

Day One: The Ultimate Hunt- Planning and Preparation

Memory Verse: "No one can come to me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him" (John 6:44a)

Every hunting trip takes a lot of planning and preparation. You need to know why you're going and who's going with you and you need to have a good guide and the proper gear. Today we're gonna talk about God's simple plan for a successful hunt for Him.

The first and most important thing you have to know about the hunt for God is why you're going. The Bible says that the craving to chase after God has been placed within us by God. "As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants for You, O God." (Psalm 42:1)

As Jesus says, "No one can come to me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him" (John 6:44a). We hunger for Him because He gave us the appetite. We thirst for Him because he made us to be thirsty for Him. We feel drawn to Him because he is drawing us to Himself. David, the Psalmist says it best: "My soul follows hard after thee" (Psalm 63:8a).

So what is the only piece of gear you need for the Ultimate Hunt? The answer is God Himself.

And how do we get God? Easy- we accept His free gift of love through His son Jesus. Romans 6:23b says that, "the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

When we accept God's love through Jesus Christ, God gives us a craving/hunger/thirst to know Him better and there begins a hunt for God that will last the rest of your life.

Day Two: The Ultimate Gift- The Proper Gear

Memory Verse: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” John 14:6

Yesterday we learned that the only piece of gear we need on a hunt for God is God Himself. Today we'll learn how to get that piece of gear.

Did you know that God wants you to become His child; that He wants you in His family? 1 John 4:8 says that “the one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” God loves each and every one of us and wants us to be a part of His family.

But you and I and every person in the world have done wrong things. The Bible word for doing wrong is 'sin.' God's love and sin cannot exist in the same place. What do you think should happen to us when we sin? Romans 6:23a says that, “the wages of sin is death,” so how can we, sinners, become a part of God love?

Happily, God knew we would be sinners and had a plan to erase our sin from our hearts and make a blank page for His love. What's that plan? That plan was Jesus, God's only son, who gave His life on a cross in payment for our sin. Romans 5:8 says that, “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Because Jesus never sinned, He is the only one who can take the punishment for your sin. Because we are sinners there is no price we could ever pay to make up for our sin, so Jesus is the only way. In John 14:6 Jesus says, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

Are you sorry for your sin? Tell God that you are. Do you believe Jesus died to take the punishment for your sin? If you tell God you are sorry for your sin and tell Him you do believe and accept Jesus' death to take away your sin, God forgives all your sin. Romans 10:9 says that, “if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” This “free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23b) means God is with you now and forever. Woo Hoo!

Of course, accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior is not the end of the Hunt, but the beginning and through Jesus Christ, we will receive a craving/hunger/thirst that will set us out on a life-long journey to know Him better.

Day Three: The Ultimate Guide- Learning to Know God

Memory Verse: “The word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword.” Hebrews 4:12

So now that we have the Ultimate Gear –the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus and the Ultimate Hunt –the craving/hunger/thirst to know God better, we should make sure we have the Ultimate Guide- God’s Living Word.

As we said yesterday, accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior is not the end of the Hunt, but the beginning and every successful hunt must have a good guide. In our hunt to know God better the Bible is our Guide.

Did you know the Bible is also known as the God’s living word? Hebrews 4:12 says that, “the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword.” Many people unfortunately think the Bible is just another long, boring book. But of course the Bible is not just another book; it was given to us from God Himself.

2 Timothy 3:16a says that, “all Scripture is inspired by God, “and Psalm 12:6 says that, “the words of the Lord are pure words.” What better Guide could we ask for than one that is pure -or without mistake- given to us by God Himself?

So how do we use the Bible? Well the second part of 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says that, “all Scripture is ... profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” So what is Scripture good for? Well for teaching us, telling us right from wrong (rebuking/correcting,) training us and equipping us, all things that helps us to know God better.

The key is opening it up. Open your Bible every day. Ask God to show you what He wants you to learn and every day God will teach you a little bit more about Himself. And there’s so much to learn! Remember, this is a hunt that lasts a lifetime. You could learn something about God everyday of your life and still be surprised by Him when you meet Him in Heaven. Talk about the Ultimate Hunt!

Day Four: The Ultimate Team- Who's Going with You?

Memory Verse:

Okay, now you're all ready for the Ultimate Hunt. You have your gear –the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus and a goal –the craving/hunger/thirst to know God better, and a guide -God's Living Word. Today we're gonna talk about who to take with you.

The short answer: Everyone!