

The Lone Rider



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Suggested Props to Use:

- † A cowboy on horseback; with saddle bags; bedroll
- † Compass
- † Map or Atlas of Maps
- † Google Map Printout

Additional information:

Any open area will do; we used the church's covered arena. A cowboy riding on horseback at a slow pace interacts with the teacher/preacher in an open

discussion/question method of teaching. The students walk along side where they can hear, see, and interact with the cowboy for the Interactive Walk with the Lone Rider.

Sub-Titled: The Lone Rider or To Get Where You Want to Go, Look Up

Interactive walk with cowboy [Lone Rider] on horseback:

Statement: Traveling by horse back across the plains or in a territory that has no roads, you need to know which way you are going if you plan on getting to your destination. So Lone Rider, we are wondering:

- † Could a cowboy get out his Iphone and Google a map? [you can offer a cell phone to the cowboy, but he doesn't know what that is, back in the Trail days-- didn't have whatever that thing is; you can offer him a Google map; but alas, again he won't know what that is either]
- † How about plugging his destination into a GPS? [Lone Rider isn't familiar with a "GPwhatever", either]

Statement: Some of the places the cowboy was traveling had not ever been mapped:

- † Lone Rider, how do you find your way? [He just knew that he wanted to go west until he got to a particular river or set of mountains or whatever landmark he was looking for.]
- † This atlas of maps would this help? Offer him a Road Atlas. [No, because the roads did not exist back then.]
- † Now this compass would be very helpful. It would always let him know which way is North so he could point in the direction that he wanted to go. Lone Rider, how about a compass? [Most cowboys did not even have a compass to go by because they were too expensive.]
- † SO HOW DO YOU FIND YOUR WAY: He had to get his directions **by looking UP!**

Statement: The cowboy had to get his directions from the stars. But a wise cowboy got his directions first from the Holy Spirit of God and then would use the stars to get him where he was going.

John 14: 26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

At this point you can have the Lone Rider lead the students to a place to sit where they all can listen; including the Lone Rider and his horse. The lesson now turns to the main theme of the message.

Has the Holy Spirit always been available?

Acts 1: 2 "Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:"

The Lord has always been available and ready to instruct and guide us.

- In the Old Testament the Lord sent angels as messengers to instruct His people.
- When Jesus came, we had God in the flesh speak to us.
- After Jesus ascended He sent the Holy Spirit to live within us and instruct and comfort us.

How do you get directions from the Holy Spirit?

Luke 11:13 "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"

This has always been easy to answer, however, too few want to live a life that pleases the Lord and makes it simple to have instant communication with the Lord.

Read your Bible to see what God wants your life to be like (it's for your benefit!) and then spend some time every day in prayer.

- Read your Bible so you understand what God wants of your life.
- Do what God's Word says
- Pray every day

How accurate are the directions that the Holy Spirit gives?

Acts 1:16 "Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus." (Refer to Psa. 41: 9)

The Holy Spirit of God gave directions to King David over 1000 years before it happened explaining that Judas, a familiar friend that was in Jesus inner circle, would betray Jesus Christ the Messiah. The Holy Spirit also gave King David details about the crucifixion (refer to Psa. 22).

When I plan a vacation trip several months in advance there is always some things that will change before we get where we are going. The Holy Spirit does not miss any details: What He says will happen exactly the way He says it will.

If you are born again then you have the Holy Spirit to guide you for the rest of your life.

What a comfort: when you have problems, just ask the Holy Spirit that lives within you. If you are not born again then you are on your own and do not know where you are heading in this life.

Ask Jesus into your heart today.