

CAMPING WITH JESUS

Devotion by Deeds (@mrcfuldeeds2010)

To be sure, I'm not a camper. To those who of you who are, and can truly live off of generators, limited plumbing, and fire-cooked meals, high five! I'm not one of you, but I salute and admire you. I'm more of a home body. I love being in the comfort of familiarity and order; not at the mercies of weather, woodlands, or creatures and critters. Being in my bed is far preferred to the "demotivated" air mattress or traveling blankets. My kitchen has everything I need to make a meal, and I like all my "insta" things more than grills and fire pans. There's too much iffy-ness about camping. Too much, "why doesn't this work?" and "don't touch that, it will bite!" and "it wasn't supposed to rain today."

I worry about having everything I need as I'm out navigating the unknowns and chancing the forecasts. On top of that nests the concern of, "will my kids have what they need?"

I can't imagine how Israel felt at the time of the Exodus.

Oh, the range of emotions they must have felt when they realized their groaning was heard; that their oppression was over! Oh, the plans they must have made for their future once freed from eating dust and toting straw! Can you imagine?

But the worries they must have had wandering through the vast unknown of the wilderness! There in the beginning stages of their trek into foreign territory, we read things like, "If only we had died...in the land of Egypt." (Exodus 16:3) Later records of their journeys show similar perspective: worry, concern, grief, and question.

Unknowns are everywhere. It's like I said before: camping is fattened with "iffies." Though I'm not a camper, I can relate to the Israelites. It's hard to admit: like the Israelites, I'm not full of trust in the middle of big, fat question marks!

However, it's in the wilderness that we gain a sense of our actual need and our good God's intentions for wandering.

In Philippians 4:19, Paul says, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." I've misinterpreted this verse before; somewhere along the lines of, "God will give us enough money for this thing," or "God will make sure we are warm this winter." As gracious as the Lord is in ALL He gifts us, He is much more concerned with our spiritual wellbeing than He is with our physical needs.

Israel was brought into their new desert home to learn how to "camp out" with God; to become familiar with His character; to enjoy His miraculous blessings, one after the next; to be conformed! God was going to fashion them as a people for Himself; as a child to a Father, and He'd never forsake them as their God.

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The Israelites learned how to make clothes, shape tools and weapons, and strike the tent at a moment's notice. God also taught them the paths to communion with Himself, and the meaning of worship.

In all the "roughing it," God was showing them their need for Him. The same is true for us. Our "wilderness" may not be literal, but our wanderings are certainly real, and God's promise is still the same in its depths and sufficiency!

When in Christ, the Holy Spirit guides us into that which will form and shape us to further resemble Christ. "Camping with Jesus" teaches us that He will give us all that we need according to HIS riches for HIS glory.

Our hearts are precious to God. When we run into struggles and problems, we need to remember that the Lord has promised provision. Jesus is THE ultimate Camp Director; THE true Wilderness Guide! He knows where we have been and where we are going! Though I'm not a camper, per se, I would rather set out into the wilderness, camping with Jesus, than any one else!

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THE ULTIMATE CAMP DIRECTOR

HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES US

HE GIVES US ALL WE NEED

BIBLE = TRUE WILDERNESS GUIDE

OUT IN THE WILDERNESS

IN THE MIDDLE OF QUESTION MARKS

UNKNOWNNS ARE EVERYWHERE

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

EXODUS 16:3

CAMPING WITH CHRIST

SPIRITUAL WELLBEING > PHYSICAL NEEDS

BEING CONFORMED

DATE:

C₁ A₁ M₃ P₃ I₁ N₁ G₂
WITH C₁ H₄ R₁ I₁ S₁ T₁

CAMPING WITH CHRIST

Arrows

1 Samuel 20:22
Psalm 91:5
Ephesians 6:16
Zechariah 9:14

Backpack

Psalm 68:19
Matthew 11:30
1 Peter 5:7

Badges

Psalm 1:9 (The Voice)

Bears

1 Samuel 17:34-36
Psalm 29:9
Isaiah 59:11
Job 9:9
Ephesians 4:2

Bugs

Exodus 23:28
Psalm 50:11
Matthew 6:19-20
Mark 1:6

CAMPING WITH CHRIST

Cabin/Lodge/A-frame/Tent

Genesis 13:18
Numbers 24:5
Numbers 24:21

Psalm 5:11
Psalm 36:7

Camper

Ruth 1:16
Hebrews 13:14
1 Peter 2:11-12 (The Message)

Compass

Deuteronomy 33:3
Psalm 103:12
Hebrews 12:13

Clouds

Genesis 9:13
Psalm 147:8
Mark 14:62

Feathers

Psalm 91:4
Job 39:13
Isaiah 40:31

C₁ A₁ M₃ P₃ I₁ N₁ G₂
WITH C₁ H₄ R₁ I₁ S₁ T₁

CAMPING WITH CHRIST

Fire/Matches

Exodus 13:21
Mark 14:54

Flannel shirt

Genesis 37:3
Nehemiah 9:21
1 Peter 3:3
Matthew 6:31

Hiking Boots/Shoes

Exodus 3:5
Deuteronomy 29:5
Ephesians 6:15

Kayak/Boat

Isaiah 18:2
John 21:3 -6

Lantern/Flashlight

Judges 7:19-21
Psalm 119:105 (The Living Bible)
Matthew 25:3
John 1:5

Maps

Psalm 19:7-9 (The Message)
Psalm 119:130
Proverbs 3:6
Acts 8:40

CAMPING WITH CHRIST

Mountains

Deuteronomy 2:3
Joshua 11:16
Psalm 3:4
Isaiah 2:2
John 6:3
Hebrews 12:18-21

S'mores

Psalm 119:103
Ezekiel 3:3
Jeremiah 15:16
1 Peter 2:3

Stars

Psalm 147:4
Isaiah 40:26
Nehemiah 4:21
1 Corinthians 15:41

Trees

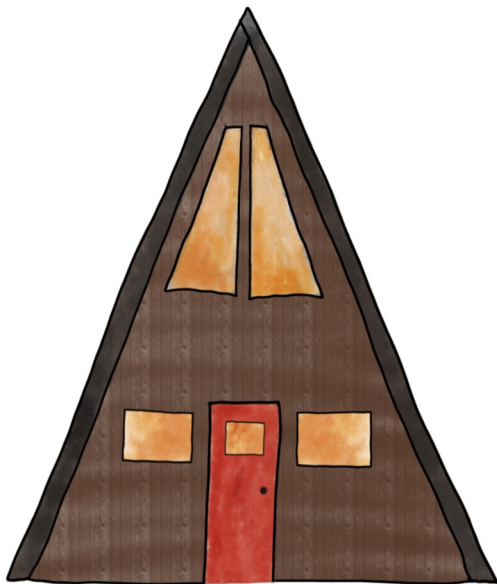
Genesis 3:2
Nehemiah 9:25
Psalm 96:12
James 3:5

Water bottle

Psalm 42:1
Isaiah 12:3
Matthew 10:42

C₁ A₁ M₃ P₃ I₁ N₁ G₂

WITH C₁ H₄ R₁ I₁ S₁ T₁



CAMPING WITH CHRIST



T	T	X	S	C	T	H	G	I	L	O	K	O	A	S
N	R	I	Y	P	R	U	A	B	V	E	E	Y	D	S
E	A	I	F	A	E	N	D	R	V	H	E	V	E	
S	I	J	B	J	Q	M	A	T	W	U	A	U	E	N
H	L	W	O	U	C	Z	K	T	P	E	J	F	N	R
D	I	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	U	U	L	S	T	E
E	N	S	U	N	H	E	G	X	S	R	T	L	U	D
C	T	A	D	A	F	N	F	N	W	A	E	K	R	L
N	S	U	T	K	I	B	I	R	Y	V	S	E	I	
E	R	I	F	P	M	A	C	G	L	Q	H	Q	S	W
I	F	X	M	Y	T	M	A	E	S	D	D	Q	Y	Y
T	V	A	O	N	K	Z	A	M	G	T	L	D	B	B
A	C	X	U	H	E	A	Y	B	R	O	U	I	P	Z
P	W	O	C	C	L	B	X	O	P	C	U	H	W	Q
V	M	K	I	J	O	U	R	N	E	Y	Z	O	B	W

CAN YOU FIND THE 18 RELATED WORDS?