



# RESCUE

## Rescue // Part 1

### Introduction:

This week Matt begins a new series called Rescue, with the message titled Part 1. This series is about the Gospel, the Greek word Euangelion which means Good News.

For this week we're going to look at the bad news first, because you can only really enjoy the Good News when you understand the bad news. Do you realize how broken, how bad the world really is, or have you become numb to it because it's all over the place? Do you know that gnawing inside of you is from God, a desire for better?

### Questions:

1. Why is it important to recognize that the world we live in today isn't the world that God created it to be? After God created the perfect world, what was the one rule He gave to Adam & Eve, why was that specific tree there in the garden from the beginning? How did that establish that obedience to God brings joy? **Genesis 2:15-17**
2. What lie did Adam & Eve fall for that we still fall for today? What did their sin do to the shalom that God had created? What other impacts did their rebellion have on the world that we now live in? **Genesis 3:1-7**
3. If obedience to God brings joy, do you agree that in our world something isn't right? How does Genesis 3:8-19 show a complete reordering of creation from how God designed it to be to what we currently live in? What do we have in the world now vs what God originally created? How did sin also lead to the blame game for relationships (relational chaos) vs what God designed? **Genesis**

### **3:8-19; Ecclesiastes 3:11**

4. When we try to rescue ourselves, the 1st bucket we run to is Self; do you agree that you would be hard pressed to find anyone who has lied to you and disappointed you more than you have? Are you convinced that a better version of you is going to solve all that is bothering you? Do you think you are better than you really are, do you know that in and of yourself you will never be good enough for God?
5. The 2nd bucket we run to for rescue is Others; why do you look to others thinking that other people will complete you? Do you feel like someone else can fill that void inside of you? How is putting that expectation on your spouse, your children or your friends just setting you (and those around you) up for failure?
6. The 3rd bucket that we run to is the World; do you realize that everything that you own will one day be buried under a mountain of dirt? Would you agree that none of the stuff makes you a better person, and that stuff makes a horrible God? Do you know that even good things (common grace), when they are used outside the boundaries God has set, will lead to your destruction?
7. The 4th and last of the buckets we run to for rescue is Religion; do you believe that if you do enough good things to please God then it will tilt the scales in your favor and that will fill the void inside of you? That if you are good enough that will fix everything? Isn't this just Bucket #1 with a 'choir robe' on? **Isaiah 55:2**

**Key takeaway:** *Rescue won't be found in yourself, it won't be found in others, the world can't provide it and religion can't bring it. There is nothing in you or around you that can bring rescue to you, nothing will satisfy that void in you. The Good News is, there is something that can.*

### **Summary:**

- The world we live in, isn't the world as God created it to be; shalom = perfect peace & harmony; God created the perfect world with only one rule, don't eat from this one tree; the tree is there from the beginning to teach us that obedience to God brings joy.

- Adam & Eve fell for the lie from Satan that we still fall for today 'Did God really say?' and all that peace & harmony was fractured; Sin created havoc in relationships with no one ever to blame & work is now actual work; from dust you came & to dust you will return, because of sin, death reigns over all mankind.
- Now we all feel that something isn't right, we long for things to be restored, redeemed, reconciled & we try to rescue ourselves by running to 4 different buckets.
- Bucket #1 - Self; we become convinced that a better version of self is what's going to solve all that bothers us; you will never be good enough for God, yet we applaud our own sovereignty.
- Bucket #2 - Others; we run to others thinking that other people will complete us; this is the fracture in the foundation of every relationship & it's setting yourself up for failure.
- Bucket #3 - World; everything that you own will one day be buried under a mountain of dirt; Common Grace = God's good gifts to all of mankind (ex. Food, wine, sex), when you use God's common graces outside of God's boundaries destruction replaces the goodness; more of what you already have will not satisfy the void in your soul.
- Bucket #4 - Religion; all other religions teach a type of appeasement to a deity; it's external to internal, 'if I do these things it will tilt the scales in my favor & that will fill that void in me' (just #1 with a choir robe).