

Lost in the Woods Story by Mike Dorough

This story reflects the worse night spent in the woods in Eastern Oregon while bow hunting Deer. This happened approximately 30 years ago.

The main players are: me, my hunting partner, the guys from Bible Temple, Bible Temple (local Church), and God.

It was a normal winter's day in Eastern Oregon, high about 50 and low about 32 (freezing). I did not have any rain gear. I hunted in a brown insulated jump suite. This worked fine as long as it did not rain.

I hunted about 50 miles from the house. It was an overcast day in Eastern Oregon. I was planning to hunt Saturday and go to Church on Sunday.

If you want to make God laugh, tell Him what you are going to do!

Well to make a long story short, I hunted in one direction while my partner hunted in another. Just to let you know, we were in my partner's car.

I hunted until right before dark. I figured that I could make it back to the starting point at dark when I got the idea to take a short cut. This turned out to be a bad idea.

I took a short cut that placed me in front of a large stream. I could not cross the stream and I could not make it back to the starting point. I was stuck!

At that time it started to rain (drizzle). I got by a tree and hoped for the best. I knew that I would spend the night in the woods. This is where it got interesting. I shivered most of the night! I was soaked within a few hours. I was cold and wet.

I prayed everything I knew. I figured that I could make it one night but not two nights. That is when I got an answer from God. He said that I would make it out of the woods but it would not be by my doing. I said, *'who cares, as long as I get out.'*

God tells us things if we listen. I knew God was speaking to me by 1) knowing that I knew and 2) the peace that only God could give.

The next day I started to walk out. Every time I thought I could hear cars going down a highway, it turned out to be a stream. I learned that I could not trust my hearing.

I could hear guys looking for me who were shooting a shotgun in the air 3 times. I knew by the time I reached them they would be gone. So I did not try to reach them.

I was found by the guys from the Church. I remembered what God has said. I would make it out but it will not be my own doing.

The guys told me the entire Church was praying for me. I was grateful.

My core temperature was under that of normal. I had a mild case of Hypothermia.

It took me 3 days to recover from that night in the woods. I did not tell the story after the initial rescue and Marilyn's help in this ordeal.

We do better when we listen to God and lean not to our own understanding. We can influence our tomorrow(s) by what we say and do. This is called planting seeds. The best seed to plant is to say what God says about a matter. We can say what God says by quoting from the Holy Bible. Only God can be in our tomorrow(s).

Mike