

Week Three – God is Rescuer - Overview

Passage	Main Point
SS) Genesis 6-8	God is rescuer
FBT1) Revelation 6:12-17	We all need rescuing
FBT2) Acts 16:25-34	God rescues us through Jesus
FBT3) Ephesians 2:1-9	God rescues us but not through our own efforts.
FBT4) Romans 10:9-13	God rescues all who come to him
FTB5) Psalm 40:1-3	God rescues us – we should praise him

Family Bible Time (Day 1) – Revelation 6:12-17

BIG IDEA	We all need rescuing
Bible Passage	Revelation 6:12-17
Getting Started	<p>Remember in Sunday School we learnt that after Adam and Eve disobeyed God, the whole world was broken. All the people that were born after Adam and Eve were broken too. Everyone disobeyed God and were no longer able to be friends with him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>What did God do to judge the whole world as a consequence for disobeying him?</i> God sent a flood over the whole earth. God has told us that one day he is going to judge the world again. This time it won't be with a flood. God has told us what that day will be like in the book of Revelation.
<p>Finding Out</p> <p>1. Judgement is real and certain (Rev 6:12-14)</p> <p>2. All will face judgement (Rev 6:15)</p> <p>3. Who can stand? (Rev 6:16-17)</p>	<p>Read Revelation 6:12-14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>What will God's day of judgement be like? How would it feel to be there?</i> This day is really coming. One day Jesus is coming back again, and he is going to judge the whole earth. <p>Read Revelation 6:15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>Who will face God's judgement?</i> Everyone in the whole world will one day face God's judgement. Kings, and princes, and generals, and rich people and strong people, and slaves, and everyone else as well. That means you will have to face God's judgement one day, and so will I. No one will be able to escape from this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>Who do you think might be able to save themselves? Strong people? Clever people?</i> Let's see what God has to say about that. <p>Read Revelation 6:16-17</p>

	God says that even strong and mighty people will be afraid on the day of God's judgement. They will be so afraid of his judgement, that they would rather a mountain fell on top of them, than have to face God. There is nothing we can do to escape God's judgement. We have all disobeyed him, and one day we will have to face him. But amazingly, God offers to rescue us. He offers us the one way that we can be safe when he judges the world. We will find out more about that tomorrow night.
So What?	God is going to judge the world one day. He is the only one who can rescue you from judgement. He wants to rescue people. You need God to rescue you.
Memory Verse	PSALM 145:1 <i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.</i>

Family Bible Time (Day 2) – Acts 16:25-34

BIG IDEA	God rescues us through Jesus
Bible Passage	Acts 16:25-34
Getting Started	<i>Print or show pictures of random objects (e.g a marshmallow, a rabbit, a leaf, a stapler). Also show a picture of a life ring. Alternatively, just talk about the objects. Imagine you have fallen overboard into the ocean. What if someone threw you a marshmallow to rescue you – would that help? Go through the rest of the objects in turn. What about if they threw you a life ring? Talk about the fact that only ONE of these objects can rescue you. The others are useless.</i>
Finding Out	<p>Today we are going to find out about someone who realised that he needed God to rescue him.</p> <p>Read Acts 16:25</p> <p>Here are two people who loved God. Their names were Paul and Silas and they were in jail. They were in jail because people who hated Jesus wanted them to stop talking about Jesus and put them in jail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Do you think Paul and Silas are the people in the story who need rescuing?</i> Guess what – they are not the people needing rescuing! • <i>Q: What were Paul and Silas doing in jail?</i> <p>They were praying and singing. They knew that Jesus had already rescued them from their sins and so they didn't need to be afraid of being in jail. They knew that God would take care of them no matter where they were.</p> <p>Read Acts 16:26-27</p> <p>While they were in jail, there was a big earthquake. The jail doors flew open and all their chains fell off. The person who looked after all the prisoners was very afraid. He thought that all the prisoners would escape, and he would be blamed for letting them go. He was so afraid of the trouble he would be in that he almost killed himself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Was the jailer the man who man needed rescuing then?</i>

	<p>Actually, it looks like he didn't need to be rescued either.</p> <p>Read Acts 16:28</p> <p>Paul called out just in time and told him that all the prisoners were still there, and he didn't need to be afraid of being punished. Phew. The jailer didn't need rescuing after all... Or did he? Listen to what the jailer says after he has found out that all the prisoners were still there, and he wasn't in big trouble after all.</p> <p>Read Acts 16:29-30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What question did the Jailor ask?</i> <p>Why would the jailer say that? He wasn't going to get in trouble anymore, but he asks Paul and Silas what he needs to do to be rescued. The jailer realised that he needed to be saved from his sins. He knew that God would judge him because he was a sinner. He knew that he couldn't save himself, but he also knew that Paul and Silas knew the answer. So, he asked them how he could be rescued from his sins, so that he too could be right with God.</p> <p>Read Acts 16:31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What was Paul's answer?</i> <p>"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved". Wow that's amazing. No big boat to build, no extra big punishment, just believe in Jesus. Jesus is our life ring. No one else can rescue us, only Jesus can.</p>
So What?	<p>Did you know that you need rescuing too? You don't need rescuing from a big flood because God promised with a rainbow that he would never flood the world again. But like all the people in Noah's time, and like the jailer in this story, we need rescuing from our sin. We all sin against God and we need a rescuer. When we come to Jesus knowing that we need him to rescue us from our sins, and when we put our trust in him, he promises that he will save us.</p>
Memory Verse	<p>PSALM 145:1</p> <p><i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever</i></p>

Family Bible Time (Day 3) – Ephesians 2:1-9

BIG IDEA	God rescues us but not through our own efforts
Bible Passage	Ephesians 2:1-9
Getting Started	<p>Get one child to give a piggy-back to another child (or else give a child a piggy-back yourself). Walk around the room, but pretend you are climbing a mountain. When you get to the "top", get the child who had a piggy back to act as if they had climbed the mountain all by themselves – boasting about how they climbed the mountain and how amazing they are! Talk about how silly this is. Alternatively, just talk about this scenario (<i>maybe this has happened for real in your family!</i>)</p>
Finding Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Have you ever found a dead fly, or a dead animal? What can dead things do?</i>

<p>1. We can't save ourselves (Eph 2:1)</p> <p>2. But God can save us (Eph 2:4)</p>	<p>Dead things can't do anything! You would be very surprised if you saw a dead beetle get up and fly away! All a dead thing can do is lie there and be dead! The bible says that we are a bit like a dead thing. In Paul's letter to the Ephesians this is what he says.</p> <p>Read Ephesians 2:1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does Paul say is the reason we are dead?</i> <p>The bible describes us as being dead in our sins. Because we have sinned against God, we have destroyed our life. We are as good as being dead. But that's a problem, because we have found out already that we need rescuing. Dead people cannot rescue themselves! Dead people can't do anything.</p> <p>But God can! And God has done something about that.</p> <p>Read Ephesians 2:4-5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does Paul say that God has done?</i> <p>God is able to make dead people alive! He is able to rescue us, even though we aren't able to rescue ourselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Why does God rescue us?</i> <p>God rescues us because he loves us. Not because we deserve to be rescued or have done anything to make God want to rescue us. Remember we are dead. We can't do anything to help ourselves.</p>
<p>So What?</p>	<p>If you are a Christian and following Jesus, that is only because God has rescued you. You didn't do anything to rescue yourself – you were dead! So, it would be very foolish to boast about it, or to think that you are better than other people because God chose to save you. It would be just like if you had a piggy back all the way up a mountain, but then acted as if you climbed the mountain yourself. If you are not yet following Jesus, then ask God to rescue you. He is the only one who can.</p>
<p>Memory Verse</p>	<p>PSALM 145:1 <i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever</i></p>

Family Bible Time (Day 4) – Romans 10:9-13

<p>BIG IDEA</p>	<p>God rescues all who come to him</p>
<p>Bible Passage</p>	<p>Romans 10:9-13</p>
<p>Getting Started</p>	<p>Get a child to stand on a chair (if not too dangerous!) and drop something to the floor (something that won't break!). Ask them to let go of the object but stop it from falling to the floor (without touching it or putting anything in the way). Talk about the fact that if you let go of something it will always fall. You can't stop it from going down or make it go in any other direction.</p>
<p>Finding Out</p>	<p>We are going to find out about something else that always happens in a certain way. Paul wrote about it in his letter to the church in Rome.</p>

<p>1. The way to be rescued (Rom 10:9)</p> <p>2. you WILL be saved (Rom 10:9)</p> <p>3. ALL who call on Jesus will be rescued (Rom 10:13)</p>	<p>Read Romans 10:9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>What does this verse say we need to do to be saved?</i> <p>God doesn't ask us to do anything to be saved. All we need to do is believe in our hearts that Jesus was raised from the dead, and that he is therefore the only one who is able to rescue us.</p> <p>Read Romans 10:9 again</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>What does it say will happen if we believe in Jesus?</i> <p>If we trust Jesus to rescue us, then we will be saved. There is no doubt that this will happen. God doesn't say you "might" be saved, we will have to wait and see. He says you "will" be saved. Trust Jesus to save you, and you will be saved. It is just as certain as something falling to the ground if you don't hold onto it. Just like things will always fall to the ground, Jesus will always rescue anyone who come to him.</p> <p>Read Romans 9:13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>Who does Paul say will be saved?</i> <p>Paul tells us that everyone who comes to Jesus will be saved. It doesn't matter who you are, or how old you are, or where you come from, or what you have done. Everyone who comes to Jesus will be saved.</p>
<p>So What?</p>	<p>Have you come to Jesus and asked him to rescue you? He won't turn you away. He will save everyone who believes that he is the only way we can be rescued.</p>
<p>Memory Verse</p>	<p>PSALM 145:1 <i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever</i></p>

Family Bible Time (Day 5) – Psalm 40:1-3

<p>BIG IDEA</p>	<p>God rescues us – we should praise him</p>
<p>Bible Passage</p>	<p>Psalm 40:1-3</p>
<p>Getting Started</p>	<p>Show a picture of a fireman. Imagine you were in a burning building and there was no way you could get out. You were stuck there all by yourself. But then a fireman climbed up his ladder, broke in the window and came and rescued you. You're safe – all because of the brave fireman. What would you want to say to the fireman? Imagine if after the fireman rescued you, you just walked off and didn't say anything to him. Would that be right? How do you think the fireman would feel?</p>
<p>Finding Out 1. Where we start off (Ps 40:2)</p>	<p>King David wrote a song to describe how he felt about God rescuing him.</p> <p>Read Psalm 40:1-2a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: <i>How does King David describe the place that God rescued him from?</i>

<p>2. Where God puts us (Ps 40:2)</p> <p>3. Our response (Ps 40:3)</p>	<p>Have you ever walked into really deep mud? How does it feel? It's not a very nice feeling. Especially if you get stuck and can't get out. That is how David describes the place he was in. His sin felt like it was sucking him down and he couldn't get away from it. He was sad and helpless.</p> <p>Read Psalm 40:2b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: How does David describe the place where God put him after he had rescued him?</i> <p>David describes the place where God put him as a firm rock. A firm rock is very different to slimy, sinking mud. It feels safe and secure and is a much nicer place to stand. That is how David felt after God had rescued him. He was now safe and secure.</p> <p>Read Psalm 40:3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did David do after God had rescued him?</i> <p>David was very happy to be out of the mud and on a firm rock. He knew that God had rescued him and that meant he didn't need to worry about being judged by God. Even when God comes again to judge the world, David knew he would be safe on his rock. So, he wanted to praise God for rescuing him. He wanted to sing and tell everyone about how God had rescued him and made him safe from judgement. If we are trusting in Jesus, God has done something even better than rescuing us from a muddy pit, or from a fire – he has rescued us from his judgement.</p>
<p>So What?</p>	<p>God is the one who is willing and able to rescue us. What do you want to say to God for being the one who rescues us?</p>
<p>Memory Verse</p>	<p>PSALM 145:1 <i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever</i></p>

Recap Week 3

One day God is going to come back and judge the world. Only those who are trusting in Jesus will be rescued. We can't do anything to rescue ourselves. Only God can rescue us. Everyone who puts their trust in Jesus will be rescued. He won't turn anyone away who comes to him.