



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God is Our Rescuer Series, Lesson 18

Lesson Title: A Rescuer Who Listens and Does Mighty Deeds

Take Home Point: God listens to us and does mighty deeds.

Warm-Up:

World War II, General George Patton was a profane and sometimes violent man. But he understood the nature of warfare and winning. Just before D-Day in 1944, he told his army that it took every person doing their job to bring victory – from the ones who fired the guns to the truck drivers delivering supplies to the medics who were there for the wounded. He didn't care about individual heroes, he wanted a team who would use everything they had and not give up. "Don't stop to dig foxholes," he said, "and don't let the enemy dig them, either. Stay on the offensive." If that is a winning perspective in human warfare, how much more so in spiritual warfare, where we can call on the God of all power to help us win the battle!

Read: Joshua 10

Observation (What happened?):

Why did the Amorite kings get alarmed and gather to attack Gibeon?

List all the different ways God fought for Israel.

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Do you think the Amorite kings expected Israel to defend the deceitful Gibeonites? Why do you think Israel did so?

Why did Joshua and Israel kill the entire population of the cities they conquered? (Think back to a previous lesson.)

Insight:

Thomas Jefferson was a brilliant and creative man. His writings and actions were enormously influential in the early years of the United States. But he had difficulty in believing the entire Bible was truly God's Word. He rejected the concept that God directly intervened in the world of men in a visible, miraculous way. So he created his own New Testament in which he excised all accounts of miraculous occurrences. No doubt he also rejected the sun standing still in Joshua 10. That's unfortunate, because it meant Jefferson had a rather "unpowerful" God, small enough to fit in his own human view. How about you? Do you believe that "all things are possible with God?" (Mark 10:27) Do you really believe he hears your pleas for help and acts on your behalf? Be careful not to put a limit on seeing God work because of your own human perspective

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Who is the enemy we fight against today? Are you calling on God to help you fight? Do you believe he can and will help you? How do you know?

Take some time to make a list of your spiritual battles in which God brought you victory.