

# MicroMighty

## THE CLIFF DWELLERS



By: Lacy N. Duvall

Age 15 to 18 year olds



## Did you know?



### SCRIPTURES

**Matthew 16:18**

"I tell you on this rock will I build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"



**Psalms 104:18**

"The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the hyrax."



**Proverbs 30:24;26**

"Four things on earth are small yet they are extremely wise...Hyraxes are creatures of little power, yet they make their home in the crags..."



**1 Peter 5:8**

"Be sober and vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour."



### LET'S TALK FACTS

**Crags** are steep, rugged cliffs, or rock faces.

**Hyraxes** are small mammals that are like rock badgers.

I want you to take a moment and imagine what it must be like to live on the side of a cliff. I'd say rather terrifying.

Unless you are seeking an adrenaline rush, I can't imagine taking up shop on a steep, rocky terrain. Yet, the bible describes hyraxes as doing so.

## WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR ME?

You might ask yourself why any creature would build a home so close to a **dangerous** drop-off. Picture the challenge of climbing down a **steep and rocky surface** to reach your front door. That would be tough and a little frightening to almost everyone except the hyrax. This **small creature** must be getting some type of reward for selecting a cliff as ideal real-estate, right?

The bible says that while they have **little power**, the hyrax are wise. **Why?** What in the world about living in a rock is so wise? I'm glad you asked. You see, the rock is a safe-haven from predators such as leopards and other **cat-like enemies**. The small hyrax knows that its predators will not have much success attacking on the rocks of a cliff. Interestingly, these small mammals are designed for rock living. They have tiny pads on the bottom of their feet that act as suction cups to help secure them to their rocky environment. Even still, they must maintain **vigilance**. Scientists use this term to describe how well a species **protects itself from becoming prey**. In short, the jagged rocks are a safe place for these creators to shield themselves from predators.

Likewise, God is a rock and a **firm foundation**. Psalms 62:2 says, "He alone is my rock and my salvation. He is my fortress; I will never be shaken." The word of God is clear in regards to the devil. He is our **enemy**, and his main objective is to destroy us. Our only refuge is God. We must make God our dwelling place.

### CHALLENGE

Ask yourself these questions: Is God my dwelling place? Do I live and exist in his **all-powerful** presence? Do I **really** walk with him? I challenge you to answer those questions honestly. If God is not your dwelling place, then you are in danger. The hyrax is **small**, but its dwelling place is a **powerful place of protection**. God is the rock, but we must make him our dwelling place.

## WHERE DO I START?

*Learn how to dwell in his presence!*

### MIND

**Keep your thoughts on him, his promises, and his commandments.** He tells us in his word to meditate on him. Our thoughts must always turn back to our God.

### BODY

The bible says that **your body** is now **his temple** which means we must honor God with our bodies. Keep yourself pure. Avoid ungodly behaviors. Refrain from action that would destroy your body. Take care of yourself.

### WORDS

Be slow to speak and very cautious. Our **mouths** can quickly separate us from God. Sin is a wedge that causes division between us and God. Our mouths are biblically described as the most unruly member of our body. So, we must guard it carefully.