

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Meet the God/Man, Jesus Series, Lesson 37

**Lesson Title:** Jesus – The Rescuer

**Take Home Point:** Jesus is the Rescuer and he is real!

#### **Warm-Up:**

You've heard the phrase "seeing is believing?" In the movie "The Santa Clause", the main character unwittingly takes on the role of Santa Claus and is carried to the North Pole by reindeer pulling a sleigh. He sees many things that he had heard about as a child, but is unconvinced that they are real. In a conversation with an elf, he says, "I see it, but I don't believe it." The elf replies with a smile, "That's the trouble with grown-ups. Seeing isn't believing. Believing is seeing." I doubt the screenwriter was trying to communicate a spiritual truth, but he did. Take a look at Hebrews 11:1 for confirmation.

**Read:** Mark 6:45-56

#### **Observation (What happened?):**

Why were the disciples so afraid when they saw Jesus on the water?

The disciples watched Jesus demonstrate his mastery over what natural occurrences?

#### **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

Why did the people in the region of Gennesaret bring their sick to Jesus?

What are some ways Jesus is healing people today?

#### **Insight:**

The response Jesus received to his presence and his ability to heal varied tremendously. In this week's reading the people of Gennesaret believed he could heal, so they brought sick people to him in mobs. The same thing happened to him in Capernaum in Mark 2 when the paralytic had to be lowered through the roof to get to Jesus. Where people believed he could heal, he did. But in Matthew 13, we read that Jesus did not do many miracles in his hometown of Nazareth because they did not believe he was real and could rescue them. The same is true today. It is not that we have to attain some quantity of faith in order for Jesus to heal, but we do have to believe in his reality and power to help us. In fact, the writer of Hebrews says in 11:6 that "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." Our faith opens the way for God to apply his mighty power on our behalf.

#### **Application (What does it mean to me?):**

From what has Jesus rescued you? How has he rescued you?

Think of three people you can bring to Jesus in prayer for him to heal their sickness. (Their sickness may be spiritual, mental, or emotional.) Pray for them right now.