



Always Holding Somebody Up

(Genesis 14:1-16) Sunday, June 4, 2023 AVBC 10:30 am

**The Christian life is an ever-changing,
flesh-crucifying faith stretching JOURNEY!**

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. (Prov. 17:17)

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. (Psalm 1:1)

Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way. (Proverbs 4:14, 15)

It is better to have little with fear for the LORD than to have great treasure with turmoil. (Prov.15:16)

Q: What does it take to be a spiritual lifeguard?

1. _____ **GRACIOUSLY (v.13a)**

And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone...always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. (1 Thess. 5:14,15b)

2. _____ **QUICKLY (vs.14-15)**

>He asked _____ to help him.

>He maneuvered _____.

3. _____ **TENACIOUSLY (vs.14-15)**

When God sends you to rescue _____ person

He often enables you to rescue _____ people.

-Luke 15:1-7

4. _____ **COMPLETELY (vs. 17-20)**

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Have you ever been involved in a real-life rescue situation? If so, describe.

Q2: Pastor Dave described the spiritual decline in Lot's life as being gradual; like a frog in a frying pan. What are some warning signs that a person may be moving away from the Lord?

Q3: Study Mark 2:1-12. What can you learn about the importance of teamwork when it comes to rescuing someone who is struggling?

Q4: Of the four action steps laid out in this passage, which one do you find the most difficult? How might you develop that area of your "spiritual life-guarding" skills?

Q5: Acting quickly does not mean we should act foolishly. Think of someone that God may want you to be involved in "rescuing". What are some practical things you should do in order to "maneuver wisely" in that relationship?

Q6: What comes to your mind when you think of the concept of being "tenacious"? What does a tenacious spirit look like/act like in the current situation you find yourself in?

Q7: Study I Samuel 17:32-50. What are some "rescue principles" in this text? How is David's trust in the Lord revealed in these verses?

Q8: What do you think of the following poem?

*His thoughts were slow, His words were few, and never formed to glisten
But he was a joy to all his friend, You should have heard him listen!*