

God with the Wind

QUESTIONS FOR CUBS

NOTE TO PARENTS/TEACHERS:

The goal of this questions-and-answers section is to initiate interaction between you and your kids. Please do not just read the questions and answers to your kids. These answers are given for you at an adult level to think about and to process. Once that is accomplished, you can then translate them into appropriate answers for your kids.

LESSON

Knowing God by His creation

KEY VERSE

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Gen. 1:1)

EAR CHECK (STORY COMPREHENSION)

- Q: What is The Club searching for in the mansion?
A: *Camping equipment*
- Q: What is the name of the friend they meet and invite to go camping?
A: *Wally Wickett*
- Q: What does Wally say he doesn't believe in?
A: *He says he doesn't believe in God*
- Q: During the windstorm, what does C.J. get trapped inside of?
A: *His tent*
- Q: Where does The Club end up spending the night?
A: *A cave*

HEART CHECK (SPIRITUAL APPLICATION)

Q: Wally Wickett doesn't believe that there is a God. What was his reason for not believing? Is it a good reason?

- A: He believes that if a person cannot touch or see something, it cannot be real. If a person does not believe in the spiritual realm, then it is reasonable to rely only on what the senses say. We should never make fun of anyone who believes this, but we should lovingly share with him or her the reality of our great and awesome God.

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Q: What are some things that are real but that you cannot touch or see?

A: Some examples might be anything that is spiritual like love or faith. The Bible is full of events where the spiritual gets involved in the physical world, which is the very definition of a miracle. Spiritual things are every bit as real and important as physical things, but unlike the physical, spiritual things last forever (Rom. 1:20; 2 Cor. 4:18).

Q: Why didn't Paw Paw Chuck try harder to keep after Wally until he became a Christian that very day?

A: We are supposed to proclaim the Gospel—the message of Christ—as the only way of salvation. It is not our job to wear people down until they give in and accept Jesus. Rather, the Holy Spirit is the one who draws people to Jesus. Our job as Christians is to be prepared to patiently and lovingly share the good news of salvation and to live godly lives, so that unbelievers may want to know the Christ who lives in us (Matt. 28:16–20; 1 Pet. 3:15).

“I” CHECK (PERSONAL APPLICATION)

1. Before they set out hiking to their campsite, Paw Paw Chuck led everyone in prayer. Do you pray before doing things like eating and going on trips? Why should we do that?
2. While hiking, Staci disobeyed Paw Paw Chuck's wishes for everyone to stay close to the group. Paw Paw Chuck's warning was meant to keep everyone safe. What rules have your parents or teachers made to help keep you safe? What could happen if we don't obey the rules?
3. One of the best parts of hiking or camping is seeing all of the beautiful things God created. Can you name five things God created that you might see while camping?
4. Even though we can't see God with our eyes, we know He exists because we can see what He has done. Can you name anything that God has done in your life or in the lives of your family members or friends?

God with the Wind

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I am really proud of this episode, because it represents just how different *Paws & Tales* is from other children's programs. In my opinion, we tend to underestimate the kinds of things kids ponder as they play four-square or baseball. *God with the Wind* deals with the existence of God. Every adult has thought about this question—the truth is that every kid has too.

In order to introduce this topic, we created an intelligent new character who has a differing opinion with some merit. Enough merit, in fact, that C. J. is utterly stumped when Wally Wickett tells him that he and his father do not believe in God. Wally's reasoning is a product of the scientific method, as is the reasoning of most of the kids in our modern culture. They are not stupid nor are they particularly dangerous—they simply do not know about God as we do. Paw Paw Chuck handles this very well. He initially converses with Wally in the context in which Wally is most comfortable. Paw Paw Chuck shows Wally that he often has experiences that cannot be evaluated by science. He does not shame Wally for his lack of faith; instead, he deliberately educates him on the things of the Spirit.

One of the things that I really like about this episode is that Wally does not become a believer at the end. We tend to think that all of us should be harvesting all the time. The laws of nature tell us this is a warped view. The process of growing crops requires sowers. The sower's job is not complete when the wheat is harvested. It is done once the seed is sown. Paw Paw Chuck has planted a seed. The Holy Spirit will then begin His work, and Wally may or may not respond to the call. That is up to Wally. When Paw Paw Chuck planted the seed, he understood Wally needed some time to process what he had heard. His is a gentle and respectful style of sowing. I was deeply impressed by a book on this topic titled *Finding Common Ground* by Tim Downs. I recommend it highly.

As Christians, we never have to shy away from the facts. We have truth on our side. We have answers to the questions of science, if only we are prepared. Science will never disprove any truth. Science is not the enemy of God, though some scientists are, to be sure. Science belongs to God. When we use truth well and wrap it in grace, we are able to effectively witness to the world.



David B. Carl
Creative Director
Paws & Tales

