



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

God is Our Rescuer Series, Lesson 10

Lesson Title: Rescued People Meet Their Rescuer

Take Home Point: God comes to us in worship to show us who he is.

Warm-Up:

Before I turned 15 years old and was able to get my learning permit, I would sometimes go out to the garage and sit in the driver's seat of my father's car. There I would pretend to be driving around town and on the highway. I would practice using the clutch, shifting the gears, steering, adjusting the mirrors, and generally being excited about the coming days when I would be able to start driving. It was fun, but it was nothing compared to actually getting to put that key in the ignition, starting up the engine, and driving for real. I quickly learned that my little practice sessions were only a shadow of the real thing.

Read: Exodus 25-27

Observation (What happened?):

According to Exodus 25:8, what is the purpose of the tabernacle?

What did God promise would happen at the cover (lid) of the ark of the covenant?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why did God want the Israelites to follow his pattern exactly?

Do you think the Israelites understood what the tabernacle and its items symbolized in God's rescue plan? What parts might they have understood?

Insight:

There is so much significance to everything about the tabernacle that many books have been written with it as the main topic. There is the significance of the articles inside – the ark of the covenant where God came to meet the high priest on behalf of Israel; the altar for sacrifices to show that blood had to be shed for forgiveness; the lamp stand that was never to be put out to show God's unending light; the bread that indicated that God was their spiritual food; and the sweet incense that represented the sweetness of prayer to God. And how was the tabernacle designed and constructed? It was built to be mobile, carried piece by piece as the people traveled, then assembled where they stopped. God was showing them that he was always with them. He did not require a special location to meet with his beloved people. Where they went, he went, too. That is still true today. Wherever you are, God is there, waiting to meet with you and enjoy sweet fellowship.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What is God telling you to do, even though you can't see where it will lead?

Think of one way you can better prepare your heart and mind for worship. Ask God to help you do this.