

## Chapter 1: After the Storm

In the town of Huntsville there lived six friends: Blaze the tiger, Amelia the panther, Scout the badger, Sally the squirrel, Tracker the meerkat, and Lucy the owl. Together they loved to go on exciting outings, hang out at their club tree house, or spend time with their friend and mentor, Mr. Morrie. They called themselves the Adventure Club.

One evening a heavy wind blew dark clouds over the tree house. The storm rocked the tree back and forth, tearing off branches and twisting the trunk. Weakened, the trunk finally snapped, and the majestic tree crashed to the ground. The kids arrived the next morning to find their clubhouse destroyed.

"What are we going to do now?" asked Sally. "We don't have a place to meet anymore."

Blaze lifted a broken plank and noticed a few sheets of paper and some crayons that had survived the storm. He picked them up and turned to the others. "Let's build a new one! We can draw up the plans ourselves and make it even better."



The whole group thought this was a great idea, and together they spent hours drawing what they hoped would be the best tree house ever.

"We should show this to Mr. Cumberland and ask him how much it will cost to build," suggested Amelia.

They all leapt on their bikes and rode into town.

Mr. Cumberland, a mandrill, was the owner of the Helping Hands Hardware store, and he always gave the kids advice on their building projects.

Mr. Cumberland looked over the kids' tree house plans carefully.

"Well," he said, scratching his chin, "it's a very grand tree house, but how are you going to pay for the stuff to build it?"

"How much will it cost?" asked Lucy timidly.



Mr. Cumberland squinted at the plans. "I'll have to make a list of all the materials you need, but it will cost a lot more than you spend on comic books each week!"

The kids were disappointed, but they thanked Mr. Cumberland, got on their bikes, and started riding back.

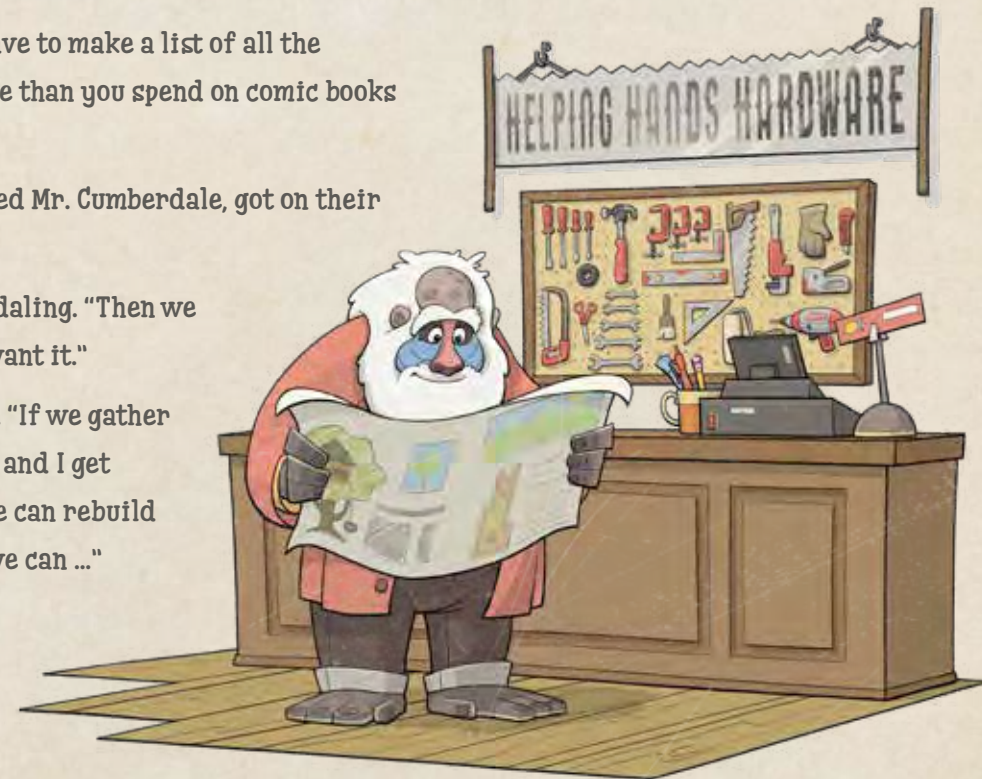
"I wish we had a money tree," said Scout, pedaling. "Then we could build our tree house just the way we want it."

"Well, that's not going to happen," said Blaze. "If we gather up the lumber from the wrecked tree house, and I get some nails and tools from my dad, maybe we can rebuild it in one of the other trees nearby. I think we can ..."

Suddenly, a newspaper caught by the wind spun down the street and flew right into Tracker's face.

"Aah, I can't see!" Tracker yelled.

He swerved left and right as he clawed at the newspaper. His bike ran off the road, plowing into a nearby tree. All his friends hurried over to make sure he wasn't hurt. As they pulled the newspaper from his face and picked him up, one of them noticed the exciting headline: "Find the Lost Compass; Large Cash Reward." They all gathered around and read about the Grand Compass, older than the town of Huntsville, which led to a lost city. The museum was offering a lot of money to anyone who could find it.





"Whoa," said Lucy, her beak falling open and her eyes going wide. "If we found that compass, I bet we could build a hundred tree houses!"

"Let's go ask Mr. Morrie about it!" said Scout.

They all hopped back on their bikes and raced toward the town's museum.

Mr. Morrie, a turtle, was the curator who ran the museum. He had assisted the Adventure Club before, so when all six of them came running into his office, he guessed they were interested in the compass.

"The compass," Mr. Morrie told them, "supposedly points to the Golden City. But no one has seen the compass for a long time." He pointed at a set of photos on the wall that featured an ocelot, a wolf, and a buzzard, all in adventuring gear. "Three adventurers," Mr. Morrie continued, "Ottmar von Ocelot, Lupen Valentino, and Benjamin Buzzard, searched for the compass all over these parts for years. They sent back notes and maps on their progress, but no one has heard from the explorers in some time."

"So we don't have any leads?" asked Blaze.

"It's not as hopeless as you think," said Morrie. "Here—take these." He handed the kids three notebooks. "These are their field notes telling where they searched. If you follow their work and the maps they drew, maybe you'll find the compass!" Mr. Morrie turned and pulled a box of walkie-talkies off the shelf. "Take these as well," he said, handing them several. "An old friend of mine gave them to me recently. We can use them to talk to each other over long distances, and you can call me for help if you ever need it."

The kids thanked Mr. Morrie and eagerly looked over the journals as they left the museum. They decided to search for the compass in groups of two: Tracker and Lucy would follow Buzzard's notes into Dodge Desert, Scout and Sally would follow Valentino's notes into Mossy Forest, and Blaze and Amelia would follow von Ocelot's notes into Green-Leaf Jungle.

They did not know it at the time, but this would be one of the Adventure Club's most exciting journeys yet.



### TRACKERS



### SCOUTS



### TRAILBLAZERS





# LESSON 1: THE CHURCH IS MADE UP OF CHRISTIANS

## MEMORY VERSES:



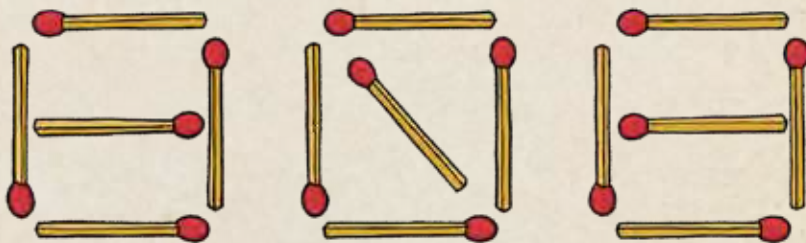
**MATTHEW 16:18** – And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**JOHN 10:16** – And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

## BONUS VERSE:

**ACTS 2:47b** – And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

## Blaze's Riddle:



Remove four matches from the fifteen, to leave just one. Answer on page 127.



TREE MUSHROOMS



## LESSON 2: THE CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST

### MEMORY VERSES:



**EPHESIANS 5:23** – For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:12** – For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

### BONUS VERSE:

**COLOSSIANS 1:24** – Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church.

**Directions:** E5, N1, W2, S2, E5, N1, W2, N1, E6, S1, W3, N1, E1, S2, E1, N1, E2, S1, E1, N2, E2



Are you good at following foot tracks? Follow the directions above. See where it takes you.  
Remember, (N) north is up, (S) south is down, (W) west is left, (E) east is right.



MAGIC MUSHROOMS





### LESSON 3: THE CHURCH IDENTIFIES WITH CHRIST

#### MEMORY VERSES:



**MATTHEW 28:19** – Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**ACTS 8:12** – But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

#### BONUS VERSE:

**ACTS 2:38** – And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”



To solve this hidden message, find the key code on page 127.



BLEEDING HEART FLOWERS





# LESSON 4: THE CHURCH IS UNITED IN CHRIST

## MEMORY VERSES:



**1 CORINTHIANS 1:10** – I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

**1 PETER 3:8** – Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

## BONUS VERSE:

**EPHESIANS 2:19** – So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.



— — — —	<b>2 Cor. 5:7</b>	For we walk by _____, not by sight.
— — — —	<b>Eph. 2:8</b>	For by _____ you have been saved.
— — — —	<b>Phil. 4:13</b>	I can do everything through _____.
— — — —	<b>1 Jn. 3:23</b>	Love one _____.
— — — —	<b>Prov. 3:5</b>	Trust in the LORD with all your _____.

Fill in blanks to reveal the hidden word.



Lined writing area for notes on page 17.



## LESSON 5: THE CHURCH REMEMBERS CHRIST

### MEMORY VERSES:



**1 CORINTHIANS 11:26** – For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**LUKE 22:20** – And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

### BONUS VERSE:

**ACTS 2:42** – And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.



Choose a backpack and then take turns dropping pennies onto them from four inches above your backpack. The first one to completely cover their backpack wins. Hint: you will have to stack pennies.

