



Theme:
Determination -
Stand Your Ground

Devotional

3

THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP "SEARCHING FOR CRUSOE"

1 Start Up

Each student should bring three pairs of socks to your meeting WITH THEIR NAMES CLEARLY ATTACHED TO THEM. Using a rope and a tarp, divide the room in half as high up as you can go. Put half of the group on each side of the divider with their socks rolled up like baseballs. On the word GO, the teams must throw the socks over the divider as fast as they can. This round is only 45 seconds long, so they must move fast. While they are throwing, toss in two beach balls and tell them they are worth double points. Give them a 10-second warning and then say STOP. Count the socks on each side of the divider. The team with the least number of socks - and beach balls - on their side wins. The second round is one minute long; the third is 90 seconds. (To help demonstrate the power of encouragement and motivation, you might try letting a few of the students sit on the sidelines in order to "cheer on" their peers.)

2 Get Focused

After the game is over, play the movie clip from "The Water Horse" and ask your students the following questions: In the game they just played, what was each team determined to accomplish? In the movie clip, what is Angus determined to do? What are few specific ways he demonstrates this determination? Is he taking any risks in his determi-

nation? If so, how? Are there any sacrifices he has to make in order to accomplish his goal?

Hebrews 12:1-3

- 1) As believers, we are running a race in which we have a cheering section! (v. 1)
- 2) We have a goal, and with God's help, we should rid ourselves of anything that stands in the way of reaching that goal. (v. 1)
- 3) Jesus ran this race himself, so we are in good company! (v. 2)
- 4) We can study how he accomplished the Father's goal. (v. 3)
- 5) Our motivation and strength come from Him. He is our encourager! (v. 3)

3 Wind Down

As you conclude, talk with your students about the specifics of the race that we're in as believers in Christ. What is our goal? What sacrifices might we have to make along the way in order to reach that goal? What risks? (This may be a good time to discuss specific struggles that your teens are facing in regards to sin. Encourage them to be honest about their struggles so they can see that they are in this race together.) What can we do on a daily basis to help motivate ourselves to keep on running and never give up? How can your students be an encouragement to one another?