

Discovery Meeting 5

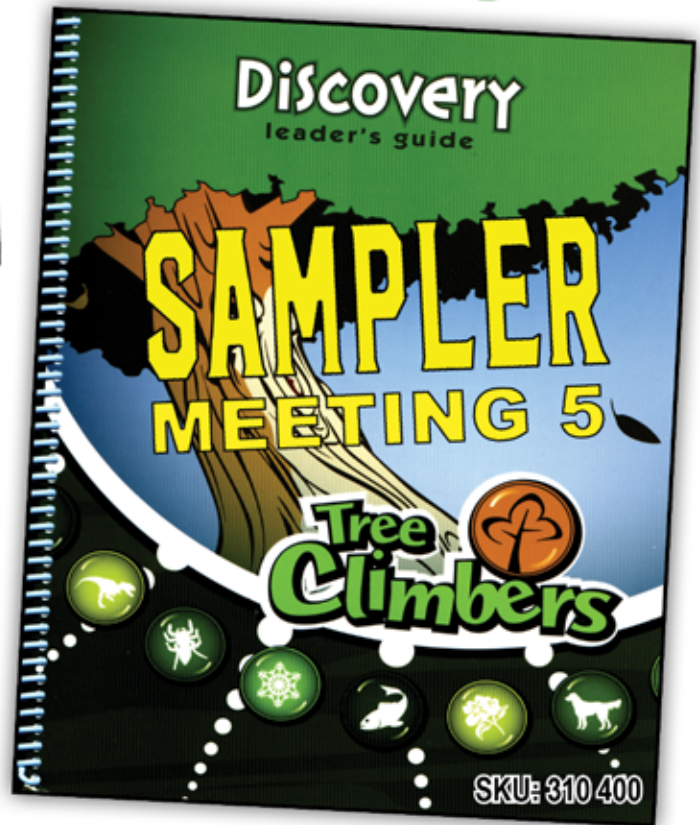
Tree Climbers SAMPLER



“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

“You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Timothy 2:1)

You can obtain *Tree Climbers Discovery* from:
CSB US - store.csbministries.org
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There's no greater call we can answer than to be the instrument that God uses to unlock a young person's potential.

From the Tree Climber's Leader's Guide:

Welcome to the world of Tree Climbers, an exciting journey for dads and sons to grow in their relationships with Christ and with each other, while making new friends. At Tree Climbers, young boys spend quality time with their dads and other adult Christian men. Together, men and kids have fun, learn about God's creation and grow closer to God and each other. Games, projects and adventures are centered around a weekly theme and Bible verse. Young boys flourish with the one-on-one time with godly men. Dads gain leadership skills and confidence by taking turns leading games, explaining projects and sharing Bible stories.

God bless you on this journey and have a terrific year!

Contact CSB for information regarding the companion volume, *Tree Climbers Odyssey*.

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We Thank God

Unit Aim: To recognize that God calls us to lives characterized by gratitude—for salvation, for provision, for guidance.



Woody's Welcome!

Fishing is lots of fun whether you're trying to catch small fish in a pond or big fish in a river. But if you want to catch fish, you have to learn about rods and hooks and bait, learn where to look for fish and learn what in do with them once you've caught them.

You'll learn all this and more in the next few weeks. In fact, you might become such a good fisherman someday that you'll want to get your own boat and run a fishing business. This week, you'll learn how to fish from a young man who started his own fishing business.

Jesus, God's Son, enjoyed fishing while he lived on earth. So did the disciples and so can you! There are many stories about fish and fishing in the Bible. Can you tell us one of them?



Woody's Games!

Spinner Race You'll need a whistle for this game.

This race has an added twist. Two or three teams line up single file alongside each other. Run an otherwise simple relay race, but add that whenever the game leader blows a whistle, the racers must turn in a complete circle. They're spinning like a spinner lure! The leader can make things lively by blowing his whistle two or three times on each runner.

Shoe Hunt Use two boxes in this game.

Let's go fishing — for shoes! Players pair up. The first of each pair puts his partner's shoes in a large box. Then the other players place their partners' shoes in a second box. Take the boxes to the other end of the room, mixing the shoes well.

At the signal, the first set of players run to the box to find their *partners'* shoes. Then, they race to put the shoes on their partners' feet. With his shoes on, the second player runs to find the other partner's shoes and put them on his feet.

The first pair with both shod players standing at the starting line wins.

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WEEK

Adventure Verses:



Psalm 100

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.



Fun To Do

Fishing Rod

Provide bamboo or willow sticks, pocket knives, fishing line or string, fishing hooks, and scissors.

Make your own fishing rod out of long sticks. Bamboo cane or willow are the best.

Carve a notch near one end of the stick. Tie a long piece of fishing line or string in the notch. Then, tie a hook at the other end of the line.



Woody's Checkup

Read together Psalm 100:1-2. Use the following questions to talk about what it means. Then memorize the verses.

1. Do you like to spend time with grateful people or grouchy people? Why?
2. Why does God tell us to shout for joy?
3. What are some things we can thank God for right now?



Woody's Stretch

Feed the Seals Bring some leaves or make paper fish to play this game.

Seals are so good at fishing that we'll play a seal game. Get into pairs. One player gets on his hands and knees and the other stands in front of him, pretending to be a seal trainer.

At the signal, each trainer drops a leaf (pretending that it's a fish) or a paper fish you've previously cut and each seal tries to catch it before it hits the floor. He must catch it like a seal, clapping his "flippers" together. They cannot grasp with their fingers, only with their open palms or arms. The seals can bend, but cannot move from their spots. The keeper retrieves any "fish" that get away.

The seal catching the most fish by the time the game leader blows his whistle wins. Then the seals and keepers change places.



Tree Climbers Circle

Tell the story, "You Can Catch Fish."

You Can Catch Fish

by Dan Keating

The morning sun was just beginning to rise, spreading warmth on the awakening world. As I walked toward the pond, I heard my feet squishing into the sponge-like grass and the happy tunes of chirping songbirds.

Approaching the pond, I spotted a family of ducks feeding in the shallow water. Suddenly, a large splash broke the calm water. This could only be a fish feeding.

Quietly, I made my way to the water's edge and grabbed a worm from my bait can. I cast my line into the shaded waters gently and watched as the bobber splashed down.

In no time, my bobber hopped once, then twice. Then it plunged to the depths below.

After a fast but furious battle, I stood triumphantly with a plump panfish as my prize. What a way to start the day!

Fishing is one of the most popular sports in North America for good reason. It's a lot of fun, and it doesn't have to cost a lot.

There's probably a place to fish within a few miles of your home. It could be a pond down the road, a river on the other side of town, or a large reservoir out in the country.

"What kind of fish can I catch?" you ask. Well, you can find panfish in most ponds, creeks and lakes. These come with such colorful names as bluegills, perch, rockbass, crappies and pumpkinseed fish. You might even catch a bass. If you try your luck in a river, you can catch bullheads, catfish and carp, too.

Of course, you'll need some equipment. In fishing, we call it "tackle."

The simplest and cheapest rod is a bamboo pole. Along with the pole you'll need a short piece of fishing line, hooks and bobbers. That's the way to begin, but when you save up some money, you might want to buy a spin-casting rod and reel. It's very easy to use.

You can buy all your fishing gear at your

local sporting goods store. The people who work there can help you choose the exact equipment you'll need for your area. They can probably send you to a few of the local fishing "hot spots" too!

So what do you put on the hook? The good ol' worm is as good a choice as any because all fish love to eat worms! The best time to find worms is in the spring or any evening after it rains. The rain brings them to the surface, where you can easily pick them up and put them in a can or jar.

Store your worms in a cool, dark place such as a corner of your basement. Put them in a styrofoam box filled with old coffee grounds or moist, shredded newspapers. Use "pinch" clothespins and mesh net to cover the box so the worms can get fresh air without being able to escape. Keep them out of direct light and add a few drops of water two or three times a week.

What if you just can't catch any worms or if you don't have anywhere to put them? You can use lots of other things as bait. Try grasshoppers, bread, baloney or even hotdogs.

If you're going fishing in a river, you might want to try doughballs for carp and catfish.

You can make doughballs with a little flour, a pinch of sugar, a teaspoon or so of bacon grease, and enough water to hold it all together. It may take a few tries before you can make great doughballs, but the fish really go for it.

On a hot summer day, nothing beats fishing! Be sure to fish in the shady part of the lake or river when the weather is hot. Fish like to cool off, too! Other good places to fish are around the bases of docks (where there are lots of weeds in the water), where a stream runs into a lake or pond and where the bottom of a lake drops off into very deep water.

If you're fishing in a creek or river, look for fish below snags and rapids or in deep holes

found on the outside edges of bends. Actually, any place where you can throw your bait into the water is a good place to start.

The best time of day for fishing is usually in the early morning or evening.

Remember this when you go fishing. God wants us to take care of the wildlife on earth. Be sure to handle all the fish you catch carefully so you don't injure them. And only keep the fish you plan on eating. Let the others go.

Try fishing with friends, with your parents, or with your grandparents. It's a great way to spend a day!

I'm not the only guy I know who fell in love with fishing when I wasn't even in school yet. And I've liked the sport ever since. In fact, I passed my test at age 18 to become one of

the youngest captains licensed by the United States Coast Guard. I've been running my own charter boat business on Lake Michigan for years, fishing for salmon and trout.

If you spend some time getting the right equipment and follow directions, you'll soon be as "hooked" on fishing as I am!

Talking about it

1. When have you had chances to go fishing? What kind of fish did you catch?
2. Thank God together for fun things we get to do, like fishing.
3. What kinds of fish do you like to eat?
4. What other things do you enjoy doing for a special activity besides fishing?



Demonstrate What Happens During a Big Earthquake

Show after-earthquake pictures of displaced land and damaged buildings. Demonstrate how earthquake happens using books, coins, checkers, Legos, a wide pan or tray, sand, paper, beans and a large flat stone.

Some pieces of the earth's surface move in different directions. Sometimes they rub along each other's sides. Other times, one piece runs into another and has to go under it. Move some books against each other both ways — slowly — and see what happens. Put some checkers or Legos on top of the books and try it again. Then, do it quickly.

Put enough dirt or sand in a wide pan or tray to cover the bottom. Slowly shake it from side to side. What happens? Make a small paper tent, put it on top of the soil and move the container again. What happens? Use beans and stacks of coins and checkers.

Empty the pan. Place a wide, flat rock in the bottom. Shake the pan slowly. What happens? What happens when you add the tent and other items? What happens to the items when you shake the container quickly?

Briefly thank God for helping us stay safe, no matter what happens.