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I SPY

Get the message?

Imagine being a spy — sneaking around in crazy disguises, using secret passwords, and carrying coded messages. It sounds like something from a movie, doesn't it? Believe it or not, all that spy stuff isn't just make-believe. Throughout history, kings, presidents and military leaders have relied on spies.

During the American Revolution, General George Washington used spies to deliver secret messages. Some of the messages were written in invisible ink. The secret words were written between the lines of a fake letter. The hidden message showed up only when a chemical was applied or the letter was heated over a flame.

British spies also carried secret letters. Some were hidden in feather pens, buttons, or small silver balls. Others used secret codes that stood for letters of the alphabet.

The British also invented tricky messages that were supposed to be read using a special mask. These notes looked like regular letters. But

when read through a mask that blocked certain words from view, the message changed. For instance, a note might say, "We are not moving troops to the river." But with the mask, it would say, "We are moving troops to the river." An enemy who read the letter would get the wrong idea.

It's easy to see why important messages might be kept secret. But the most important message of all has been revealed to everyone! God's Word has all the information you need to receive eternal life. You don't need special glasses, chemicals or codes to understand the Bible. The Holy Spirit will help you as you grow, learn and spy out God's truth.

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13, NIV).



JUST FOR laughs

Knock-knock.

Who's there?

Spy.

Spy who?

I can't tell you.

It's a secret.

What kind of spy climbs walls and hides in dark corners?

A spy-der.



Try this!

Send a coded message using the symbols below.

A	X	J	@	S	!
B	^	K	~	T	j
C	#	L	o	U	::
D	<	M	=	V	?
E	+	N	□	W	¥
F	/	O	+	X	¡
G	+/-	P	•	Y	¢
H		Q	\$	Z	
I		R			

Did you know?

During the American Revolution, the British captured a letter sent by George Washington. It didn't contain any war secrets, however. Washington was just requesting tools for cleaning his false teeth.



Enter to win!

Don't miss your chance to win a cool spy scope (recommended for ages 6 and up). Enter online by Nov. 4 at pe.ag.org or mail an entry postmarked on or before that date to Spy Scope Giveaway, Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Include a daytime phone number. You must have a parent's permission to enter.

