

“Epic #8 –The Great Rescue”

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This is the EPIC story of God taking something really wonderful that had “come from together” and going to incredible lengths to put it back together.

The Great Rescue begins with a covenant or a binding promise (Genesis 12:1-5)

FIVE GREAT TRUTHS

TRUTH #1 GOD TOOK INITIATIVE. HE IS A _____ GOD (Genesis 12:1-5)

- Romans 3:10-12
- The bottom line is that ultimately we can only know God because He is willing to reveal Himself

TRUTH #2 THE RESCUE MISSION INVOLVES _____ (Genesis 12:5)

- The journey was not simply about geography. It was a journey toward faith and righteousness.
- It wasn't an easy journey. There were times Abraham simply had to rely on God's promise.
- He demonstrated remarkable obedience and faith. He became the human father of this rescue movement.

We too are on a journey and, like Abraham:

- We will have to get out of our _____ if we are to make a difference.
- We will need live according to _____ and face the reality that our values are different from the world's.
- We will do _____ and get discouraged.

- We will have to trust and rely on _____.
(Psalms 119:49-50)

TRUTH #3 GOD IS NOT A _____ GOD (Exodus 3:13-14)

- We need to be careful about placing God in a box that fits our paradigm of what He should be and who He is.

TRUTH #4 GOD IS _____ (Exodus 3:18-20)

- There could be no denying that it was God who delivered the people. God was establishing Himself as superior to anything the world could offer.
- It is often in the very dark and frightening places that God establishes and secures His reputation.

TRUTH #5 GOD IS _____ (Exodus 20:17)

- These commandments are not primarily about behavior. They also represent a covenant.

GOD'S PART:

Deliverance (Verses 1 & 2)

OUR PART:

1. Restoration of relationship with _____ (Verses 3-8)
2. Restoration of relationships with _____ (Verses 12-16)
3. Restoration of _____ (Verse 17)

The Bottom Line:

The commandments describe how God wants us to live, but more importantly make us aware of our inability to live up to God's holiness and moral standard.

Back to the Covenant—Mark 14:22-26

EPIC

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to look at our world and realize that something has gone wrong. How did it get this bad? And how do we find our way out of this mess? In the weeks leading up to Easter we'll explore the epic story of a good creation gone bad and the price God paid to bring it back to Him.

EPIC: In the Beginning

EPIC: Broken By Evil

EPIC: The Great Rescue

4/3: The Great Rescue – Abraham, the Patriarchs, & the Exodus

4/10: The Great Rescue – The Judges, the Kings, & the Exile

4/17: The Life, Ministry, and Death of Jesus (Palm Sunday)

4/24: The Resurrection of the Son of God (Easter Sunday)

Things to think about...

Thinking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.

- During the sermon today Joe talked about how the Bible shows God to be a SEEKING God. Can you recall times in your own life when God has taken the initiative to seek you?
- When God establishes a covenant, obedience is required. In what areas of your life is God asking for obedience in your journey?
- Can you recall times in your journey when you simply had to rely on God's promises to get you through? What impact did that have on your relationship with God?
- What are the ways you try to fit God into a "box" or fit Him into your paradigm?
- Has God secured His reputation in your life?
- Why do you think God had you here today? What do you need to take away from this sermon? What steps do you need to take to apply this to your life today?



SERMON NOTES