

“Rescuing” | The story of Israel

GETTING STARTED: The Israelites used stones to serve as visual reminders. What things do you have in your daily life that serve the same purpose – reminders of important past events?

EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. What Biblical events are summarized in the phrase, “In the midst of crushing rebellion from his image bearers, God developed a rescue plan for a burning world. But the people he entrust with his plan kept catching fire themselves with rebellion and sin”?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-5. Summarize the promise that God made to Abram (later Abraham). How was this the start of a great “rescue?” How did this rescue plan fall apart?
3. Read 2 Samuel 7:8-16. What covenant does God establish with David? How is this a continuation of God’s rescue plan? How did this rescue plan fall apart?
4. What insights do Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 36:24-28 offer regarding the hope of rescue that is on the horizon?
5. What was the purpose of stacking stones as a part of communion during Sunday’s service? Why are special moments like that important to include as a part of corporate worship?
6. Why are stories of rebellion and covenants an important part of the gospel message? How would the gospel be incomplete without them?
7. How does God’s rescue plan go beyond the covenants with Abraham and David and the New Covenant? What hope do we

have today, generations past those original covenants?

APPLY THE TRUTH:

Continue to familiarize yourself with this one-sentence summary of the gospel. This week, focus on the rescue plan that we see lived out throughout the Old Testament. This will help prepare us for next week’s examination of Jesus’ actions in the New Testament.

“The gospel is the story of God, renewing his broken creation and rescuing his wayward people through the work of Jesus, while reconciling humanity and readying them for life in God’s kingdom now and forever.”

PRAY:

Take time this week to praise God for his rescue plan with the words of Exodus 15:1-2, a song of Moses and Miriam:

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

“I will sing to the Lord,
for he is highly exalted.

Both horse and driver
he has hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him,
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.”

NOTES:
