

for use as  
**STEP 1**



### Lesson 12

#### Focus:

Turn to God in every crisis.

### Lesson 12

#### Bible Basis:

Judges 16:21-30

### Lesson 12

#### Memory Verse:

“I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.” —  
Genesis 28:15a

**Your students will discuss a video featuring the rescue of a stray puppy as your middle schoolers explore turning to God for help in every crisis.**

#### Materials:

- Internet access

Watch this video with your class and then discuss the following questions [3:03]:

Street Puppy Gets Rescued With A Piece Of Bread | The Dodo Little But Fierce

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH28X3rtkbo>

- **Have you or your family ever had to rescue a stray animal before?** (Answers will vary.)

**The puppy, who would not have survived without help and rescue, encountered multiple inspiring caregivers—the rescuers, foster family, and the puppy’s long-term family. They all demonstrated compassion and kindness towards him.**

- **Like the puppy, we can sometimes feel helpless, too! What do people and puppies have in common?** (People still must rely on others to help in times of crisis. Many young people don’t have the life experience to solve big problems. They need help!)
- **Tell about a time when you or a family member were in a scary situation. Who helped you to safety?** (Allow a few students to share; do not let one student dominate the discussion.)
- **Sometimes we get into trouble because of our own foolish actions; other times life can just throw us into crisis. How does God respond to us when we’re in trouble?** (Even when we do something stupid, God wants to restore and protect us. In any crisis, we can know that God will take care of us.)

**It is part of life to experience times of fear and crisis. Sometimes we simply need help! We’re going to learn how Samson called out for God’s help in a difficult time—and find out what God did to rescue him.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

middle school



Lesson 12 / November 20, 2022

# Help, God!

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

**Lesson 12**

**Focus:**

Turn to God in every crisis.

**Lesson 12**

**Bible Basis:**

Judges 16: 21-30

**Lesson 12**

**Memory Verse:**

“I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.” —  
Genesis 28:15a

## Materials:

- Internet access
- Metal-edged key tags (at least 2 per student)
- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Ultra-thin black permanent markers

Before this step, use your smartphone to pull up the page of stock rescue icons located here. NOTE: This is NOT a free download, so do NOT attempt to make a copy of the images; however, you will want to have this handy on your device to show to individual students if they need ideas. (If your class is meeting online, you can invite students to draw images of key tags on cardstock at home. They can write phrases in the key tags and then cut out the shapes at home.)

Rescue icons:

<https://www.gettyimages.ca/detail/illustration/charity-and-relief-pixel-perfect-icons-royalty-free-illustration/801881984?adppopup=true>

**No matter if we're strong, weak, confident, or desperate, we all need to cry out to God for help in every crisis. He is big enough to help us and loving enough to rescue us. And His help is perfect. As a reminder that God is powerful and compassionate when we need Him most, let's make some visual examples of His goodness toward us.**

Provide students with blank paper and markers (or invite students to have supplies ready at home). After they practice drawing several images of their choice (using the clip art for inspiration), hand out the metal-edged key tags (at least two per student). Have them use a pencil to reproduce their favorite icon on the tag before they use an ultra-thin marker to make it permanent. Encourage them to make at least two key tags—one to keep and one to give away. Have them write in the blank area of their tags using key phrases and verses from encouraging passages related to God's compassionate nature. Choose phrases from the following passages:

“God is our refuge and strength, An ever-present help in trouble.” —Psalm 46:1

“The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.” —Psalm 37:39

“Because he loves me,” says the LORD, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.” —Psalm 91:14-15

“Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress.”  
—Psalm 107:28

When your students are done designing their key tags, discuss the following questions together:

- **Samson and other Old Testament figures had difficulties that we probably can't relate to. What might our difficulties look like?** (Help your students think of relatable crises: chronic illness, family divorce, financial trouble, etc.)
- **Does God always fix things right away? What can we do when rescue doesn't come immediately?** (God's methods and rescues take different forms in different time frames. While it's hard to trust God over long periods of suffering, we must depend on His goodness and knowledge even when we can't see it.)

**Before we leave, think of the name of one person you know who is going through a difficult crisis. Let's use our rescue symbols and verses to encourage others who need to be reminded of God's strength and love by giving them one of the key tags you designed. Who can you encourage today?** Remind students that their key tag does not have to go on a key—it can be used to hang from a backpack or purse, etc.

Close in prayer.

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