

# Assembly Communicator

Homeward Bound!

For the Young at Heart

September 2012

*Then He arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm...What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him! (Matthew 8:26-27)*

Fill in the missing words in the following verses (KJV), then find and circle them in the Word Search below.

The law of the LORD is \_\_\_\_\_, converting the soul: the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD is sure, making wise the \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 19:7).

But whoso \_\_\_\_\_ into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a \_\_\_\_\_ hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be \_\_\_\_\_ in his deed (James 1:25).

For Christ is the end of the law for \_\_\_\_\_ to every one that \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 10:4).

For by \_\_\_\_\_ are ye saved through \_\_\_\_\_; and that not of \_\_\_\_\_: it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).

Hidden message: after you find and circle the words in the Word Search, go to the top left corner and write down the letters from left to right that were not circled as words from the above verses.

You should find three words.

J	E	H	T	E	V	E	I	L	E	B	S	S
R	I	G	H	T	E	O	U	S	N	E	S	S
U	S	L	H	O	T	V	E	S	V	B	Y	O
U	L	H	T	M	C	Q	X	L	L	Z	Y	F
F	T	N	I	N	E	X	E	E	T	N	M	O
Q	F	B	A	D	F	S	S	C	O	B	M	R
X	L	T	F	G	R	S	Q	M	A	D	T	G
W	Y	O	L	U	E	N	I	R	M	R	B	E
B	M	G	O	D	P	T	R	G	N	J	G	T
F	C	Y	M	K	S	B	X	K	Y	Y	G	F
D	L	R	N	E	E	M	T	C	M	N	L	U
B	Q	C	T	K	D	T	D	M	L	K	Z	L
B	S	I	M	P	L	E	H	L	M	F	D	R

\_\_\_\_\_

# Escape!!!

With God's help Captain Jim and the workers from both sides of the river had miraculously spanned the chasm over the river in a single day. All that was left to do was to place the spanning boards on the walkway.

## The Work Begins

As the sun began to rise, the village and farm people shared their last breakfast with their families in homes they would soon leave perhaps forever. Most would have each other, but many of their possessions had to be left behind. Some wrapped smaller items in canvas, which they buried in the forest.

The church bell began to ring the scouts' warning. The enemy would soon be arriving to take control of the village and all the farm properties.

With haste folks drove their tractors, pulling wagons loaded with grandfathers, grandmothers, new mothers, babies, children, and whatever items they could carry to the crossing point.

In the meantime, at the bridge site Jim directed the workers to cut the planking to proper lengths and screw them to the cross pieces, leaving a gap between the boards for the wind to pass through. The men worked feverishly. Captain Jim was pleased with the progress and prayed they could begin crossing by noon.

He sent word by his messenger to Ralph on the other side. "Have your men fashion rope harnesses so each child can be fitted with a harness and attached to an adult. Backpacks will enable them to cross using their hands to hold on to the middle ropes. They'll need to steady themselves as they cross the swaying bridge."



## Smoke in the Distance

As one young man climbed high in a tree to readjust the tension on one of the ropes, he spotted smoke coming

from the village. It was the advancing army, looting and burning buildings as they took control of the villagers who had stayed behind.

## Protecting the Bridgehead

Captain Jim positioned some of the men with military experience behind huge boulders on the cliff. Their high-powered hunting rifles might be able to distract the enemy soldiers, allowing the escape of those waiting to cross the nearly completed bridge.

Jim remembered the way God had delivered the children of Israel from their bondage in Egypt. God had parted the waters of the Red Sea and the people crossed over on dry land. He looked at the large number of people now gathering to cross to safety.

Lookouts spotted many people coming who, when they saw the cruelty of the enemy, decided to join their friends and neighbors and flee for their lives.

Jim would have preferred more time to check things out on the bridge, but time had run out. The people needed to cross NOW!

Jim shouted instructions: "Not more than five people on the bridge at the same time. Keep some distance between you and the person ahead of you!" Jim asked the men to organize the crowd. Women went first, some carrying their babies in their backpacks. Younger children crossed attached to adults by the rope harnesses. Older folks were paired with younger folks. Those afraid to cross were encouraged by a partner as they began the precarious trip. Concerned, Jim observed what seemed like an endless stream of people who needed to cross.

## Strong Wind

Soon the wind started to blow, which caused the suspension bridge to sway from side to side, but people continued to cross, carrying what they could of their possessions.

After a few hours someone heard gunshots. The enemy was approaching. Jim and others who were still waiting fell on their knees and began to pray that no lives would be lost. God had so far kept all the people safe as they reached the other side.

The enemy had been told about the villagers' flight by some of the captured townspeople. As they approached the cliff area they were surprised by the locals' shooting skills from the boulders above. They were completely pinned down, unable to advance to the top of the cliff. They could not prevent the locals from crossing the bridge.

Across the river sharpshooters took positions concealed by trees and boulders, but they had a clear view of the bridgehead on the opposite side of the river. More and more people rushed to cross. After Jim saw no indication of the bridge being overloaded, he decided he must let ten people cross the bridge at a time.

Fortunately, the enemy troops held back on a full assault on the hill leading to the bridgehead. They were waiting for reinforcements to arrive. By the time they arrived at dusk, all the escaping people had crossed though many of their possessions had to be left behind. There was no time to go back across the span to retrieve other items they had brought from home.

The guarding soldiers quickly made their way back up to the hilltop to cross the bridge as soon as the crowd had crossed. As the enemy soldiers came into view near the bridgehead the sharpshooters from the safe side of the river sent a steady stream of bullets flying across the river. They were able to pin down the advancing army until the guarding soldiers dashed across the bridge. Jim was the last man to cross.

### **Falling Bridge**

Jim gave the order to his young helpers to climb the trees and untie or to cut the ropes. After a few short moments the beautiful suspension bridge fell toward the waterfall below. What a sad sight to see! The bridge

they all had worked so hard to build was dangling over the waterfall, the boards smashing apart on the rocks below. Now, the enemy could not cross and follow. More than 300 people escaped.

The strong sense of relief sent prayers of thanksgiving up to God.

Jim ordered military guards to be posted at the crossing site to be sure what was left of the bridge would not be pulled back up, repaired, and used by the enemy to cross over.

### **Food, Shelter, and Tears**

The people made their way to the temporary housing that had been prepared for them. They were given food, hugged, and comforted by their new friends and families on the other side of the river. They had a new life now. Many in both countries were believers on the Lord Jesus Christ. They rejoiced to know that God loved them.

Together they pondered the verse in Romans 8:28,

*We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.*

What was God's purpose?

How would He use it for good?

That night Captain Jim thought back over the events of the last few days: the danger of accidents or death during the bridge construction, the possibility of a breaking rope, the danger of the bridge being overloaded as the people crossed: the enemy soldiers that could have shot at those crossing the bridge. Jim thanked the Lord Jesus that no one had been killed. He knew God had given him wisdom in the decisions he had made. It was all the Lord's doing. The people for the present were saved from the enemy.

Jim wept as he thought about leaving his friends. Was his work done here? Was he now to go home? What did God want him to do?

## Destination: The Moon

*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place... (Psalm 8:3 NIV)*



A blue moon (two full moons in a single month) occurred on the same day as funeral services were held for former NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong, who recently passed away.

**The next blue moon won't occur until 2015.**

July 16, 1969 at 9:32 AM EDT a Saturn V rocket blasted off from Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Apollo 11 with three astronauts began a three-day journey to



the moon. Their mission? To land and walk on the moon's surface. No one had ever walked on the surface and there was much that was unknown.

July 19, Apollo 11 started orbiting the moon. After a full day in lunar orbit, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin boarded the lunar module and detached it from the command module for their descent to the moon's surface.

The onboard computer was guiding them to an area filled with boulders the size of small cars. Armstrong took control and guided the lunar module to a safe landing area.

At 4:18 PM EDT on July 20, 1969, with only seconds of fuel left, the landing module landed. Armstrong reported to the command center in Houston, "Houston, Tranquility Base

here. The Eagle has landed."

Armstrong and Aldrin spent six-and-a-half hours resting and then prepared for their moon walk.

At 10:28 PM EDT, Armstrong turned on the video cameras. He transmitted images from the moon to over half a billion people on earth watching their progress on television.

Neil Armstrong was the first person out of the lunar module, becoming the first person to set foot on the moon at 10:56 PM EDT. Armstrong stated, "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind."

A few minutes later, Aldrin exited the lunar module and



stepped foot on the moon's surface.

The two astronauts were on the moon's surface 21 hours and 36 minutes (including 2 hours and 31 minutes of outside exploration).



The lunar module blasted off from the moon's surface at 1:54 PM EDT on July 21, 1969.

The Eagle docked with Columbia where Michael Collins, had remained.

After 3 days all three astronauts with 46 pounds of moon rock returned to earth.



Photos from Google Images