

Telling our Story of God

Psalm 107



Getting Help

Why might people who need help not ask for help?
What prevents people from praying?
What keeps us from praying?

Psalm 107

1-3: If you've experienced God's love, tell your story
4-32: 4 stories of God's love & wonderful deeds
33-42: God turns the world upside down
43: Live according to this reality!

1-3: Key message: Tell how God has rescued you

4-9: Story 1: Desert wanderings

"Give grateful praise to the LORD"

10-16: Story 2: In prison

17-22: Story 3: Near death

23-32: Story 4: In the stormy sea

Trouble is an invitation to cry out to God
In trouble that is beyond human skill
Being rescued calls for public praise

33-42: God turns the world upside down

God uses trouble to prompt us to pray
God can make a way where there is no way

43: See and be wise

Be wise = Live according to these realities...
God's great love and wonderful deeds
Which come when people cry out to Him
When they hear about God's great love & deeds

The Big Idea

**God wonderfully helps
those who cry out to Him for help**

The most important thing to remember about the Gospel is:
God took action to rescue us as we cried out to Him

Getting food

Plants make their own food. Animals can't live without plants
Jesus: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry." *John 6:35*

We can't live without receiving from God
"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." *John 15:5*

Application

Pray and Tell

We can't live without receiving from God
We receive when we ask

When we need help, cry out to God

God's redeeming, unchanging love can deal with every circumstance
and every condition

God steps in when we pray

"Call on me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you,

and you will honor me." Psalm 50:15

--> What keeps you from praying?

--> Ask someone to pray with you and for you

Pray and Tell

Give grateful praise to God

Anyone whom the Lord has rescued is responsible to be a witness to
God's power and love

So everyone can rejoice in God's acts of deliverance

And so everyone can also cry out to God

Privately: Rescue becomes salvation when we give thanks

Publicly: Praise God so others also can find help in God

Tell Christians → Ask for the opportunity & for help

Remind each other that God is working in power

Tell non-Christians → Ask for the opportunity & for help

Let people know that God is working in power

When we can speak louder than Jesus Luke 8:37-39

Who are you going to tell today? this week?

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Are you, or someone you love, in distress? Will you pray?
2. How has God rescued you?
 - a. When and how will you give praise to God?
 - b. Whom will you tell?

Conversation Starter

[When people are in distress, ask...] Would it be okay if I pray for you?