



Bekah's Excellent Adventure

By Rebecca Mulvaney

Safaris. Mountain-climbs. Going into the wilds where few have gone before. The word “adventure” summons such mental images. But realistically, an adventure is, in fact, going anywhere one hasn’t gone before—or doing anything one hasn’t done before. New experiential territory! Over the years I’m afraid I’ve grown less adventuresome, settling instead for the comfortable and predictable. I’ve opted to play it safe avoiding the “wildness” of new ventures. Several summers ago, however, I began an adventure that hasn’t ended yet.

As I searched for spiritual nourishment for my “lazy, hazy days of summer,” I found an interesting workbook called a “50-day spiritual adventure.” Hmmm, I thought; I haven’t been on an adventure for a long time.

Among several other aspects of the study, I was instructed to look for daily “God-sightings.” That sounded like something resembling storm-chasing or UFO’s, but rather than looking for funnel clouds and lights in the night-sky I was to keep an eagle-eye out for “sightings” of God’s activity in my day-to-day life. Of course, I already believed God was ever active in this world and in my life, but I didn’t realize how little I was recognizing His presence.

I began noticing obvious answers to prayer and unexpected evidences of His care. I started perceiving unusual linkages between events and their timing. I began to discern His help and assistance when I was laboring in ways that would be considered “ministry.” Every day for 50 days, I was to write down at least one God-sighting. At first, it was difficult. But after a bit of practice, I “saw” Him everywhere. I saw His hand in the friendships He provided. I felt His presence as He helped me understand my child’s struggle or as He gave me the words to help my husband who was overwhelmed

with his job. I recognized the way He used me to encourage others, and the way He, through others, encouraged me!

I noticed how God was helping my son overcome timidity and how He was growing my little girl into a reflective young woman. When my daughter said that she examined her motives as she dressed for a date, I knew God was shaping her spirit. When my son showed compassion for the kid who finished last in the cross country meet, I thanked God for the work He had done in his heart.

As I daily journaled the goodness I saw and experienced, I found that I had embarked on a journey toward personal richness. You see “the God hunt” became for me a new way of thinking—an adventurous way of living. That summer the “God-hunt” unleashed the adventurer in me yielding a thankful heart and a hopeful spirit. Who knows? Perhaps—just over the next mountain of laundry, just beyond the next valley of the mundane—a God-sighting awaits!

I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds. Psalm 77:12

Reflect & Respond:

Go for your own “God-hunt” this week and daily record at least one God-sighting you observe each day. (Don’t miss some of the more subtle sightings, like a “chance” encounter, an opportunity to deepen a relationship, or new insight into another’s struggle.)



Rebecca (Bekah) Mulvaney treasures the time she spends encouraging women, teaching and writing, jogging with friends, and coaching community groups with her husband, Mike. Her recent God-sightings include an unbelieving relative’s openness to accepting a book about Christ, a time of worship while weeding a flower-bed, and an unexpected opportunity to serve a neighbor. She is author of *Quiet Moments for Busy Moms*.