



Date: _____

Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God, What About... Series, Lesson 56

Lesson Title: ...Angels

Take Home Point: God cares enough to send angels to help.

Warm-Up:

My children always enjoyed going to visit their grandmother. It was a big house out in the country and they could get out and play all day. One of the things they looked forward to was the room they got to sleep in. It was just an ordinary room, but the reason they liked it was because of a particular painting on the wall. It was a beautiful picture of an angel guarding two small children as they crossed a rickety little bridge. My children loved that picture. Every night I tucked them in we would talk about how special it was that God's angels were watching out for them, just as the picture showed. Now their grandmother is no longer in that house, but she gave that picture to my daughter who is now a young adult. She has it hanging in her apartment, and all my children still talk about the painting and how it reassures them of God's special care.

Read: Ezekiel 10:12-14; Hebrews 1:14, 13:2; Luke 15:7, 22:43; Revelation 5:11; Matthew 18:10, 16:27; 2 Kings 19:35; Acts 27:24

Observation (What happened?):

What different activities were performed by angels in today's readings?

Who received care from angels in today's readings?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think God sends angels to help his children?

What does it mean that we are to entertain strangers? How do we do that?

Insight:

Have you ever known anyone who had an encounter with an angel? I have certainly heard stories, but I confess I do not know anyone who had a direct experience. It happened so many times in scripture – why don't we hear of these occurrences now when people around us still have need? I suspect the answer is twofold. First, I believe we do not hear about visits from angels in Western society because of the spiritual dullness of our temporally-oriented, materialistic culture. Most people, including too many Christians, don't really believe angels directly minister to individuals. That doesn't mean it doesn't happen, only that we are not aware of what is happening when it occurs. We simply don't think about the spiritual realm in that way. Second, angelic encounters do occur in ways people recognize in other cultures because the spiritual conflict is sometimes more active there and Christians are more aware of spiritual beings and their ministering activities. We can believe the accounts of these encounters, knowing that God is working to help his people in need.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Can you recall a time an angel ministered to you? When was it? Why do you think it happened?

What kind of help do you need? Pray for God to help you in the way he knows is best.

Kingdom Quest year 2