

Why the Bad News is So Important (3/16/25)

Verses: Psalm 53:1-3

Main Verse: Psalm 53:3

'Takeaway': In revealing just how bad our sin problem really is, God is also revealing just how amazing his rescue really is, especially for those who cannot save themselves.

Getting Started: Have you ever tried to do something only to realize how bad you were at doing it?



READ: Psalm 53:1-3 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Who is the “fool” mentioned in v. 1? Why is he/she called a “fool”?
- Who (or what) is God looking for in v. 2?
- When we consider the rest of the story in Scripture, what was God’s response to the conclusion “there is none who does good, not even one”?

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Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- In the Bible, a fool is one who rejects wisdom - God’s wisdom.
- The fool here believes that God, if he exists, is not interested in human lives & will not hold people responsible for their deeds.
- Despite all this, God is good to those who do no good - rescues sinners from their self-centered lives thru faith in Jesus & his death & resurrection.
- We could never rescue (save) ourselves. It is only because we serve a great God who loves us that we can know him & love him.

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An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(toddler) Talk to God. Thank him for rescuing sinners like us from our self-centered lives thru faith in Jesus. Be amazed by how far down God lovingly knelt to rescue us, & by how far up he has raised us for a loving relationship with him. Thank God for being a great God who loves us so that we can know him & love him.

(elementary) Talk to God. Thank him for rescuing sinners like us from our self-centered lives thru faith in Jesus. Be amazed by how far down God lovingly knelt to rescue us, & by how far up he has raised us for a loving relationship with him. Thank God for being a great God who loves us so that we can know him & love Him. Have you surrendered your life to him? Do you hear him calling you to do so today? If so, you might pray something like this: **Admit** you are guilty of living a me-centered life instead of a God-centered one. **Believe** that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom, & forever with God. With your whole heart & being, **commit** yourself to following Jesus’ loving leadership. If you pray this, or have questions about what it means, talk to a trusted adult in your life about it.