

Hunting for Sea Turtles

One of our favorite vacation activities is snorkeling, and in particular, looking for sea turtles. They are amazing animals, and finding them in their native habitat is awesome! We take our cameras and launch out into the ocean to hunt for all the sea creatures that we can find. We even enjoy seeing the rocks and coral.

We have had some startling encounters. Once we were peering through some murky water, with it swirling with distractions, and suddenly there was this huge mass right before us! It's hard to jump back when you are swimming in water, but we tried. It is illegal to touch the turtles, so we had to get some distance between us.¹

Later, after having dried out and rested from all of the activity, I realized that our search for God is similar to our search for sea turtles. They, like God, are indeed there even if we cannot always see them. If you if you look in the right places, in the right ways, you may be able to a head poking up above the water. As with rainbows, you must put yourself in the right position to see them.

If you really want to see sea turtles, though, you must don the snorkel or scuba gear, get into the water, and go searching for an extended period of time. You must pursue watchfully: waiting, hoping, searching - and then you receive the final reward! I got a great picture of Soozie and a turtle with their heads both above water. It was so exciting to be in the presence of such a marvelous animal.

Many people aren't aware at all of the presence of God and miss Him entirely. They may try to find Him in a church, but cannot get the level of excitement they need to sustain their interest. It is like seeing a sea turtle in an aquarium or in museum. There is something so very special about seeing them "live" in their native habitat. Sometimes you need someone to help you watch and share the joy of discovery.

So, go out and look! The hunt is on!

1. This reminds me of when the Israelites not allowed to touch the mountain of God, Exodus 19:12

