

INTRODUCTION



- ✓ The Bible and Outdoor Living
- ✓ God's World
- ✓ Purpose of Campcraft
- ✓ Royal Ambassador Campcraft
- ✓ Challenger Campcraft
- ✓ Adult Campcraft Training
- ✓ Stewardship of God's World
- ✓ Spiritual Markers
- ✓ Spiritual Applications
- ✓ Missions Applications

The Bible and Outdoor Living

There are many reasons why people who love God often love life outdoors. God made His natural world beautiful. God's people as a nation once lived outdoors. The pages of the Old Testament are filled with pictures of nature.

In the early pages of the Bible, Jabal is declared the father of such as dwell in tents (Genesis 4:20). There were tent cities before walled cities. Tents made from animal skins were the only types of homes that many of our Bible heroes ever knew. Jacob was said to be a plain man dwelling in tents (Genesis 25:27). Food was cooked on open fires. Elijah, the rugged champion of the mountains and plains, was awakened from his sleep under a juniper tree by an angel and showed bread and meat baking on a fire (1 Kings 19:5-8).



Nature was a challenge. Amos, the prophet, talked of snares for birds (Amos 3:5). Isaiah, another prophet, knew of the terrific heat of the sun and told of sunstroke (Isaiah 49:10). A discernor of the heavens knew that when the wind came from the north, the rain would soon be gone (Proverbs 25:23). Benaiah was noted for his valor because he killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day (1 Chronicles 11:22). When Hiram, the king of Tyre, wanted to send Solomon his cedar and fir trees, he made rafts and floated them on the open sea (1 Kings 5:9).

Numerous references are made to the use of bows and arrows. Jonathan, a beloved friend of David, used a boy to bring back the arrows that he shot into the sky (1 Samuel 20:36). Those who went into the woods and forests lived by sight, sounds, and instinct. Gideon, a judge of his people, reduced his army from 10,000 to 300 by bringing them to a stream of water and observing each one as he drank. The men who lay down and drank directly with their mouths from the stream were rejected, but those who cupped their hands and pressed the water to their mouths were accepted. Those who lifted the water to their mouths were free to observe their surroundings while drinking. They were alert and alive to the wilderness. The men who fell upon their faces to drink could well have been at the mercy of wild animals or a dangerous enemy.

The beauty of nature is reflected in the Old Testament. David wrote, "When I observe Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You set in place, what is man..." (Psalm 8:3-4a).

Nothing went unnoticed. The blade of grass, the ant, the quail, the rocks, the snakes, the long night, the glorious sunrise, and the cry of the wild, are all in the imagery of the Old Testament.

As a boy, Jesus lived in Galilee. A more beautiful country could scarcely be imagined. The landscape was free, fresh, and bracing. Lake Gennesaret, arched by a deep blue sky, was (and is) beautiful.

Living amid such scenery, Jesus probably was easily led by the Spirit of God to meditate and pray. In manhood it was the custom of Jesus to go apart into the mountains and pray through the night. (Luke 5:16) Even before His death on the cross, Jesus spent His last evening praying in the garden.



Jesus was a man of the outdoors. He observed nature and used it frequently in His teachings. Jesus talked of the birds of the air, the grass in the field, and the wind in the trees.

There is little question that most of the time Jesus slept, cooked, and ate His food outdoors. Once, when a lawyer approached Jesus and said that he would follow Him no matter where He would go, Jesus replied by telling something of how He lived. "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head." (Matthew 8:20).

Jesus loved nature, for it was His Father's world. When He was born, God guided men from the East to His birthplace by a star. He was baptized in a river, He preached from the mountain side, He drank water from a well. He slept peacefully in a boat during a severe storm.

Frequently, Jesus quoted from the book of Psalms, and no doubt His heart rejoiced in the grandeur of Psalm 24: "The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the LORD " (Psalm 24:1).

This is God's world. What a privilege and joy it is to live for God in God's world.

God's World

Do you ever dream about getting outdoors – a trip to the woods, a place on a lake, maybe a canoe trip down the river?



Sounds like fun, doesn't it? And it is, BUT did you ever stop to think of all the things that can take away the fun? No one likes to have his trip ruined because of blistered feet caused by wearing the wrong shoes or a sunburned back from failing to follow good health practices.

This will not happen if training is completed and proper plans are made ahead of time. You can have fun if you learn outdoor living skills.



Purpose of Campcraft

Campcraft - Outdoor Living Skills is committed to the holistic growth of men, young men, and boys through:

- Structured camping experiences that call the individual to discover his importance and interrelation with the created universe.
- Programming which enables the individual to enlarge his self-esteem while learning to respect the dignity of others.
- Incorporating missions-ministry, education, and practice into the organizing of our schedules.
- Encouraging individuals to enjoy and test their physical, mental and spiritual development.
- Supporting and complementing the local church missions education program.



The purpose of Campcraft is to help you take care of yourself and others comfortably and safely on hikes and camps in order to enjoy these experiences. It also is to help you become more aware of God and what He has done in creation and your stewardship of the natural world. Campcraft will help you to not only have fun but to also grow as an individual and as an active member of your church. Doing all this will require planning, learning outdoor living skills, and practicing safety. Campcraft - Outdoor Living Skills will guide you in structured camping experiences to learn the basics of living outdoors.

Royal Ambassador Campcraft

The Royal Ambassador Campcraft levels with patches help you learn planning, outdoor living skills, and safety. Discoverer patches (1-3) are for Lads in grades one through three respectively and are designed to introduce younger Royal Ambassadors to day camping experiences. The Hiker, Camper and Woodsman patches are for Crusaders in grades four through six and are designed to introduce older Royal Ambassadors to the progressive levels of Campcraft skills and outdoor experiences. Crusaders must complete the Hiker level before advancing to the Camper level and then to the Woodsman level. The requirements for all of these levels begin on page 205 in the Appendix section.



Once you have earned these patches you can wear them on the back of your Royal Ambassador vest. To order Royal Ambassador patches, contact the North American Mission Board at (866) 407-6262 or www.namb.net.

Royal Ambassador Patches

The specific requirements for each of these levels are located in the Appendix section beginning on page 205.

Royal Ambassadors	Discoverer 1	Discoverer 2	Discoverer 3	Hiker	Camper	Woodsmen
Trip Planning	Picnic	Outdoor Trip Local Trip	Park Electric Co. Work Place	1 mile hike Log When lost Evaluate	Hikes or Campout Log Evaluate	2-1 Nighters Log Evaluate
Equipment and Shelter	Make Bed	Fun Shelter Draw Pictures	Emergency Kit Shelter Pictures Clothing	Clothing	Equipment Bedding Pitch Tent	Equipment Tent Site Pitch Tent Make Equipment Group Equipment
Rope Craft	Shoelaces	Unravel Rope Uses of Rope	5 Ropes History Care of Rope	Overhand Knot Square Knot Clove Hitch	5 Knots Whip Rope	2 Types Lashing 3 Kinds of Rope
Tool Craft	Flashlight	Hammer Canteen	Can Opener Tool Apron Shovel	Pocket Knife Proper Use	Bow Saw	Use of Tools Sheath Knife Cooking Device
Fire Craft	Fire Dept.	Fire Dept. Burnables	Camp Fires Fire Starter Use of Fire	Matches Fire Site 3 Minute Fire Clean-up	Fire Safety 2 Types of Fires Put out/Clean up	Trench Fire Clean Site
Cooking	Meal	Grocery List Menu	Utensils Salad Trail Snack	2 Items	2 Types Balanced Meals	Balanced Meal
First Aid	Bandage	Emergency Number Emergency Plan	Poster First Aid Kit Ice Pack	Burn, Cut, Bruise	Group First Aid Kit	List Items Poison Plant Aid
Safety and Sanitation	Clothes	Seatbelt Escape Route	Drugs Bicycle Toiletry Kit	Hike Safely Latrine Good Practices	Cleanliness Garbage Latrine Good Practices	Latrine When Lost Poison Plants Good Practices
Map and Compass	Home Address	Draw Map Lost	Direction Map Compass	Parts of Compass Compass Directions Trail Signs	Length of Pace Compass Course	Follow Map Make Map Stars
Nature	Nature Walk	Tree Bark Pet Rock	Feeder Wind Weather	2 Harmful Plants 2 Harmful Animals	2 Harmful Insects 2 Helpful Insects	Read Book Nature Collection
Conservation	Lights	Litter Water	Recycle Collection Tree	Pledge Good Practices	Learn Project Explain Project	Project Know Agencies
Fun and Worship	Drawings	Prayer Game	Lord's Prayer Songs 23 rd Psalm	Game/Song Missionary Story	Hiking Song Missions Story	Outdoor Game Ceremony/ Activity

Challenger Campcraft

The Challenger Campcraft levels with patches are for young men who desire to explore God's creation and learn planning, outdoor living skills and safety. The Pathfinder level is the beginning point for all Challengers and introduces them to the basic levels of camping experiences. Once a young man has completed the Pathfinder level, he can advance to the intermediate level of Adventurer. After completing the Adventurer level, a young man can begin working on the advanced Campcraft levels. The Backpacker, Trip Camper and Primitive Camper levels are the advanced Campcraft levels and can be earned in any order. The specific requirements for each of these levels is located in the Appendix section beginning on page 211.



Once you have earned these Campcraft patches you can wear them on the back of your Challengers jacket. To order Challenger patches, contact Texas Baptist Men at (214) 381-2800 or www.baptistmen.org.

Challenger Campcraft Patches

The specific requirements for each of these levels are located in the Appendix section beginning on page 211.

Challengers	Pathfinder	Adventurer	Back Packer	Trip Camper	Primitive Camper
Trip Planning	5 Mile Hike Cookout 2 Overnights When Lost Journal Evaluation Spiritual Markers Mission Project	2 Two Nights Make Plans Journal Evaluate Spiritual Application Mission Project	3 Day Trip Evaluate Spiritual Application Mission Application	4 Day Trip Shared Duty Conditioning Temporary Camp Evaluate Spiritual Application Mission Application	4 Day Primitive Camp Plan Evaluate Spiritual Application Mission Application
Equipment and Shelter	Clothing Equipment Bedding Tent Site Make Equipment Group Equipment Psalm 58:8 Mission Application	Clothing-Gear Shelter Group Gear Isaiah 25:4 Construct Shelter	Personal List Proper Packing Temporary Shelter Clothing Spiritual Application Mission Application	Waterproofing 4 Tents Packing Care for Mode Other Group Spiritual Application Mission Application	Clothing Bed Roll Shelter Spiritual Application Mission Application
Rope Craft	Whip Rope Overhand Square Knot Clove Hitch 5 Knots Two Lashings Three Ropes William Carey Mission Application	Camp Fixture Two Knots Share Christ Help Others	4 Knots Spiritual Application Mission Application	2 Splices Coil Rope 4 Knots Spiritual Application Mission Application	Use of Ropes 6 Knots Use Knots 4 Lashings Spiritual Application Mission Application
Tool Craft	Pocket Knife Bow Saw Select Tools Sheath Knife Cooking Device Use of Knife Mission Application	Care for Axe Camping Tools 2 Kings 6:1-6 Minister	Proper Tools Spiritual Application Mission Application	Tools Storage Spiritual Application Mission Application	Use Knife & Axe Tools Know Tools Make Something Tin Cans Spiritual Application Mission Application
Fire Craft	Fire Safety Fire Triangle Matches Fire Site 3 Minute Fire Two Types Fires Alternate Fire Camp Stove Put Out, Clean Up Hebrews 12 Matthew 5:6	Build Fire Protect Fuel Damp Wood Fire Site Light Source Fire – Purity Emergency Lights	Fire Regulations Fire in Wet Spiritual Application Mission Application	Review Emergency Fires Safety Procedures Spiritual Application Mission Application	Fire Regulations Gather Fuel Light Source Spiritual Application Mission Application
Cooking	Complete Meal Two Types Cooking 2 Peter 1:5-9 Evaluate	Two Types Cooking Three Complete Meals Camp Stoves “Bread of Life” Prepare Meal	3 Day Meals New Method Backpack Stove Spiritual Application Mission Application	Plan Menus Prepare Meals Practice Shop Spiritual Application Mission Application	Plan Meals Cook Off the Land Spiritual Application Mission Application

Challenger Campcraft Patches

The specific requirements for each of these levels are located in the Appendix section beginning on page 211.

Challengers	Pathfinder	Adventurer	Back Packer	Trip Camper	Primitive Camper
First Aid	Personal First Aid Kit Group First Aid Kit Burn, Cut, Bruise, Bite Poisonous Plants Luke 10:30-37 Mission Project	First Aid Treatments Update Personal Kit Jeremiah 8:22 Mission Project	Standard First Aid Injuries First Aid Kits Spiritual Application Mission Application	Standard First Aid Injuries First Aid Kits Spiritual Application Mission Application	Standard First Aid Injuries First Aid Kits Spiritual Application Mission Application
Safety and Sanitation	Hike Safety Latrines Garbage Cleanliness Safety Practices Duet. 23:12-14 Biblical Examples	Waste Water Food Storage Good Practices Spiritual Application Mission Project	Travel Plan Health Guides Water Purification Proper Methods Spiritual Application Mission Application	Safety Rules Rules of Road Trip Plans When Lost Personal Health Resources Spiritual Application Mission Application	Water Purification Safe Methods Latrine Garbage Spiritual Application Mission Application
Map and Compass	Use Compass Trail Signs Know Pace Compass Course Follow Map Make Map Stars Psalm 8:3-4 Thoughts	Cross Country Make Map Find Direction Way, Truth, Life Prayer	Topo Map Map and Compass Triangulation Spiritual Application Mission Application	Judgments Reference Point Plot Route Map Use Spiritual Application Mission Application	Compass Use Make Map Spiritual Application Mission Application
Nature	4 Insects 2 Plants 2 Animals Read Book Nature Collection Psalm 8 Thoughts	New Collection 5 Trees-Plants 5 animals-insects Job 38 Christ's Applications	Three Animals Weather Conditions Spiritual Application Mission Application	10 Trees 5 Constellations & North Star Nature Trail Weather Forecast Log Spiritual Application Mission Application	10 Trees Wildlife 4 Weather Signs Clouds Winds Spiritual Application Mission Application
Conservation	Conservation Pledge Good Practices Visit Project Personal Project Luke 12:41-48 Thoughts	Group Project Spiritual Application Mission Project	Minimum Impact Good Techniques Discussion Spiritual Application Mission Application	Camping Spots Project Spiritual Application Mission Application	Practice Causes of Fires Ecology Spiritual Application Mission Application
Fun and Worship	Game or Song Mission Story Ceremony or Activity Quiet Time Share	Camp Fun Camp Worship Reflect Prayer	Devotion Game Spiritual Application Mission Application	Schedule Spiritual Application Mission Application	Recreation Quiet Times Spiritual Application Mission Application

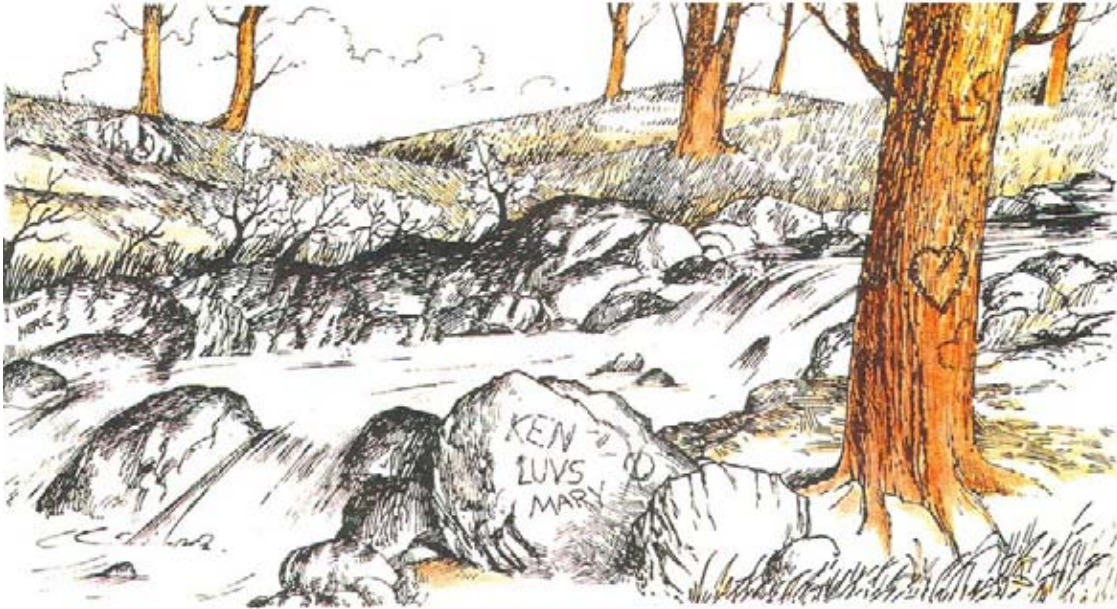
Adult Campcraft

The Adult Campcraft training introduces adults to the basic, intermediate and advanced levels of Campcraft skills in order to increase their personal knowledge, abilities and comfort level with experiences in outdoor living. These courses emphasize using teaching methods and spiritual applications to assist Royal Ambassadors and Challengers in fulfilling each of their Campcraft levels. For more information concerning the Adult Campcraft training, contact Texas Baptist Men at (214) 381-2800 or www.baptistmen.org.



Stewardship of God's World

Have you gone to a park or campsite and found bottles, paper, cans, and other litter on the grounds? Have you seen what would have been a beautiful river or stream except there was trash all around? Have you been out in the woods and noticed where someone damaged a tree or built a big campfire and failed to clean up the site?



Such disregard for the beauty and conservation of the outdoors is not representative of the best kind of camping. Campcraft and our use of the outdoors should demonstrate the best stewardship of what God has placed in our care. We are not to litter. When we wisely use the woods, the streams and all other natural resources, we are being good Christians as well as good citizens.

There are good stewardship practices that all of us should follow. For example, in building a fire, use as little wood as necessary to get the job done; use dead or downed wood if possible. Recognize that in some areas of the country, it is not permissible to build wood fires. Know fire regulations for your camping area and how to control fires.

Consider the environment and try to live in an area without disturbing it more than necessary. "Leave no trace" camping will leave a low impact on the camping site. Restore the area to its natural state as much as you can when you leave.



As a steward of God's world, try to improve it, not just keep it. Work on conservation projects as an individual or as a group. Protect the soil and water. There are many projects that will help preserve the outdoors. Select those that you can best do and which are most needed in your area. There are many other good practices which should be followed in your Campcraft activities. Become aware of these and always practice good outdoor manners.

Finally, one other way you can help in conserving the outdoors is to recognize that many of the skills can be learned and practiced in places other than out in a camp or on the trail. Going on a trip is primarily a time for demonstration of skills learned and enjoyment of hiking and camping.

Spiritual Markers

Spiritual markers are used to serve as reference points so that individuals can evaluate where they have been, where they are, and the direction they need to proceed. The purpose of the Spiritual Markers worksheet is to assist Challengers in evaluating their lives and relationships with Christ and encourage them in making any necessary adjustments to accomplish the purpose that God has for their lives. A Spiritual Marker worksheet is located in the Appendix section.

Spiritual Applications



The disciples encountered unique experiences as the Master teacher, Jesus, used several methods and examples found in nature to communicate spiritual truths and principles to them. Often, He would make comparisons between common everyday items and spiritual truths, such as faith the size of a mustard seed being able to move mountains (Matthew 17:20). Campcraft skills can be applied to help explain or help remember spiritual truths. One example is comparing sin in one's life to a splinter in a finger. If not removed, the splinter will cause pain in the hand like sin will cause pain in our lives. These spiritual applications are intended to communicate simple spiritual truths so that others may develop a greater relationship with their Creator.

Throughout this manual, references to spiritual truths and examples of spiritual applications will be made. You are encouraged to develop your own spiritual applications from your outdoor experiences in order to share spiritual truths with others. The advancement requirements for Challengers will have them stop and think about what spiritual applications can be drawn from the campcraft skills being learned.



Missions Applications



Bob Dixon, a Royal Ambassador Campcraft Instructor, was the first person called to help organize a response to Hurricane Beulah in 1967. Bob was returning from a weekend Campcraft training session with a load of campcraft gear. He cooked meals on the back of his stationwagon using Buddy Burners. As responses to disasters continued, Bob called upon other Campcraft Instructors to help. These men possessed the knowledge and experience to use their outdoor living skills to help people who were affected by natural disasters. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief was thus born from Campcraft.

Testimonies have been shared from missionaries who have utilized their outdoor living skills, learned as RA's, to properly pack for extended trips into the jungles or construct temporary shelters that would be used in missions efforts. Challengers will be encouraged to stop and reflect upon how these campcraft skills can be used in missions endeavors. Take time to reflect upon the outdoor living skills and ask God to reveal to you how you could use campcraft in God's mission of reconciling the world unto Himself.

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. Now everything is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed the message of reconciliation to us. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; certain that God is appealing through us, we plead on Christ's behalf, "Be reconciled to God."" (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

