



## **A Tree Talk by Jonathan Callard in 1993**

It wasn't until expeditions week that I pondered the subject of this talk. The peace of Lake Umbagog, my distance from the bustle and hubbub of civilization, and the caring companionship of eight boys and another counsellor put me in the frame of mind to pounce upon a theme that is so simple and yet so deep: compassion. In three words, love for others... When we are our best selves together, when we look past the artificial differences of skin color, clothes, and athletic ability and past the deeper differences of values and beliefs to see the goodness in each other, then there is nothing that we can't do. With compassion we can taste each other's sweetness so that we are all better for it.