



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God is Our Rescuer Series, Lesson 6

Lesson Title: Stand Back and Watch the Rescue

Take Home Point: In the middle of a fight, when I have lost all my might, stand back and I will see,
THAT GOD WILL RESCUE ME!

Warm-Up:

Have you ever heard anyone say, "And then...I rescued myself!" Not likely! Someone may say they escaped a situation or dodged a bullet or got out of a scrape, but typically a rescue is not considered to be self-performed. So what is the key feature of a rescue? In a genuine rescue, **someone other than the one being rescued** successfully acts to eliminate the danger or remove the person being saved from the threatening situation. Rescues occur because those in peril cannot act on their own to avoid harm.

Read: Exodus 13:17 – 14:31

Observation (What happened?):

Why did God want the Egyptians to go after the Israelites?

How much fighting did the Israelites have to do in order for the Egyptians to be defeated?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think the Israelites were so afraid when they saw Pharaoh's army coming after them?

How many different lessons can you see for the Israelites to learn in the rescue God provided and how he provided it?

Insight:

The Israelites faced an impossible situation. Their reaction was fear, and they cried out to God and Moses. Not, "Lord, save us!" but, "We wish we were still slaves!" But since God is merciful and has a plan far beyond human understanding, his response was to act anyway to rescue his people. His timing was intended to maximize Israel's understanding of his presence and power – he didn't have them cross days before so they were safely beyond the reach of the Egyptian army. They got across just in time, with only God between them and Pharaoh. And it's not likely any of them thought God would do it as he did. His means of rescue was unexpected, even "impossible." For us, we are to demonstrate faith just as the Israelites did – walking one step at a time, not knowing the end but trusting God that he will deliver. The lesson is to not limit God – expect him to rescue, but in his own way and time. He can and will do it.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What lessons have you learned when God has rescued you? How do you apply them today?

What difficulty or fear are you facing that requires God's might to overcome? Pray for his deliverance in his way and time, and expect him to act on your behalf.