

## SHRMP – DAY 1

### SHIPWRECKED – RESCUED BY JESUS

#### Main Theme for Week:

Jesus rescues us through life's storms.

#### Theme Verse:

***The righteous person faces many troubles; but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.*** Psalm 34:19 (NLT)

#### DAY 1

#### Bible Point:

When you're lonely, Jesus rescues!

#### Bible Text:

Luke 15:8-32

#### Bible Story:

Jesus tells parables about lost things.

#### Memory Verse:

***The Lord will hold me close.*** Psalm 27:10 (NLT)

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Welcome everyone to Day 1 of SHRMP! We are excited you all are here. It's going to be a great week!

Our theme for the entire Vacation Bible School this week is **“SHIPWRECKED – RESCUED BY JESUS”**

That is the theme your children will be learning about in their classes this week. Each day they will learn about different ways we can feel shipwrecked in life, but also how Jesus promises to rescue us each time.

While we will be studying the same points as your kids, so you will know what they learned each day and can talk about it with them at home, this group is for you, the adults and parents. The same thing is true for YOU. When you face days of feeling shipwrecked, Jesus rescues. I pray God will speak to you this week, and encourage you wherever you may be in your life, right now.

Let's start by quickly talking about being SHIPWRECKED. We don't hear too much about shipwrecks these days other than books or movies, so it is more difficult for us to relate to what that might be like.

But it wasn't that long ago, that the only means to travel between continents was to go by ship. Planes didn't start flying over oceans until 1919. So, that's just a little over a 100 years ago. Before that, if you had to cross water, you had to get on a boat.

There were, and still are, many dangers that can arise on open water that can cause damage to the ship. But storms have always been the biggest threat to a ship at sea.

Well, life is very much like that, for all of us.

No matter who you are, or where you're from, each of our lives is like a ship, traveling the seas of life, and all of us face waves that toss us around. We all face storms that rock the boat and threaten to wreck the ship.

The theme of this entire week is, “Jesus rescues us through life's storms”.

We will be reading a lot of Scripture over this week, but our main verse is Psalm 34:19.

It says, ***“The righteous person faces many troubles; but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.”***

I want to read that again, “The righteous person faces many troubles; but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.”

Has anyone ever told you they had good news and bad news?

Which do you like to hear first?

Well, this verse starts out with the bad news – the righteous person faces many troubles.

And, we DO face MANY troubles in life, don't we? Yes!

But the GOOD news is in the next part.... "but the Lord comes to the rescue each time!"

That's REALLY good news!

Each day this week, we will look at some of the different troubles or storms that can try to shipwreck our life, and how Jesus comes to our rescue each time.

Today, we are going to talk about being lonely.

Have you ever felt lonely? (raise of hands)

I don't think there is anyone who hasn't felt lonely at one time or another in life. Some of you may feel lonely right now. Let's look how Jesus rescues us when we are lonely.

Psalms 27:10 is today's memory verse. It is an easy one to memorize because it's only 5 words. It says, "**The Lord will hold me close.**"

Say that out loud. The Lord will hold me close.

Loneliness is feeling alone. Not being alone so much, as in being by yourself in a room, but feeling alone. You can feel lonely even when you are in a room full of people. Being lonely feels like you are lost and alone and no one else is there for you. No one understands or knows what you are going through.

But Jesus says, HE will hold you close.

Jesus told three parables about things that wound up lost or alone. His parables were stories that had a deeper spiritual meaning or lesson. Now, he could have just told us one story about something being lost and alone, but he told us THREE. He wants you to know how he rescues the lonely so much, he gave you three examples.

All three of these parables are found together in Luke, chapter 15.

Let me read you the first one.

Read Luke 15:8-10

**"Suppose a woman has ten silver coins, but she loses one of them. She will take a light and clean the house. She will look carefully for the coin until she finds it. And when she finds it, she will call her friends and neighbors and say to them, 'Be happy with me because I have found the coin that I lost!' In the same way, it's a happy time for the angels of God when one sinner decides to change."**

Ok, so in this parable, a woman loses what?  
A coin.

Now, in today's world, losing a coin isn't a crisis, right? But to her it was a BIG loss. She only had 10 coins, and she lost one of them. For us to understand, let's say you had 10 one-hundred-dollar bills. \$1000. But what if you lost one of those hundreds? Would you not frantically search everywhere to find it?

Why? Why would you search for it? Why did the woman search for the coin? (let them answer)

She searched for the coin, the same as we would search for lost money, because it has VALUE.

Sometimes life causes us to pull away and retreat. We get separated, and can find ourselves lost and lonely. Alone.

Anyone ever felt that way?

Did you know though, that you have VALUE to the Lord? Never forget that. You are worth a lot to him. When you get lonely and lost, Jesus comes to look for you, just like the woman with the coin. And when he finds you, he rejoices!

He could have stopped there, but he shares two other stories.

Read Luke 15:4-7

**“Suppose one of you has 100 sheep, but one of them gets lost. What will you do? You will leave the other 99 sheep there in the field and go out and look for the lost sheep. You will continue to search for it until you find it. And when you find it, you will be very happy. You will carry it home, go to your friends and neighbors and say to them, ‘Be happy with me because I found my lost sheep!’ In the same way, I tell you, heaven is a happy place when one sinner decides to change. There is more joy for that one sinner than for 99 good people who don’t need to change.**

Here Jesus describes a shepherd who had 100 sheep, but one of them wandered off and got lost.

Anyone here know much about sheep?

Most of us don’t because we don’t raise them. Sheep, however, can be a bit dumb. They have a tendency to just wander off, away from the flock.

We can be just like sheep. Life can be full of things that draw our attention away and we just start wandering off, focusing on the wrong things.

When we wander off, drift away... away from God, away from church, away from friends... we can suddenly find ourselves lost and lonely. But Jesus, says he cares so much for one lost sheep, that he will leave the others to go find just that ONE. To find YOU.

Much like you with your children. If one of your children wanders off from you in a store, you will frantically search for your child. You know the dangers in the world, and you love your child and don’t want any harm to come to them.

And when you find your child, you are so relieved that the first thing you do is pick them up, hug them and hold them as close as you can, right?

Jesus does the same thing. When you are lost and lonely, his love for you is so great, he comes to find you. He does not want harm to come to you. And when he finds you, he hugs you and holds you close.

In the parable, it says that when the shepherd found the lost sheep, he CARRIED him back home. To carry the sheep home, the shepherd had to pick up the sheep and hold him close.

Jesus will rescue you when you get lost and lonely, and will CARRY you back with Him. Exactly as our memory verse said... The Lord will hold you close!”

Lastly, Jesus tells a third parable. This time the lost “thing” is a father’s son. His child.

Read Luke 15:11-24

**“There was a man who had two sons. The younger son said to his father, ‘Give me now the part of your property that I am supposed to receive someday.’ So the father divided his wealth between his two sons. “A few days later the younger son gathered up all that he had and left. He traveled far away to another country, and there he wasted his money living like a fool. After he spent everything, he had, there was a terrible famine throughout the country. He was hungry and needed money. So he went and got a job with one of the people who lived there. The 3 man sent him into the fields to feed pigs. He was so hungry that he wanted to eat the food the pigs were eating. But no one gave him anything. “The son realized that he had been very foolish. He thought, ‘All my father’s hired workers have plenty of food.’” But here I am, almost dead because I have nothing to eat. I will leave and go to my father. I will say to him: Father, I have sinned against God and have done wrong to you. I am no longer worthy of**

**being called your son. But let me be like one of your hired workers.’ So he left and went to his father. “While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him coming and felt sorry for him. So he ran to him and hugged and kissed him. The son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against God and have done wrong to you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Hurry! Bring the best clothes and put them on him. Also, put a ring on his finger and good sandals on his feet. And bring our best calf and kill it so that we can celebrate with plenty to eat. My son was dead, but now he is alive again! He was lost, but now he is found!’**

This is the probably the most known of all of Jesus’ parables. The story of the prodigal son. This is also a beautiful picture of God’s love for us.

The youngest son of this very wealthy man, asks for his inheritance upfront, instead of waiting until his father’s death to receive it later.

Now, a lot of wealthy dads would have said, “No!”. But this man gave his son what he asked for. He gave him his part of the inheritance.

The son takes it, leaves the father and his home... where he already had everything he could ever need... and he takes off to go do “his own thing.” He takes the money, heads to the city and he blows all of it on wild and sinful living. He partied it all away, and in his sin and freedom, at the time, he enjoyed himself, and he didn’t care how bad he was letting his life become.

Until... the money ran out.

Suddenly, he found himself broke. He was dead broke, in a strange place. No money, no family, no friends, no food. He was very lost and very alone. And... he was hungry.

He managed to get a job feeding pigs. As a Jewish man, pigs were considered unclean to even be around, but now he was feeding them. Worse than that, he got so hungry, he actually thought about eating the pigs’ food. That is how low and lonely and desperate he became.

Thank goodness, Jesus said in the parable, that the son realized he had been very foolish. Some translations say, “he came to his senses.”

Have you ever done something foolish or lived foolishly and got yourself in a mess, but then came to your senses?

Believe it or not, that is God working on your heart.

When the son realized his foolishness and his loneliness, it was the first step to going back to his father. He didn’t want to be lonely anymore. He knew he had messed up and sinned against his father, but he also knew with his father is where he needed to be.

So, he heads back to his father, practicing his speech. He would tell the father he wasn’t worthy to be his son anymore, but ask if he could return to be a servant.

Here is the best part of the story, though. Jesus said, the father saw the son coming from far away. That tells me that the father had been going out to his porch every single day to see if his son was coming back.

And one day the father sees him. From far off. And this is the best part... Jesus said the father RAN to meet his son. He ran to get to him. That’s how much joy he felt to see his lost son come home.

That is exactly how Jesus is toward us.

Sometimes we just walk away from the Lord because we want to go do “our own thing”, our own way. Every time we do, we make a mess of our life. We find ourselves lost and lonely and in despair.

Maybe that’s where you are right now. Maybe you have been off doing your own thing and you are now lost and alone and away from your heavenly Father. Maybe you know you need to go back to Him, but you aren’t sure he will want you to return to him.

Listen again... Jesus rescues us that place! He is waiting and looking for you to return. Every single day. And when you start back to him, he will RUN to meet you.

Jesus said the father ran to his son and embraced him. God runs to you to embrace YOU. Remember our memory verse... "The Lord will hold you close." He embraces you. Hugs you. Holds you close when you are lonely.

Why? Because you are his CHILD and he loves you!

All three of these parables show you his love.

The lost coin says you have value.

The lost sheep says you are cared for.

The lost son says you are his beloved child.

If you are lonely or lost Jesus is there to rescue you!

Let's pray:

Dear Jesus, thank you for your word that says you will rescue us when we get lonely or lost. I pray for anyone here today who might feel lonely or lost in their life, right now. I pray everyone here will know they have value to you and that you love them, and whenever they are lonely, they can reach to you and trust that you want to rescue them and hold them close to you. Thank Jesus we are never alone when we walk with you! In your name, we pray. Amen.



## SHRMP – DAY 2

### SHIPWRECKED – RESCUED BY JESUS

#### Main Theme for Week:

Jesus rescues us through life's storms.

#### Theme Verse:

*The righteous person faces many troubles; but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.* Psalm 34:19 (NLT)

### DAY 2

#### Bible Point:

When you worry, Jesus rescues!

#### Bible Text:

Luke 10:38-42

#### Bible Story:

Martha worries and complains.

#### Memory Verse:

*Do not worry. I am with you.* Isaiah 41:10 (ERV)

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Welcome back everyone for Day 2 of SHRMP!

To give a quick review, this week we are talking about times when life may leave us feeling shipwrecked.

Our theme for this entire week is “Jesus rescues us through life’s storms, and our week’s theme verse is Psalm 34:19, “The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.”

That’s a great promise! Yesterday, we talked about how Jesus comes to our rescue when we are lonely or lost.

Today, we are going to look at how Jesus rescues us when we worry.

How many of you ever worry about anything? (raise of hands)

How many are worried about something right now? (raise of hands)

I think as adults, as parents, we can find it difficult to get through even one day without worrying about something.

What kind of things do you worry about? (let them answer)

There are lots of situations in life that cause us stress and worry. It is hard not to worry sometimes.

But the truth is, worry does not do one good thing to change anything in our lives. Feeling anxious and worrying causes us a lot of additional turmoil inside. It makes us feel worse.

Worry is never productive. It is destructive.

God knows this. He knows worry can definitely shipwreck our boat. That is why he tells us, over and over, in his word, NOT to worry. He tells us to lean on him, to seek him and to trust him.

Our memory verse today is Isaiah 41:10

**“Do not worry, I am with you”**

Say that out loud with me. Do not worry, I am with you.

Again, just a few simple words, but such a big promise. He promises he is with you.

We are going to read a story today, again from the book of Luke, that speaks about two women who were in the same place, at the same time, around the same people, in the same circumstance, but they dealt with the situation in very different ways.

Read Luke 10:38-42

**38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."**

Ok, so let's unpack this.

These two women, Martha and Mary were sisters. Two sisters who lived together.

Anyone have a sister here?

Brother?

So, imagine you and your sister or brother live together, and you all plan to have friends over for dinner.

What are you like when you know company is coming? Do you clean stuff you never clean? Do you try to make it all perfect? Are you relaxed? (let them answer)

A lot of us tend to start fretting and fussing over every detail because we want everything to be perfect.

So, these two sisters had company coming over for dinner. But not just ANY company. Jesus, himself, was coming to their house for dinner.

Would any of you be worrying if Jesus was coming to your house for dinner tonight?

Would you go get the very best food you could afford? Scrub every inch of the house?

Well in this story, Jesus goes to their house, and Martha, the older sister, is running all over working, preparing the meal, cooking, cleaning, setting the table. But her sister, Mary is just sitting in the living room on the floor at Jesus' feet, listening to him. She wasn't helping Martha AT ALL. Just sitting with Jesus.

And Martha got all worked up about it! She got mad!

She was already all worked up worrying and fussing about every detail, but now she is even more fired up because Mary was just sitting there, while she did all the work.

Ever had a time like that with one of your siblings? You doing everything, and them doing nothing? Or maybe you were the sibling who was doing nothing? (let them respond)

Martha finally got so fed up, she actually went right in there and fussed to Jesus.

Lord, don't you care I'm doing all this work and my sister is just sitting here. Tell her to help me!

Have you ever been worrying about something, and just prayed out, "Lord, don't you care?"

But did Jesus tell Mary to get up and help?

No.





























