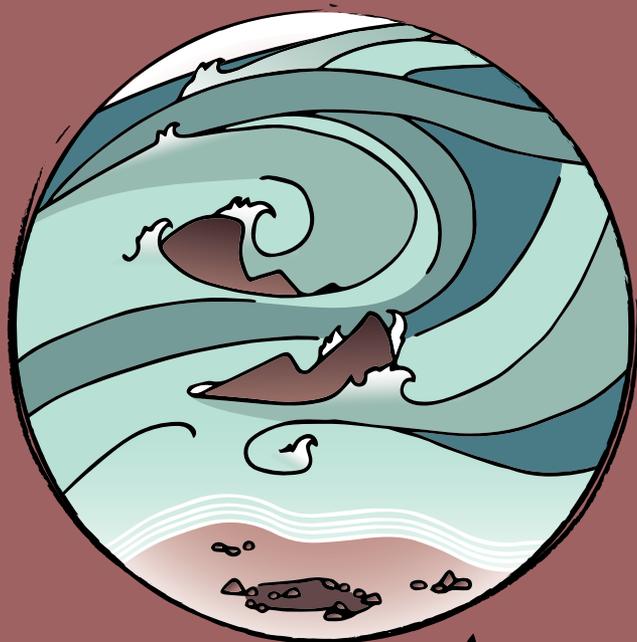


GOING BEYOND

by Dr. Roy Smith



THE CAMPFIRE GANG



BOOK #4



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*Dedicated to those who have great value
and God-given potential. (This means you!)*
*As you enjoy this series, may you discover
your greatness.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy".

*I am honored to be part of the journey of the following
young men. May you grow strong, have courage,
act wisely and change the world.*

*Silas, Jorah, Alexander, Nathan, Mason, William,
Lucas, Cody, Elijah, Kent, Colt, Ian, AJ, CJ, JJ, Gavin,
Ryder, Braxton*

*It is my privilege to be part of the lives of the following
amazingly gifted and powerful young women.*

May you make a difference in the world.
Remi, Reese, Alycea, Joy



CHAPTER 1

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

The campfire gang slept soundly down in the Lizlards' village. They knew they were safe from Bat Bird attacks—for now. They also knew they needed to rest for their day of teaching the Lizlards about teamwork and new skills.

BB, however, was wide awake. His mind raced as he tried to figure out how the gang could best help the Lizlards. If they didn't learn to be warriors who worked together well, it would only be a matter of time before they all became dinner for the Bat Birds.

BB got up quietly, stepped over his sleeping friends and tiptoed out of the cave. He scanned the sky for Bat Birds before darting behind the closest boulder.

Okay Pops, he thought as he placed the smooth, flat rock on the ground. I could really use some good advice right now.

BB stepped on top of the rock. He cringed when it let out a loud groan, hoping it didn't wake anyone up.

As the groaning stopped, the rock began to vibrate, and a voice said,

*“The LORD has done it on this day. Let us be joyful today and be glad.”**

BB waited. Sure enough, the rock groaned and vibrated again. This time the voice said,

* Psalm 118:24

*“God is fair. He will not forget what you have done. He will remember the love you have shown him. You showed it when you helped his people. And you show it when you keep on helping them.”**

BB thought quietly. He loved trying to figure out what the rock’s messages meant. Its words always made him feel encouraged.

“Aha!” he finally said. “The rock must be saying that by helping others, we’re showing them God’s love. So helping the Lizlards isn’t just a way of keeping them safe. It’s also letting them know we care about them and that God loves them.”

BB smiled and thought, *Thanks Pops.*

Next BB began to plan for the day ahead. Sammy and Spencer were already doing what they did best—scouting. They were up on the ledges making sure Bat Birds didn’t suddenly attack the village.

* Hebrews 6:10

John was going to help the Lizlards get better at butchering Bat Birds. Pete would then use the Bat Bird parts to show the Lizlards how to make weapons. And Kerry was going to teach combat skills while Toby taught weapons training.

And that leaves Cliff and me, BB thought.

He took a deep breath as he thought about their responsibilities. They were going to teach the Lizlards how to be warriors on the inside.

“Hey BB!” Kerry’s head poked around the side of the boulder.

BB jumped and tripped over the rock as he turned around.

Kerry chuckled as he said, “I thought I heard you back here. I’m heading up the mountain to bring supplies to Sammy and Spencer. I was going to ask some Lizlards to volunteer to come with me.”

BB laughed as he brushed himself off. “I think you’ll make a great scout. You’re definitely good at sneaking around! I can’t wait to hear how those Bat Birds caught on fire and fell out of the sky. I thought

for sure Sammy and Spencer were done for.”

Kerry nodded. “Whatever it was looked pretty powerful. Maybe they found a new weapon that could help the Lizlards defend themselves.”

“I hope so!” BB replied. “And I hope you don’t trip too many times going up that mountain. It’s steep.”

“Right. At least I don’t trip as often as you do!” joked Kerry as he ran off.

Kerry approached a big group of Lizlards sitting and talking in the middle of the village.

He smiled at them and asked, “Do I have any volunteers to hike up the mountain with me and start learning to be a scout?”

A Lizlard named Chinkey Stinkey was the first one to raise his hand. He was smaller than most Lizlards, but his size made him perfect for the job. He could hide almost anywhere—and he was fast!

“This is a great way for me to help my village!” Chinkey Stinkey exclaimed.

Donutpuke, Tripfart, Greenlean, Toepeel and Pootscoot also decided to join the scouting team.

Kerry wanted to jump into gear as soon as possible. “All right team,” he said to the six Lizlards, “let’s move as quickly as we can. Our day of training is going to start in a couple of hours, and I don’t want to miss any of it. This means we’ll all have to work together. Got it?”

“Got it!” Tripfart replied. “No more arguing!”

“That’s right,” said Kerry. “Does everyone else agree?”

“Yes!” the Lizlards replied.

Kerry picked up the bag of food he’d put together for Sammy and Spencer. If they were going to keep being the village’s lookouts, they would need enough black apples to last them several days.

Kerry and the Lizlards marched through the twists and turns on the trail with confidence

as it wound up the cliffs. Each Lizard was carrying several spears, either a dagger or an ax, and a sack of food. They all kept their weapons ready and scanned the sky for Bat Birds.

Since Kerry didn't know exactly where Sammy and Spencer were, he was going to start hooting once he thought they were getting close.

Meanwhile, Sammy and Spencer stood on a ledge keeping watch over the valley.

"I'm glad we get to help keep the village safe from Bat Birds," Spencer said. "But this gets really boring sometimes!"

"Yeah, it does," Sammy agreed. "We could play a game to help the time go faster."

"Like *what*? There's nothing to play with up here," Spencer complained.

Sammy didn't answer. He was standing still, staring at something in the distance.

"Sammy?" Spencer said. "What is it?"

"Shhh!" Sammy replied.

As they quieted down, they could hear faint voices coming from the foot of the mountain. Then they heard hoots.

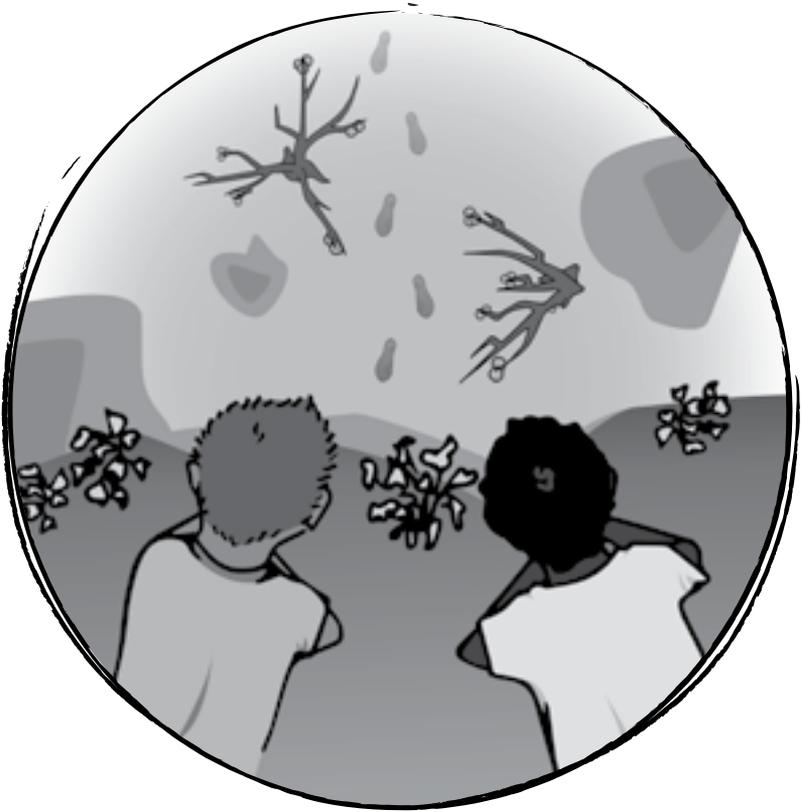
“It must be the guys!” Sammy said. “Look! I can see Kerry down there. And it looks like he brought some Lizlards along to help.”

Spencer grinned mischievously. “I know a fun game we could play,” he said. “It’s called ‘Mess with the Lizlards.’ I know some great tricks we could play on them.”

“All right,” Sammy laughed. “Maybe if they’ve gotten better at working together, they’ll be able to figure out what’s going on.”

“Kerry will know what we’re up to right away, but hopefully he’ll play along,” Spencer said.

First Spencer made some obvious footprints for the Lizlards. The footprints led up a long, dead-end path, ending at a cliff that was as straight as a wall and impossible to climb.



THIS IS A SAMPLE. SOME PAGES HAVE BEEN OMITTED.

LET'S THINK ABOUT IT

Good questions help us learn.

• • •

1. On page 8, Sammy and Spencer decide to play some good-natured tricks on Kerry and the Lizard scouts. What do you like to do for fun? Has someone ever played a good trick on you?
2. As the Lizards get tripped up by Sammy and Spencer's traps, they start to argue and get angry with each other. Who do you get into arguments with? Why?
3. At the end of Chapter 1, the Lizards' arguments get them into some deep trouble. How does getting into arguments hurt you? Have you ever seen two people argue? Did it bother you?
4. Sammy and Spencer teach the Lizards about brotherhood (page 21-22). Do you have a friend that feels like a brother to you? How do you treat each other?
5. On page 22, Chinkey Stinkey says he needs to learn to relax. How do you try to calm down when you're too excited?
6. The Lizards making weapons with Pete are proud of what they've made. What have you made or accomplished that you're proud of? What's it like to put your initials on or sign something you've created?

7. The gang teaches the Lizards a bunch of different skills: John teaches butchering, Pete teaches weapons building, Kerry teaches combat, Sammy and Spencer teach scouting, Toby teaches weapons training and Cliff and BB teach internal skills. Which class or teacher would you like to have, and why? Who's your favorite teacher in your school?
8. On page 67, the rock gives the gang the following advice from 1 John 5:14. What do you pray and ask God for?

“Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us.”

9. One of BB's leadership principles is “take responsibility for your actions and the consequences” (page 69). What do you need to take responsibility for?
10. The second leadership principle is “know when to tell yourself no” (page 69). When do you have to say no to doing something you really want to do?
11. Another leadership principle is “look for ways to be happy and add joy to life” (page 70). How do you contribute to your and others' happiness?

12. BB tells the gang and the Lizlards about S.M.A.R.T. goals (page 72). Write down three S.M.A.R.T. you can follow to improve yourself. What goals are you helping someone else achieve?
13. In Chapter 6, a group of Lizlards get into a huge fight. Have you ever been in a physical fight with someone? How did it happen?
14. The gang tells the Lizlards about a time when they had to choose their own punishment (page 85). Have you ever had to decide on a punishment for something you did? What did you pick?
15. BB's first principle for treating others well is to treat everyone like they're valuable (page 95). Do you believe you're valuable? Do you ever act like you're not valuable? How?
16. Another principle for leading others is to support and encourage them (page 96). Can you name three friends who you can encourage? What would you say to or do for them?
17. Another principle for leading others is "always be willing to forgive" (page 96). How easy or difficult is it for you to forgive someone who makes a mistake? Who should you forgive now? What did they do?

18. BB's last principle is to set boundaries with harmful people (page 98). Is someone in your life a bad influence on you? Why do you think you need to set boundaries with them or stay away from them?
19. BB and the gang trust that Pops will help them get across the Impossible River. What impossible thing do you want Pops to help you change?
20. On page 118, Spencer has some fun flying into the pond and swimming around. Do you like swimming and jumping into water?
21. Would you want to take a ride on the gang's punkin chunkin machine? Would you rather go first or last?
22. Have you ever felt lonely like BB feels at the end of this book? What does that feel like?
23. What's one verse the rock said that you want to remember? Write it down here:

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

. . .



After becoming a grandfather, Dr. Roy Smith was inspired to write a book series for his grandsons and boys and men of all ages—so he embarked on a journey to creatively teach character development. Being a psychologist and counselor for more than 35 years, Roy understands how important it is for young men to develop and use their full

potential. Roy's goal is to help young men become mentally strong, address their emotions and develop social skills so they can have a powerful impact on the world. They need to meet God and integrate who He is and His Word into their daily decision-making. Another goal of Roy's is to help men grow and learn how to lead more effectively, contributing to the overarching goal of positively changing our culture. This goal led him to develop Knights of the 21st Century (www.K21.men), a ministry that produces books and DVD series for men. Roy has written and cowritten several books in the area of men's issues, including *Bull*, *Being God's Man*, *Basic Warrior Training*, *Manhood Journey* (Volumes 1-5), *Why Not Try to Hit the Real Target—Men* and *You're Not Dead Yet*. He has also consulted on and written several women's DVD series (www.realwomen21.com).

CAN THEY MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE?

The Impossible River rages on while the gang tries to keep their spirits up. They stay busy helping the Lizards, all while racking their brains for a new plan. Will they finally get across the terrible river? Or will they be stuck in Lardville forever?

Through it all, the boys learn lessons about life and about God. They never stop fighting for each other—and sometimes for their own lives!

*FIND ALL OF THE CAMPFIRE GANG ADVENTURES AT
www.TheCampfireGang.com*