



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Lookin' for a Leader Series, Lesson 26

Lesson Title: Series Review

Take Home Point: Let Jesus, the King, be your leader.

Warm-Up:

Imagine you are out in the woods at night – no moonlight, no flashlight, no illumination at all. It's completely dark, and you are trying to find your way out without injury or worse. You hear a voice calling, "Follow me!", but you see no light. You call out, "I need someone to lead me. Do you have a light? Do you know these woods? Do you know the way?" "No," the voice replies, "but I believe in myself and have a good feeling about the path I'm taking. We can do this together. Trust me!" Then from a different direction you see a glow over a hill. Someone holding a torch walks toward you. "I have been sent to lead you out," he says, "I know the way and this light will guide us." Who would you follow?

Read: Psalm 31:1-3

Observation (What happened?):

What are all the different ways the psalmist asks God to help him?

What characteristic of the Lord does David depend upon for deliverance?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What does it mean to take refuge in the Lord?

What part does the psalmist play in his own rescue?

Insight:

Why do we find it difficult to follow the leaders we are given? People such as work managers, pastors, elected officials, even traffic guides, are there to provide us help to accomplish what we are attempting or to reach our destination. Usually, we recognize the value of our earthly leaders and are willing to follow them. So, when we don't, why not? Sometimes we think we have a better way. But to be honest, sometimes it's just because we are not going to let someone tell us what to do or how to do it! Simply put, it is our desire to be our own authority. The kings of Israel we have been reading about all demonstrated this in their lives. More than the occasional failure, it will bring spiritual death unless it is overcome. Read Romans Chapter 7. In his own words, Paul is ruthlessly honest about this in his own life: *"Although I have the desire to do what is right, I don't do it."* (Romans 7:18) Thankfully, he also supplies God's answer in 7:25: *"I thank God that our Lord Jesus Christ rescues me!"*

Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you take refuge in the Lord?

How do you acknowledge that Jesus is your leader every day? How do you demonstrate it to him and to others?

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