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Kidz Newz

from the CBC Clubhouse

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SHINE the LIGHT

(Psa1m 119:105)

Josh and Jeff had often camped out with Dad, but this was their first time out by themselves. Not to worry. After all, Josh would soon be a teenager, and Jeff wasn't far behind. They had this under control.

Mid-afternoon they left the trail to find a spot to set up their tent, allowing time to catch a fish or two before dusk. Building a fire and cooking over an open flame was a challenge, but they had watched Dad plenty of times. They knew what to do.

They actually caught enough fish for supper, and they did taste good! As they lay near the dying campfire watching the stars and listening to the crickets sing, interrupted by a hoot owl now and then, they thought what a wonderful world that God created and how good God was!

At last, it was time to bed down for the night. They pulled Dad's big flashlight from their gear, slipped outside, turned it on low beam, and gave a good look around the tent to be sure everything was secure. All was well.

"G'night, Jeff", Josh muttered. "Yeah, you, too", and both boys snuggled into the warmth of their sleeping bags. This trip was going to be great.

It was great, too, until they heard a strange noise outside. It was *not* the familiar sound of crickets or owls. The boys lay silent for a moment then Jeff whispered, "What was that?"

"I don't know. Be still. Maybe it will go away."

"Maybe so, but what is it?"

"Well, how should I know?" Josh breathed.

"Whatever it is, it is getting closer! I hear it in the underbrush! Where's the flashlight?"

Jeff scrambled in the dark. "Here, here it is! You reckon it's a bear, Josh? You reckon it's a bear?"

"Hush and follow me. Stay close! Don't make any noise!"

"No noise?!" Jeff whispered. He thought his own pounding heart was loud enough to wake the dead!

Flashlight in hand, Josh headed into the dark with Jeff on his heels. Then they heard it again. This was no joke! The boys were in trouble! Closer and louder it came! Josh held the big flashlight up high, switched on the high beam, and swung the strong light left and right through the trees.

It worked! Oh, praise the Lord, the strong, piercing light worked! Whatever the intruder was turned and went crashing through the woods! The night was still again. Scared speechless, Josh and Jeff stood weak as water in a cold sweat. They clung to each other and quickly crept back to the tent.

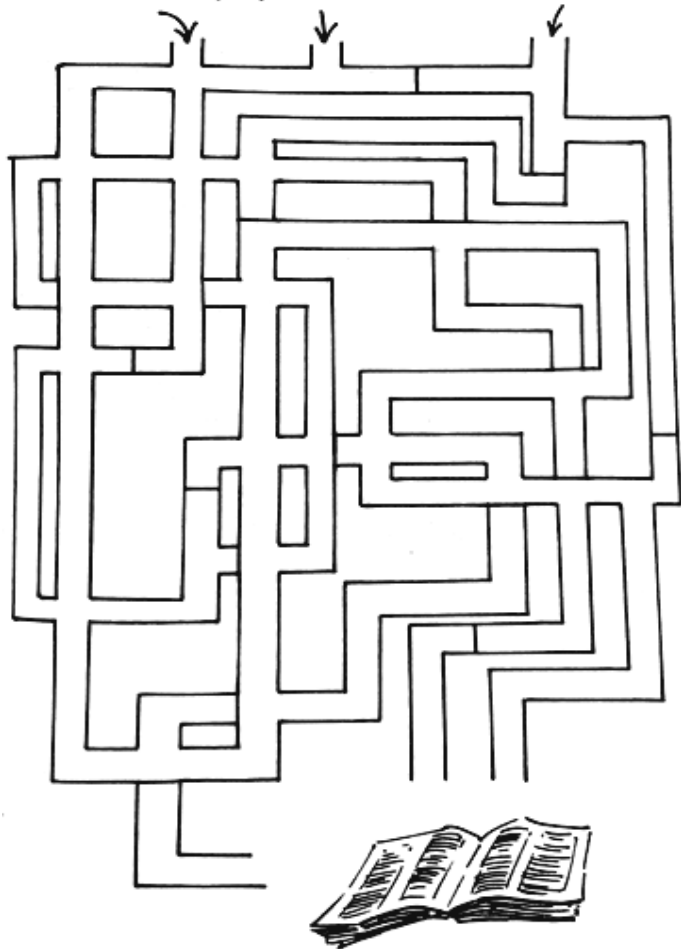
Neither boy slept a wink. At dawn they packed up and headed straight home! When Dad heard of their terrifying ordeal, he placed his arms around his boys and earnestly prayed. He thanked God for protecting them and for the double-powered flashlight!

"See, Guys, that's what God does for us if we trust and obey Him. Of course, no flashlight, however strong, can compare to God's light, but Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The low beam lamp on your flashlight helped you see things near your tent to be sure everything was in order. Then, thank God, the big, high-powered beam pierced far out into the darkness revealing the dangers and hazards lurking there. That is why we must read and take in God's Word every day. The "lamp" will direct us to Christ and show us the path through times of confusion and help us know what to do. The "light" will be a strong beam to lead us through difficult situations to show us His will and way. God's Word takes the fear out of the darkness with the power of His light and presence!"

Josh and Jeff never forgot that camping trip or the power of God's Word and the need to study it every day.

SOMETIMES, IT IS NOT EASY TO READ THE BIBLE EVERY DAY. OTHER THINGS WILL TRY TO GET IN THE WAY, BUT IF YOU REALLY WANT TO GROW AS A CHRISTIAN, IT IS BEST TO READ GOD'S WORD EACH DAY!

FIND YOUR WAY TO THE BIBLE.



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Can you memorize this verse and say it to your parents or teacher?



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalm 119:105

Be sure to take your vitamins and say your Vita-Verse every day!

DIMMERS AND BRIGHTS

Josh and Jeff could not wait until they were old enough to drive! They were practicing and learning all they could so when the day ever came, they would be ready! Riding in Dad's truck, they continually pestered him with questions about everything from the wheels to the wipers and all the parts in between.

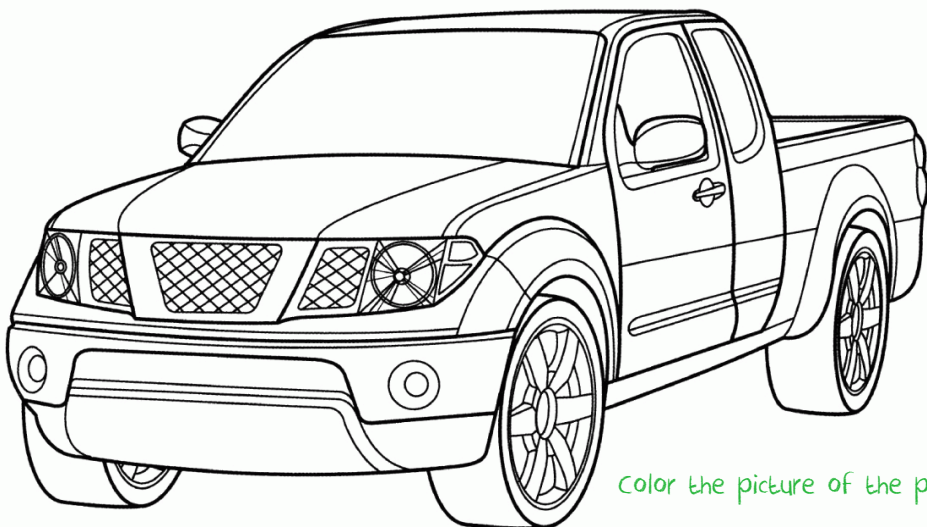
"Pay attention to the lights," Dad warned. "If one is out, you might be stopped by a patrolman. Without lights there is no way you can drive at night. You use the "dimmers" to see the road close up, pot holes, bumps, or trash, and to protect an oncoming car. If you shine the high beam lights in the driver's face, you will blind him so he cannot see the road. He could run into you or run off the road! It's very dangerous and also impolite.

When you have an open road, switch to the "brights." They light the way into the distance revealing obstacles and dangers—animals, fallen tree limbs, warning signs (sharp curve, narrow bridge, bridge out, etc.). It's much like your camping light. The low beam showed you the area near your tent, and the high beam showed what was lurking out in the woods. Lights are *warning* and *protection*."

God's Word is the best light. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps. 119:105). Read it; treasure it; depend on it!



Tell other kids about your exciting campout! Write to Aunt Carolyn by email or snail mail. A picture is great, too!



Color the picture of the pickup truck!

