

## What Is a Treasure Hunt?

Briefly, here's how we do a treasure hunt: A group of treasure hunters gets together before the group heads out. Each person writes down words of knowledge (the clues) to cover each of the following categories: (1) location, (2) a person's name, (3) a person's appearance, (4) what the person might need prayer for, and (5) something unusual.

After forming ourselves into groups of three or four, each of us keeps our own list, but we combine the clues to create our complete, virtual treasure map. Together, we choose a beginning location based on one of the clues from an individual's map, and we compare our other clues on the way to that location.

Once we arrive at our beginning location, we begin to look for the treasure, holding our folded maps in our hands. When we find someone who matches something that's on one of the maps, we approach the person and say something like, "This may seem a little odd, but we're on a treasure hunt and we think you're our treasure...." and then we show them the map. We get into a conversation and build rapport with this person. Sometimes more clues will emerge in the course of the conversation. We let the person know that God has highlighted him or her for a special blessing. We pay attention to the person's needs and we ask if we can pray for him or her.

If the person says, "No, thanks," we keep chatting to build more rapport while we also ask the Holy Spirit what He wants to show us about the person. We blend in words of encouragement (a form of prophecy) as we talk, avoiding religious language and pious behavior. Then we ask again if we can pray for the person. If the person still refuses, we bless that person and proceed to the next treasure (person). If the person agrees, we release God's presence and, especially if the need is for healing, we command the pain to leave, the bones to be set, and so forth, asking the person afterward to test out the healing by doing something that was impossible or too painful before.

After the person has been healed or blessed through prophetic words, we offer an explanation of what just happened by saying something

along these lines: “This is God’s kindness being revealed toward you. He knows you and cares about you.” We go on to ask if the person would like to know Jesus and, if the answer is yes, we help the person ask Jesus into his or her life.

Oftentimes, I will ask people if they would like to encounter the Jesus who just healed them. If the response is a “yes,” I’ll ask the person to hold out his or her hands. I’ll put my hands over theirs and instruct the person to simply say, “Come, Holy Spirit,” or “Jesus, I want to encounter Your presence right now.” I’ll then ask the person to describe what’s happening. It is amazing how many people actually feel God’s presence in the form of heat or electricity, or as love, joy, and peace. I’ll then invite the person to tell Jesus, “I want to encounter Your presence every day for the rest of my life.” I explain the Good News of how Jesus came to sacrifice Himself on the cross so that we could have a relationship with God—the way they have just encountered His presence. And I explain how God wants to manifest Himself personally in all sorts of ways every day!