ARE WE LOST?





SPELUNKING!

Gary and his two sons, Josh and Tim, were excited about their big adventure. Even though it was a warm summer day, it would be very cold and clammy where they were going. So after they arrived, they took care to pull on their warm clothes and sturdy boots. They could hardly wait to enter the cave. That's right, spelunking means cave exploring.

Inside, Gary made sure they signed the registration book. Then they turned on

their headlamps and set off. Soon, they came to "the maze" – a series of twisting, narrow passageways. "Let's go this way, Dad", the boys shouted and Gary agreed. In their excitement they didn't notice that there was another book to sign at the maze entrance.

It was hard to bend and duck through the narrow tunnel. They were getting tired so Gary decided to leave their bulky packs behind. It was easier now to squeeze through the tight spaces and get deeper into the caves. *SUDDENLY,* Tim's headlamp began to *FLICKER,* and soon *WENT OUT!*



In a few minutes Josh's did the same. Now they had only the one light on their dad's helmet to see in the deep darkness.

As the dark and damp pressed upon them, it wasn't so much fun anymore. It was time to turn back. Gary slowed as he realised that this was not the way they had come. Josh asked fearfully, "Are we lost, Dad?" "No, we aren't lost, I just don't recognise this area", their father answered. He was afraid they were lost but he didn't want to frighten his boys.

They tried another way. It was *A DEAD END.* Bats screeched past their heads. Soon they were really worried. Then

Gary's lamp flickered and went out.
Now in the complete dark they realised



they were in trouble!
They were deep in a cold, wet cave without light or supplies. Any step in the dark could mean death. They were helpless and hopeless. They were *LOST!*

It was several days before anyone realized they were missing and called for help. The Cave Rescue Group arrived and the search finally began. At the entrance to the maze, the rescuers checked the logbook but the names of the missing father and sons were not there. The searchers said, "Well it doesn't look like they went that way." However, they continued their careful search and kept shouting for the lost ones.

Meanwhile, Gary and his boys huddled together, shivering with cold and feeling very weak. "Dad, I am so hungry,"



Josh complained. They had now been almost four days with nothing to eat or drink. Gary was so sorry that he had decided to leave their supplies behind. The darkness was deadly. They were afraid. Suddenly, Gary heard a voice. With the last of his strength he yelled! Someone heard him. The lost cave explorers had been found! They couldn't save themselves. Others had to search for them and save them.

Just like the lost explorers, do you know that you are **lost**? We are all separated from God because of our **sins**. There is nothing we can do to save ourselves. But, **Jesus**, the Son of God, came to earth **"to save that which was lost"**.

Sinners are in the dark. They need the light that God gives. Jesus said, **"I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."** John 8:12.

When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He paid for our sins and became our Saviour. Will you let Him save you?

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