



DATE(S)

August 20-21, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

At The Movies – Week 3

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

We have been rescued.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Psalm 13:1-2
Philippians 2:5-8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

***NO GAME

Due to the shorter service times in the main auditorium and the longer video messages in 56, we will not include a weekly game for 56 during At The Movies. Watching a movie and eating free popcorn for 5 weeks in a row is a good substitute!

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

Have you ever been in a situation where you REALLY needed someone else's help? If so, tell us about it.

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

At The Movies 2022

The Rescue

(0:16-3:36)

12 young boys and their coach find themselves trapped in a flooded cave with no way out. I can't even imagine the fear that gripped them when they realized they could not go back the way they came or out through another entrance. I don't know if you've ever been in a dangerous situation before, but I can fairly confidently say all of us have been in a situation where we needed some help. Now sure, getting help with your vocab words, your standardized testing, or math equations doesn't match the level of intensity of what these boys faced, but I've also had that feeling (to varying degrees), "If someone doesn't help me, I'm not going to be able to do this."

In 2021, husband-and-wife duo and filmmakers, Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, tell the real-life event of the rescue of a boys soccer team from the Tham Luang cave system: titled "The Rescue." (4:43-5:02 B-roll) (VO) The film begins with members of the British and Thai Navy, particularly the Navy SEALs, working together to devise a plan to get the boys out. They have no idea if they're dead or alive. One man speaks up and challenges the military leaders, and this act of courage changes everything...

(4:43-9:20, 12:15-13:12, 13:17-13:34)

The boys' soccer team is trapped in the cave. The British, American & Thai Navy forces are involved – some of the brightest and bravest people in the world. They are unable to reach the boys...and now...their hopes of survival lie with a retired fireman named Rick...and a guy who works on computers named John. Rick and John...that's the plan. I mean, yeah, they're really good at diving and exploring caves, but getting this entire team of boys out...THIS is the "one chance at this rescue" plan?! (B-roll of 6:56-6:57 "one chance line)

There's a pretty good chance that most of you have not been stuck in a dangerous situation, although I'm sure some of you have. Even if you haven't, it's easy to see hardship, pain, and brokenness in our world, which would certainly describe these boys' situation. Anytime this type of brokenness rears its head in our world, a question often comes out of the mouths and minds of people: Where is God in all this? I mean, these young boys have their entire lives ahead of them, they were just exploring this cave like they had done dozens of times before, and now they could lose their lives. God, where are you?

THE MESSAGE

These boys may be stuck in a dark cave, but the truth is all of us are trapped in darkness. We're trapped in our own imperfection as people, the evil and hard things of our world, the challenges in life that seem impossible to overcome. One writer in the Old Testament of the Bible, David, says it about as honestly as it can be said: *"How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?"* (Psalm 13:1-2) Can I ask you something today? Can you relate to the sadness and despair that David describes here? Have you ever felt forgotten by God?

You're not alone. For hundreds of years, God's people wondered if He had forgotten about them. And yet, they had been told that this Messiah, which means "Anointed One," was going to come and save them. But when? How long? Why doesn't God send this Messiah now while we're hurting, while we're in pain, while we're doubting if God even exists, while it seems like evil is winning?! And then, a young man is visited by an angel who tells him his soon-to-be wife is pregnant with a child and then he says some of the most incredible words ever uttered in human history: *"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will **save** His people from their sins."*

In that moment in history, God revealed His rescue mission. The one chance humanity could be saved. For once, God's people had hope and began to believe. Belief. That can sometimes be a hard thing to come by when you're in the midst of a struggle. **(VO)** But In the cold darkness of the cave, Rick and John find that same belief...

(37:29-42:35, 58:26-58:44, 1:00:20-1:02:14)

A crazy plan, a million-to-one chance, a strategic rescue mission to get the boys out was beginning to take shape. As Rick told Josh, one of the American military officers, **(1:00:28-1:00:29 – match up dialogue)** "What if it's the only idea?" Yet, while all this is happening, the boys and their coach don't care how they get out...they just want rescued. As I watched this movie, I just couldn't get what God did to rescue us out of my head. There were so many parallels, so many connections, so many similarities. I kept coming back to this one statement: We have been rescued. And that's what I want our **Take Home Point** to be for this film:

We have been rescued.

THE MESSAGE

When we were in sin, when we were in danger, when we were stuck in our imperfection, when we recognize the reality of our punishment for sinning against God is death...we have no choice but to be rescued. Did you know God did that for you? Did you know God went to the greatest of lengths to rescue you? The New Testament author, Paul, describes it like this in Philippians 2:5-8 – *"...Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!"*

That is what God was willing to go through to rescue you – this heavenly, divine, immortal, perfect God was willing to DIE. He was willing to sacrifice Himself just so we could be rescued.

(1:08:10-1:09:27, 1:10:55-1:11:11, 1:13:50-1:16:28 – cut to 1:17:10 and let dialogue finish out, 1:17:10-1:18:47 – take out "damned sure" somehow)

(B-roll of underwater footage, prepping the boys, taking them out, people carrying stretchers, build up to people cheering/celebrating)

End with 1:38:13-1:38:45, 1:39:04-1:39:09



CLOSING GROUP TIME

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

*****Leader's Note:** Make sure to have some Bibles for the students to use.

What was the THP (Take Home Point) today and why was that important during the message?

The situation the boys in the cave found themselves in was certainly scary, uncertain, and stressful. Have you ever been in a scary or stressful situation before? What happened?

Have you ever gone through a tough situation or faced some personal suffering in life where you've thought, "Where is God in all this?" (Leaders Note: If they haven't experienced something like this personally, a good follow-up would be if they've seen something evil/broken in the world and thought the same question.)

How did the theme of "rescue" in the movie relate to what Jesus did for us?

Who is one person in your life who you think would most benefit from hearing the message you heard today? What is one way you can help them find out about what Jesus has done for us? (Leaders Note: Push them towards practical steps – i.e. sharing their faith in conversation, inviting someone to church, etc.)

How will the THP (Take Home Point) help you to live differently this week? Be specific.

How can this group pray for you this week?

ACTIVITIES

Congratulate and encourage those students who made a decision to follow Jesus today! Remind them that this group can be an awesome support system for them as they begin this new journey.

After your group is finished with your discussion, close in prayer together!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Stupid Video of the Week
Message video
Message script
Message slides

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

Pro Presenter or Playlister

