



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God is Our Rescuer Series, Lesson 26

Lesson Title: Series Review

Take Home Point: God is our rescuer. Trust him.

Warm-Up:

A man sat on top of his house while floodwaters raged around him. He prayed that God would rescue him. A boat came by and the occupants encouraged him to come with them but he said, "God will rescue me." So they left. Another boat approached, but he wouldn't leave and gave the same answer. A short time later a helicopter hovered overhead and lowered a ladder, but he hollered out, "God will rescue me!" The waters continued to rise and eventually the man drowned. When he reached heaven he asked God, "Why didn't you rescue me?" God answered, "I sent two boats and a helicopter! What were you waiting for?!"

Read: Psalm 105; Psalm 106; Colossians 1:13-14

Observation (What happened?):

From Psalm 105 and 106, why did God allow Israel to be oppressed by those around them?

From the same Psalms, why did God rescue his people over and over?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Do you think the Israelites deserved to be rescued time after time?

How did God want his people to respond to him?

Insight:

How many different names can you think of that are descriptive of Jesus in what he has done for us? One is in the Take Home Point – Rescuer. Some other names in Scripture are Redeemer, Savior, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the Sacrifice of Atonement. What do all these names tell us? That Jesus did for us what we could not do for ourselves. He took on himself our sin and its payment (which is death, read Romans 6:23) and made it possible for us to stand before a holy God completely justified. What action can we take to make this possible for us? Nothing. Nothing we do can add to the work of Christ on the cross. He has done it all on our behalf. What we can do is make a choice, which is the second part of the Take Home Point. We can choose to trust him. Other words are believe, have faith, have confidence, depend on him, and rely on him. No matter how you say it, Jesus gives us everything when we deserve nothing. Our rescue really is by the grace of God!

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What are some similarities you have with the Israelites in what God did for them and how they reacted? How has God rescued you time after time?

How do you respond to God's discipline and his rescuing you?