



THE RESCUE

Week 4

BREAKING THE ICE

What's your favorite thing to do on a spring day?

Would you rather watch the thunderstorm roll in or watch the news as the thunderstorm rolls in? Why?

MAIN CONTENT

This week, Pastor Kevin continued in our series "The Rescue". Many rescues included throughout scripture are due to the storms (difficult times) in people's lives. When Jesus walked the earth, He saw physical storms and He saw spiritual storms. He was there to provide rescue from all of the storms.

Jesus promises that we will face storms, but He also promises His peace. Peace comes through the Holy Spirit who goes throughout our life with us when we entrust our lives to Jesus.

Every single person is either going through a storm right now, has been through a storm recently or will go through a storm soon.

1. Are you currently going through a storm or have just been through a storm? Where did you find peace or are you finding peace through that storm?

Read Mark 4:35-41

In this story and many other stories in the Bible, we see where fear tries to creep in during the storms. We have two choices when we go through a storm, we can choose fear or we can trust in Jesus. Jesus had authority over the storm that night in the boat. He also has authority over the storms you are going through.

2. How often do you invite Jesus into the storms of your life? Where have you seen the difference in asking Jesus into your storm versus handling the storm yourself?

In the storms of our lives, we battle between fear and faith. In fear, we call out to Jesus to rescue us. Our fear can ignite our faith in Jesus, the only one who can save us.

3. What is your first reaction when a storm comes up in your life? Do you operate out of fear or faith in the midst of your storms?

We live in a world full of storms and uncertainty but Jesus gives us peace and certainty. There are three choices we can make when we are in the midst of a storm. The first thing we can do is choose where we look (Hebrews 2:1). If we don't pay attention and look to Jesus we drift. Drifting is the reward for not paying attention. When you start drifting from not paying attention, you get a few warnings. Those warnings can feed more fear and feed our awareness of our lack of control.

Pastor Kevin said, "What we pay attention to, is what we feed". If we pay attention to our storms, our fear grows louder and we focus on it. When we pay attention to what Jesus tells us and look to Him, peace is our reward.

4. Where are you looking right now? What are you paying attention to? Is that producing fear, faith or peace right now?

We don't get to choose the storm but we do get to choose where we sit. (Psalms 1:1-3) We get to choose who we sit with and which voices we are listening to. Sometimes the storms in our life are self-imposed based on the people we surround ourselves with.

Read Proverbs 13:20

5. Who provides wise counsel and tells you the truth in your life? How is your relationship with them? What are some things they do to positively impact you?

If you don't have wise, positive relationships in your life; it's time to find some. The good news is by being in a group with other followers of Jesus, you have the opportunity to be truth tellers and hope dealers while you learn from one another.

The third choice we can make in the midst of a storm is we can choose what we hold onto (Hebrews 10:23). Fear can make us forget the promises of Jesus. When we hold onto the hope of Jesus we don't have to fear because He is the hope to get us through the storms in our lives. We can hold onto His promises in scripture where He promises us life, peace, joy and security as we abide in Him.

6. What is a promise from Jesus you need to cling to? What are some scriptures you can rest in that remind you of His promises and peace?

CLOSING PRAYER

God thank you for the opportunity to learn and grow through the storms we face. Help us recall what we learned from the storms we've been through to not only help ourselves but to help others. If there are relationships in our lives that are not pointing us to you, please reveal those to us. Give us the strength to look to you and surround ourselves with relationships that point to you. Holy Spirit, help us remember the promises God has for us and lead us to the scriptures that give us the peace we desire. Amen.

ACTION STEP

- + This week, take account of the relationships in your life. Who is speaking the loudest and counseling you the most? Is it helpful or harmful? Ask God to bring life-giving, God-loving friends to you. Take a look around – the relationships you need may be in your group.
- + Ask yourself this week what are you looking to when you are in a storm. Ask Jesus to be near and help you through the storms you are currently going through.
- + Take some time to research the truths in scripture this week. Write verses down that bring you peace and meditate on them during the week. You can search scriptures and themes at <https://www.biblegateway.com/keyword/>
- + Every week we have the opportunity to serve others like Jesus did. Serving is one of the easiest ways to show love and care for those around us. Go to <https://crosspoint.tv/get-involved/> to find out more about serving opportunities at your Cross Point campus.
- + Pray about one person that you could invite to Easter at Cross Point and invite them with one of the print invites we handed out this week or with one of our digital invites you can find here: crosspoint.tv/easter.