



## STUDY GUIDE – December 20, 2020

**Message Series:** 'Tis the Season  
**Message Title:** For a Rescue  
**Teaching Pastor:** Brian Hughes

### **Warm-up/Icebreaker:**

Name three words that best describe Christmas for you (besides Jesus and family).

### **Pray:**

Dear Lord, help us to slow down and walk closely with You. Your love for us is unconditional. We often try to earn Your approval and all the while Your loving Presence is ready to enfold us. Prepare our hearts now as we consider Your remarkable rescue. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Get Started:**

"The irony is that Jesus was the one in the manger, but everyone around him was truly helpless. That includes the people who gather around the manger today - you and me. We don't like being helpless. No one wants to admit that they're helpless. But we are. And Jesus came to do the one thing we could not: save us from our sin... Since sin was the thing that brought death, Jesus' complete and proven sinlessness meant he didn't have to do. Die, that is. But he did anyway - and this is the best part - to save us from our sin-penalty. How did Jesus save his people from their sins? He lived without any sin, then died like he owned all of it. When we sort through all of the hoarding we've done through a couple thousand years, adding to our Christmas clutter, we find that the one thing Christmas is about is to save us from our sin. That's what Christmas is about." -Pastor Brian Hughes

### **Read Galatians 1:3-5.**

- What stands out the most from the above quote and scripture?

### **Watch and Discuss Video:** (approx. 11 minutes)

Pastor Brian and Pastor Beth talked about approaching the Bible in an intentional way to get a fresh perspective, even on the passages we may have already heard.

- Have you thought of the Christmas story as a rescue story before? Share your thoughts.

"There are two kinds of people in the world, broken people who know it and broken people who don't." - Pastor Brian Hughes

### **Read Romans 7:15-25.**

- Do you relate as Paul did (even in his old age as a seasoned follower of Jesus) to needing rescue both back then and very much right now? Explain.

### **Read Romans 3:23.**

There are two components to being rescued: confessing and repenting of your sins (**1 John 1:19 and Psalm 103:12**) and trusting Jesus is who He says He is and giving our life to Jesus. If you have questions, need guidance, or prayer, PCC is here for you. <https://pccwired.net/about/our-story/contact-us/>

**Reflect and Commit:**

“Don’t miss this story - our death to life journey mirrors Jesus’ life to death journey - it’s a rescue story that begins on that first Christmas morning. He did what we could not. He decided that we were worth it, never gave up on you and me. We could say many things about Christmas that would be true, but at the bottom of the pile, when we sift through all of it, Christmas is a rescue story.” -Pastor Brian Hughes

**Read Psalm 91:14-16.**

- How does your life show that you are living out this scripture?
- Where are you in the process of clearing the Christmas clutter?

**Pray:**

Dear Lord, we acknowledge that we have a sin problem and are in need of a rescue, both back then and now. Help us to move forward recognizing our constant need for You, our God of hope, who never gave up on us. You are our rescue story, filling us with joy and peace during this season. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.