



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God is Our Rescuer Series, Lesson 19

Lesson Title: Whom Will God Choose to Deliver?

Take Home Point: God chooses you to do his special work. Don't miss your chance!

Warm-Up:

When I was growing up I was not a particularly athletic child; in fact, I was decidedly unathletic. This did not bother me too much except for when teams were chosen for games during school recess. All the boys would stand in a line, while the team captains chose us one by one. I was always the last one, and the team forced to take me did so reluctantly. And I couldn't blame them. We all knew I would be a real liability to winning. Although the situation really stunk at the time, as an adult it helped me see that God didn't choose me because I am special in some way, but I am special because he chose me.

Read: Judges 4

Observation (What happened?):

Why were the Israelites oppressed for 20 years by one of the kings of Canaan?

Name the three individuals God chose to free his people from King Jabin and Sisera.

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Do you think God wanted the Canaanites to oppress his people? What did he want them to realize by allowing them to be oppressed?

Why do you think Barak wanted Deborah to come along with him and his army?

Insight:

Moses, Jonah, King Saul, all 12 disciples, the apostle Paul – none of these people in the Bible chose to do God's work on their own. In fact, several of them were either reluctant to do so or actually rebellious. God didn't choose them because they chose him or because they were special. He chose them because he had a special task for them to do. And every single time, God went ahead of each of these people preparing both the situations and the people to whom they were sent. That is the most wonderful thing about God selecting you and me to do his work – it actually means God goes before us to guide us and help us. And who is blessed? Not only those to whom we are sent, but you and I, too, receive the blessing of God's favor for being obedient! (Take some time to read about the calling of the men listed above in Exodus 3; Jonah 1; 1 Samuel 10; Matthew 4; John 1; and Acts 9. It's fascinating reading!)

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What special work has God chosen you to do? How do you know? Are you doing it?

Pray for your children to understand that God has a special work – big or small, visible or unseen by other people – for every one of his children.