

2008 Tour Down Under

“Finding God’s Grace Under the Surface”

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Today’s Loop:

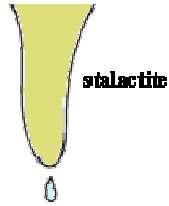
- Not much cycling, but travel to the Center of the Earth!

- Feet underground today:

Stalagmite or stalactite? Hmm...

Once You Know

Anyone for Earth Science? Geology? OK, OK... school may be out for the summer, but if we’re going to cycle to the **Center of the Earth** (sort of), then we better get our terms straight, right? Now you know which formation is which!



Beauty - More Than Skin Deep

After yesterday’s 32 mile spin, we’re taking a COOL break: heading down under the earth in Howe Caverns. Even if you’ve toured the underground caves before, you will find something new about these formations hidden beneath the ground. This amateur photo of the “Winding Way” in



Howe Caverns illustrates how strange and beautiful the landscape beneath our feet can be.

You and Me

In the same way, we’ve all learned that “beauty is more than skin deep” - we are all God’s beautiful creation. Each of us a treasure in God’s eyes. Looking at these cyclists lined up from a Youth Bike Tour a few



years ago, what can you tell?

We all have so much that is hidden beneath the surface. “Seeing” that hidden beauty in ourselves and other is the challenge!

Question for Discussion:

When do we see the goodness that others sometimes hide? Can you give a good example?

Seeing what is hidden

The Parables of the Buried Treasure & the Pearl of Great Price.



Read the verse from the Gospel of Matthew and explore how the parable helps to understand seeing what is hidden.

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.”

Matthew 13:44-46

Questions for Discussion:

Have you discovered a “treasure” in a friend or family member that was hidden? Describe what you found.

Discuss what it feels like to act “out of joy” when you discover the “pearl of great price” in your friendship with others.

My Cyclo News

NAME _____

