveness.

As you’d often see him do, Zeb caressed his Bible as the gang watched, saying, and “God provided His forgiveness plan in the form of His only Son Jesus Christ. Just like in the Old Testament sinful acts required a blood sacrifice. Well, Jesus willingly became our blood sacrifice once and for all, on the Cross of Calvary.”

10- Turning Burdens into Blessings

As the mop room gang of teens began filling up the little room they regularly met in, each Thursday, there was no sign of Zeb, their silver haired leader and teacher of fun Bible stuff. They were becoming a bit uneasy as the meeting began to start with still no Zeb.

The elderly gentleman with a wooden cane standing near the front of the group announced himself. “Hello to all of you. I’ve not met any of you yet, but I’m Gary Perkins and I’m in charge of the Rehab truck here at the Freedom Fire Station. I love the Lord and am always watching out for friends around me that can use my help.”

“When I heard that your leader Zeb had a cold and just wasn’t feeling too strong, I offered to be with you all today.” Rubbing his hands together excitedly, Gary said, “We’re going to have some real fun learning about our Lord and ourselves too. But first we need to thank the Lord for all His good gifts to us. Young man, will you begin us with prayer and be sure to ask God’s blessings on Zeb and also all the men and women that serve here at the fire house?”

“Before I tell you all about what I do, I want to get to know each of you better. I want each of you to tell me your name and what you like to do. And pretty please don’t say anything about watching TV or video games. OK. Let’s start with this young lady sitting in the wheel chair.” Each of the gang did as they were asked. When they were finished, the whole gang was surprised to hear the variety of interests.

“Now I want you all to follow me out to the Rehab truck and I’ll show you what my job is and the wonderful blessing it is to me.” Gary walked with some difficulty, even with the cane, toward the truck.

The Rehab truck was actually an old medium sized school bus that had been painted all white on the outside, with ‘Freedom Emergency Rehab Truck’ lettering on both sides. Each of the gang followed Gary into the truck and found places to sit down. Most of the seats toward the back were removed with shelves and counter space where they were. There were provisions for all sorts of needs, from a cot to lay on in that corner, pop, coffee, snacks, blankets, all along that wall above the electric generator. Wow. They seemed to have most everything.

Gary explained, “If you think about the fire and rescue teams that go to an emergency and may be there most of the day. They can become cold in the winter and real hot in summer. They need somewhere they can take a break, sit down, and relax with something to drink, or warm up in a blanket. Often times at a fire, there are children or family members that need to be kept out of the way of the fire fighters until relatives can come and get them. Quite often they need to hear comforting words that God knows all our needs.”

“That’s where the ‘Rehab’ part of the truck name comes from. It’s short for ‘Rehabilitate’, which means to ‘restore to good health often with therapy and education’.”

Gary got a real serious look on his face and said, “But that’s just part of the Rehab Truck story. I’m sure not a spring chicken and I have a great deal of Arthritis in most of my body. I used to spend many sad hours sitting at home and moaning about my aches and pains. And then one day at the senior center I heard a fireman tell how exhausting it is to climb ladders, struggle to hold powerful water hoses pointed where they should be, I decided their struggle was greater than my own and I was going to do what I could too,” Gary said as he clenched a fist in determination.