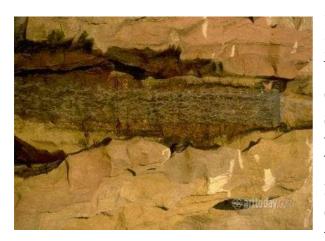
IAM: The Greatest Battle of Your Life

The First Cave Opening



Preparation: Dress a leader as Elijah in a simple costume of burlap robe, bag around waist, cloth head covering, and a wood staff. Have the leader stand in the "Cave" near the burning bush and wait for the class members to arrive. Only the campfire should be lit at this time.

Stop the class outside the Cave (door closed). Have each member enter The Cave individually and address Elijah as follows: "I am (state name). I come for guidance to win my greatest battle." Elijah will respond "Welcome (state name) to The Cave of Wisdom. I AM is the Father's Name. I am Elijah. You will learn much here. Please take a seat around the fire." Continue until all members are seated in the Cave.

Spirit Woman (Leader)'s guidance to the class: "Welcome to the Circle of Fire. We are now ready to begin our preparation for the 'Greatest Battle of Your Life'. The forces of darkness are aligned against you in this battle. So we begin our journey in darkness. We have entered "Elijah's Cave". Take a look around: only darkness and one light. We are not created for this place of darkness. We are creatures of the light. Our eyes do not see in the darkness as some creatures do. The darkness causes a sense of fear chills to creep up or spine. Do you really want to spend time in this place? If we are to fight and win the Greatest Battle, we must spend time here to gain the wisdom needed for the fight. Listen and learn well for the battle awaits you."

Spirit Woman (Leader): "For many months Elijah, a prophet of God hid in a cave like this one. He could hide from people, but not from I AM. God would turn the Cave of Doubt and Fear into the Cave of Wisdom and Courage. As you enter this cave, you join the tribe of the "I AM". From this time forward during your quest for wisdom, your success in your greatest battle will depend on your learning's. To commit yourself to the "I AM" Tribe, you are to wear this special T-shirt, marking you as a member of the tribe. You must wear this T-shirt the entire time you are with the tribe." (T-shirt: See attachment 1 for T-shirt logo.)

"The Greatest Battle of Your Life' is the battle to accomplish your dreams, the desire and passion of your life which I AM has intended as the purpose of your creation and placed within your heart. The Burning Bush will reveal this dream to you. (Turn on the Burning Bush light at this time.) But there is also a dark side that seeks to destroy the dreams of God by preventing you following God's plan. We often call this dark side the world or worldliness. The dark side will be revealed to you by the dead tree for it leads to the death of your purpose here (Turn on the black light of the dead tree at this time). These two forces are constantly doing battle within your heart for control of your actions."

"In 'The Cave' you will encounter both biblical and historical characters that fought this same battle and won or lost during 'The Burning Bush' lesson. As you entered "The Cave", you were introduced to our theme character, Elijah, who faced the dark side and, with God's help, won the battle to become what God intended for him. In this lesson, Elijah will begin to share his story with you. In the coming lessons, you will face each of the demons that Elijah faced. As a member of the Tribe, you will also participate in activities to help you develop wisdom, courage, and the support of others in your quest to defeat these demons."