



The Acmar Soul Miner

Searching for wisdom

As for hidden treasures...

For the Lord gives wisdom



Acmar United Methodist Church July 2022 Vol. 23 Issue 7 Acmar Post Office

Holy Ground

A softball batter stepped away from the plate. She marked the ground before stepping back up to home plate.

It's not strange for girls to have certain rituals before stepping up to the plate. Some twirl their bat; some hit themselves in the back (though that seems painful); and some push their bat forward like they are going to bunt.

This girl's ritual was different because the mark that she made in the dirt with her bat was the sign of the cross. She was literally, marking the ground that she was standing on as "Holy Ground."

She was using everyone of her at-bats as a testimony and giving God all the glory. The girl used the talents and resources that God had given her, and she made it Holy Ground right there at the ballpark.

In his 365-Day Sports Devotional, SEE YOU AT THE PLATE, Stephen A. Strange writes, "What would the world look like if we decided where God had put us, we were going to make it Holy Ground? We would be great ambassadors for Christ.

"Let me ask you, are you standing on Holy Ground?"¹

"Do not come any closer," God said, "Take off your sandals. The place you are standing on is holy ground." (Exodus 3:5)

Those were God's words to Moses when God called Moses to lead the people of Israel from bondage in slavery to promised freedom.

¹ Strange, Stephen A. SEE YOU AT THE PLATE. Published by Stephen A. Strange, 2021. Day 1. steverumc@yahoo.com

Moses' encounter with God took place when he turned to behold a burning bush at the back of the desert on Mt. Horeb.

Authors, Brad Lyons and Bruce Barkhauer, lift up the possibility of America's National Parks as opportunities to experience God.

The promotion for their book, America's Holy Ground: 61 Faithful Reflections on our National Parks, notes that America's 60 National Parks are beloved around the world for their inspiring natural beauty and unmatched diversity. They can also be places to reconnect with God and the sacred.

National Parks engage our five senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste but engaging a sixth sense, the sense of the holy, will transform your national park experience.

America, the Beautiful

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!*

Maybe it is not only our national parks and nature preserves but our concrete jungles and high rises that can become holy ground.

Maybe it is not only mansions and manicured lawns but our cardboard tents and underpass trails that can become holy ground.

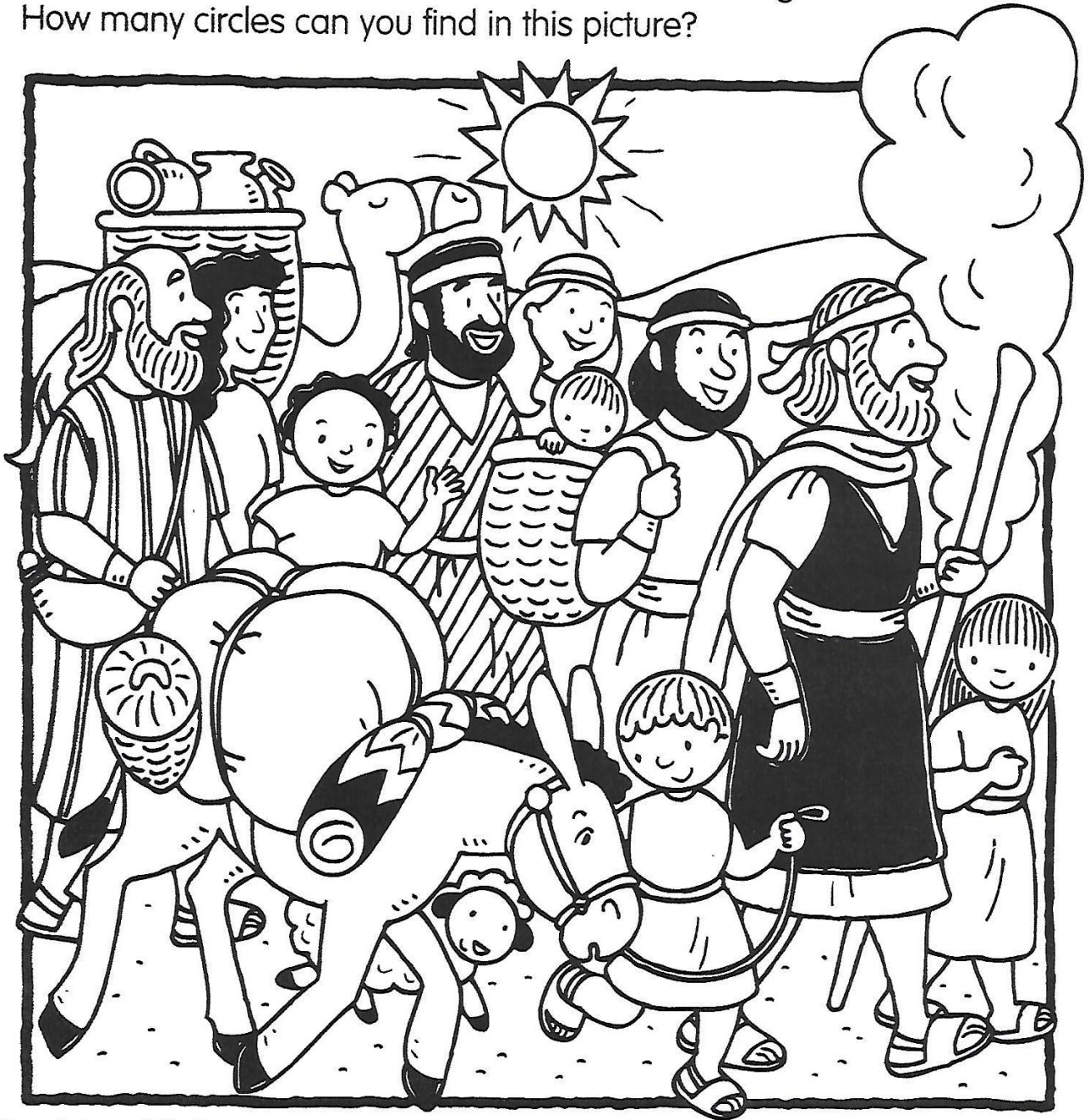
What would America look like if we decided that wherever we stand, we will make it Holy Ground? What ritual might we include in our daily lives that will always give God the glory and say, "I'm standing on Holy Ground."

Children's Camp

Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles.

Puzzle 3

God sent a cloud to show the Israelites where to go.
How many circles can you find in this picture?



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have to
dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. (Exodus 13:21)

Digging In:

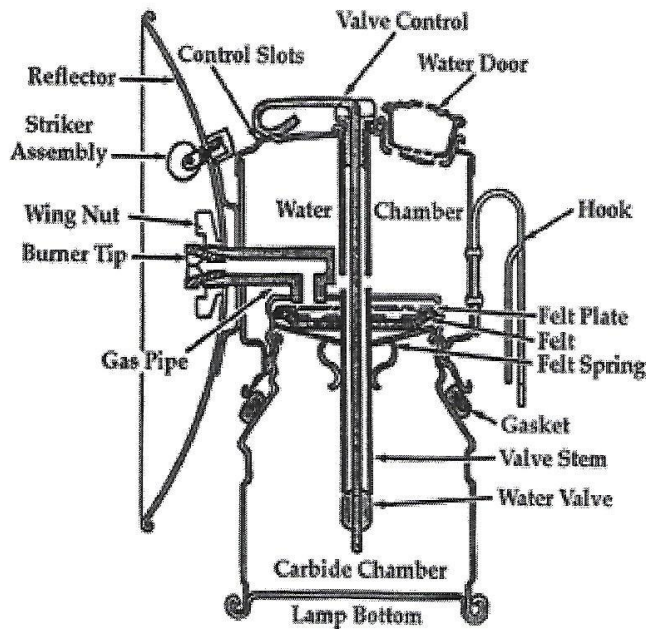
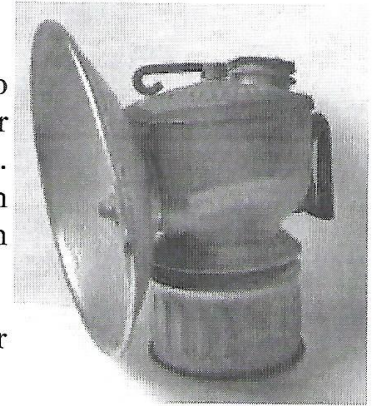
God was with the Israelites and cared for them.
God will always care for us wherever we go.

Because God goes with us, the places that we go can become Holy Ground.
Holy Ground is any place where we honor God and do good things for God.

The Acmar Community Quilt

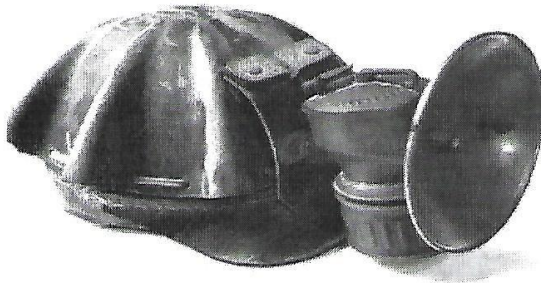
With so much modern technology easily available, it's hard to imagine what it might have been like for an Acmar coal miner whose shift deep in the mine depended on a tiny flame. Carbide lamps came into use in 1900, making it the common piece of a miner's equipment when Alabama Fuel & Iron Company established Acmar in 1908.

Wikipedia online provides us with information to help us better understand how the carbide lamps they used worked:
























A mining lamp has calcium carbide placed in a lower chamber. The upper reservoir is then filled with water. A mechanism is used to control the rate at which the water is allowed to drip into the chamber containing the calcium carbide producing acetylene gas. By controlling the rate of water flow, the production of acetylene gas is controlled. This, in turn, controls the flow rate of the gas and the size of the flame at the burner, and the amount of light it produces. Average runtime in carbide cap lamps was only about four hours, necessitating a carbide refill mid-shift, which could leave the miner in darkness. The burner tip could also clog or be blown out by wind.

The carbide lamps were both good and bad things for the miners. The tiny flame that gave them light to see could also be the catalyst for gas explosions in the mines. While uncertain as to the cause, Acmar suffered two explosions. In May of 1922, eleven men were killed in Mine No. 3, and in July, 1941, eleven more were killed in Mine No. 6.



It's possible each miner thought about what could happen each day as he clipped the carbide lamp onto his cap and went down into the mines. As years passed and safer battery powered lamps came into use, they replaced the carbide lamps, creating one less hazard for miners.

July 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sundays Worship 9 a Snacks 10 a Sun. School 10:15 am	Special Offering July 31 Individual & Family Support	Audio Sermon Podcasts on Acmar Website	 Supper 07-13 6:30 pm	Soul Miner on the Acmar Website in the Gallery	1 Shyla Johnson  Liz Reeves	2  Patty Crocker
3  CHURCH 9 Glenda Mancill 	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	7	8	9  Millie Champion
10  CHURCH 9 am	11  Danny Nicholson	12  Jackson Wimberly	13 CHURCH SUPPER 6:30 p Maddie Grace Wilson 	14  BINGO 10 a Moody Sr. Center	15	16  Yuandeliz Cruz
17  CHURCH 9 am	18  Laura Carpenter	19  Vicki Siegreest	20  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	21  Christopher Champion	22	23
24 CHURCH 9 am 31 CHURCH 9 am / I & F	25 	26  Rhonda Turner Payton	27	28	29  Astrid Carpenter	30

Soul Food for July

Mon. June 27
Tue., June 28
Wed., June 29
Thur., June 30
Fri., July 1
Sat., July 2

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
John 15:1-9
Psalm 118:19-24

Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 205 640 4325
Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., July 4
Tue., July 5
Wed., July 6
Thur., July 7
Fri., July 8
Sat., July 9

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37
Psalm 25:4-11
1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Mon., July 18
Tue., July 19
Wed., July 20
Thur., July 21
Fri., July 22
Sat., July 23

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21
Ephesians 2:4-10
Revelation 3:15-16

Mon., July 11
Tue., July 12
Wed., July 13
Thur., July 14
Fri., July 15
Sat., July 16

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42
1 John 1:5-10
Philippians 2:1-11

Mon., July 25
Tue., July 26
Wed., July 27
Thur., July 28
Fri., July 29
Sat., July 30

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40
1 Corinthians 12:12-20
Luke 1:57-66