



## Sumthin's A-Stompin' at the Showdown

Even though it were a Monday, it were long before sunup when the kinfolk was a-stirrin'. There was werrrd that Billy Bob and Bubba Dean Wittdim was a needin' help with some chores at the family mountain. And so, in a variety of karts, haulers, trailers and a great big charter wagin, they all headed far North for a week of provin' theyselves the worthiest in competituve chores for late Pa Jethro Wittdim's prized Golden Banjer.

After a long journey and th' finest victuals waitin' on arrival, the kinfolk started off their sprucin' with some **Household Chores**. There was some creative *Scribblin' and Scrubbin'* ("Pictionary," for you edjukated folk.) Uncle Ethan Hamilton's shack won the "fastest draw" award with his...simplified...sketch of a circle that Micah Schaffner immediately identified as a "well." That was some deep thunkin' right thar. The Hillbilly Hicks and Kountry Kousins put their book larnin' to good use and tried ta count their highest numbers when they could flip a five on the dice. Proved harder than 'spectated to flip...or count, fer some of the competitors. Finally, thar were violent rounds of *Roach Stompin'* (smashin' balloons) with one particular team doin' some fancy footwork and leavin' few remaining critters scatterin' fer cover. It were a good warmup chore round, and the competishun was close with a win fer th' Kousins. Them wut be orange and green have their work cut out for thusselves!



**Finally Stumpified**

In his 84 years of camp staffin', Uncle Michael Schaedel hasn't ever been so flustered. Let youth group history show that Ethan Smith completely halted Michael's Rook game by completely misunderstanding his BASIC PRIMARY COLORS seven times in a row. Uncle Michael may need to go dip in the river just as many times, to get over the trauma.

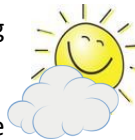


**Weather Report**

The water what is going upwurds is "steam."

The water what's comin' in the down direc-shun is a stray thundershower.

High of 84



**Excessive Monkeyin' Around**

That Maggie West what brung her hugest stuffed monkey, "Bananas" (wut is as big as Nathan Schaub) shall be fined for packin' unapproved luggage pieces, a penalty of bein' allowed to use only 400 words a day at camp. (That should keep the din down.)







**Condensation:** Perhaps a few of the girls could use packin' lessons from Grant Gonzales. Upon what bein' asked, "That all you brought!?" Grant replied, "It's called 'condensed packing.' I thought this was a bit much!" Maybe Jadon Tessari and Abigail Earnest should have a thunk about condensing before they scraped all the fresh gravel from the Peniel trails with their overloaded cases.

### The Mountain Meetings Begin

For a dedicated focus this week on **SALT Life: My Influence for Christ**, Pastor Kyle Wilcox opened God's Word and pointed our attention to the notable example of Titus as a person of influence in an influential place. While his story wasn't big and flashy, without an extensive resume of mission trips and fame, he proved himself as a valued helper of Paul in serving the Lord.

He was an *influence to Paul*, as Paul realized his need to have Titus' valuable assistance in ministry and leaned on Titus' help as God led Paul.

Titus was a *thoughtful messenger*, who brought words of God's love and wasn't afraid to say the hard things. He was a *beneficial partner*, who brought comfort, food, and practical ministry in the work of the gospel. He was a *faithful believer*, who didn't give up even when his mentors and companions were imprisoned or finished with their ministry.



We looked at *where* Titus served, in a small place full of divisive teaching. He was navigating people who were occupied with silly teaching, on a pirate island with a culture of debauchery that was influencing the new church recently founded in Crete. We can sympathize today, as our culture is seething with misleading teaching and skewed obsessions that threaten to influence the church and our hearts around every corner and through every screen. But as God used Titus, despite the thick distraction surrounding, God desires to use us to influence the church toward Christ. While the world monetizes "influencers," our calling as a follower of Christ is to influence the body of Christ most importantly. As Matthew 5:13 teaches us: we *are* the salt of the earth, needing to bring savor, needing to bring light. What is your influence? Christ has called you salt, so how are you influencing in the place God has you, wherever that is and no matter the culture?

Consider Titus, but start here: Are you a disciple of Christ?

### M I S S E D I T B Y T H A T M U C H

Waldo got NUTHIN' on Camp Cleanup Crewman David Freeman. Iffn' you see'im meanderin' the mountainside, puhleaze kindly offer him yer camp map. 'Parrently he spent all of Monday a'wanderin' the Amuricas, tryin' to find Ohio (since he missed the bus, had a flight cancelled in Greenville and missed another flight in Atlanta.) It's ok, he found hisself a plane seat and did eventually appear in an airport in Ohio, where good Dr. and Mrs. Dahlhausen found it in the kindness of their heart to give him a lift to our Appalachian camp. In some redemption, he heroically bringed up Pastor Rush's belongings, too, which took their own tour of the country in effort to make it to camp.

