

Connect Group Conversation Questions

Week of February 18th, 2024

MAIN IDEA

In Pastor Steve McCoy's inspiring message, he shared the powerful theme of God's relentless pursuit to rescue us, weaving through personal stories and biblical narratives. He emphasized our need for salvation through Jesus Christ, highlighting the transformative power of God's love and grace in our lives. Pastor Steve called us to not only embrace this rescue for ourselves but to also share the hope and love we've received with others, making it a truly engaging and moving experience for all who listened.

Leader Tip: Remind group members that sharing personal stories of encountering God's grace can be powerful. Encourage everyone to listen with empathy and support, fostering an environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing their journey.

TALK IT OUT

- **Reflecting on the Rescue Plan:** In Pastor Steve's message, he talked about God's rescue plan for humanity. Can you share a time when you felt God was rescuing you from a difficult situation? (Reference: Philippians 3:7-9)
- **Personal Transformation:** How does the concept of being "rescued" by God change the way you view your daily challenges and interactions with others? (Reference: Judges 3:9-10)
- **Trust in Christ Alone:** Discuss the importance of placing our trust in Christ alone for salvation, as opposed to relying on our own efforts or goodness. How can we practically live out this trust? (Reference: Philippians 3:8-9)
- **Sharing the Rescue Story:** Pastor Steve emphasized the importance of sharing the rescue story with others. Who is one person in your life you feel led to share this story with, and how do you plan to approach them?

Students/Young Adults

- **Understanding God's Rescue:** How does knowing God has a rescue plan for us make you feel about the challenges you face in school or with friends? (Reference: Judges 3:9-10)
- **Trusting in Jesus:** What does it mean to you to trust in Jesus? How can you show that trust in your everyday actions at school or at home? (Reference: Philippians 3:9)
- **Dealing with Peer Pressure:** How can remembering that you are rescued by God help you deal with peer pressure or temptations?
- **Being a Rescuer:** How can you be a "rescuer" to your friends or family members who might be struggling? Share an idea or action you can take this week.

Parents of School-Aged Children

- **Modeling Trust in God:** How can we model trusting in God's rescue plan in our family life, especially during times of stress or difficulty? (Reference: Philippians 3:8-9)
- **Family Devotions:** How can we incorporate the theme of God's rescue story into our family devotions or conversations to help our children understand its importance?
- **Dealing with Disobedience:** In light of God's grace and rescue, how can we address disobedience or rebellion in our children in a way that points them back to God's love?
- **Community Service:** How can our family serve as "rescuers" in our community, showing God's love in practical ways to those around us? Discuss a project or activity you can do together.

Optional Deeper Discussion Topics

- **The Nature of Sin and Grace:** Reflect on how the Bible's rescue story shows the depth of human sin and the greater depth of God's grace. (References: Genesis 3, Romans 5:8)
- **Discipleship and Growth:** Consider how being rescued by God is just the beginning. How does discipleship play a role in growing in our faith and understanding of God's love? (Reference: Matthew 28:19-20)
- **Role of the Church:** Discuss the role of the church in God's rescue plan. How can we, as a church family, better support one another in sharing this story with the world? (Reference: Acts 2:42-47)
- **Hope and Endurance:** Explore the theme of hope in the face of trials. How does understanding the macro story of the Bible give us endurance through personal and global challenges? (Reference: Romans 5:3-5)