figure it out myself."

It sounds foolish, but that's the way some people respond when you mention that the only way to get to heaven is through faith in Christ. You would expect them to say, "Wow! Thanks for the good news!" Instead, you might get a reaction similar to that of the cave explorer: "Leave me alone. I don't believe that one-way business."

A rescuer loves, cares, and risks his well-being for others. The apostle Paul was a rescuer who was thrown in jail for trying to spread the good news (Acts 16:23). People won't always receive our rescue attempts with open arms, but that must not stop us from showing the way. Be a rescuer! — JDB

> Some people do not like to hear That Jesus is the only way, But we must still proclaim that truth So they will follow and obey. —Sper

Those who are lost need someone to show them the way.



**Pastor:** 

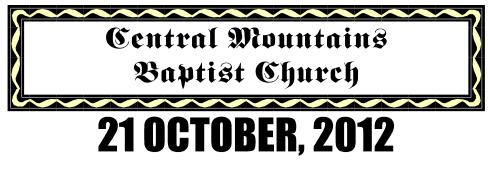
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# **The Rescuers**

### These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation. —Acts 16:17 [Read: Acts 16:16-24]

You've taken up spelunking, and you're busily exploring an interesting cave. You check out the tunnels and pathways for hours, wandering deeper and deeper into the unfamiliar darkness. Others outside, realizing you must be lost, send someone to rescue you. Suddenly you hear a voice calling your name.

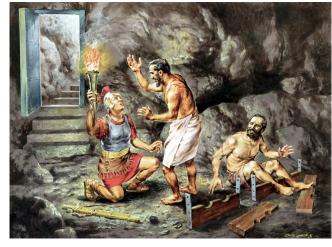
The rescuer greets you, saying, "Follow me, I know the only way out." You protest, "How can you say there's just one way? There must be others." The rescuer replies, "I've explored this cave, and you must go my way or you'll never get out." "You're too narrow," you reply. "Go on. I'll



## Baptismal Service

God was working in Philippi (Acts 16:13-24). The account of what happened in the gaol at Philippi answers two important questions for us:

#### 1. How can I be



**?** Acts 16:25-32 (*Philippians 4:11-13*) "... I

#### have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: {12} I know how to be abased. and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Isaiah 53:3-6) "He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem *Him. {4} Surely He has borne* our griefs And carried our

sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. [5] But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. [6] All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Romans 10:9) "..if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

(*Romans 10:13*) "For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."" (*Luke 13:3*) ""I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

#### 2. When am I to be \_\_\_\_\_

#### \_? Acts 16:33-34

(Ezekiel 18:20-23) ""The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. [21] "But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed..., ... he shall not die.".... (23) ""Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live?"

(Acts 8:36-38) "... "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" [37] Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." [38] So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch [man] went down into the water, and he baptized him."

(Romans 6:3-5) "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? [4] Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. [5] For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,"



(Matthew 28:18-20) "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All

authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. {19} "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, {20} "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."