

# Behind the Scenes

## Sermon Questions | 3.6.16

### Opener

Stories of rescue are powerful! What is the most dramatic example of rescue you have heard of or experienced? When was the last time you read about the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den before Pete preached on it? Before Pete's message, what do you remember of the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den?

### Read

[Daniel 6:1-27](#)

[Matthew 6:6](#)

[Daniel 3](#)

### Engaging with God in a Group

1. Frederick Buechner said that one way to view God's intervention in human history is that He is beneath history to sustain, occasionally breaking the surface (like an iceberg) with "dramatic up thrusts" of an underlying Providence. How have you experienced God working in your life, breaking through with "dramatic up thrusts" of an underlying Providence?
2. These "dramatic up thrusts" of underlying Providence serve two purpose: (1) they rescue us in our time of need and (2) they bolster our confidence in God. Share with each other times when your confidence shifted from confidence in yourself to confidence in Christ.
3. Read Daniel 6:26-27. How would you live differently, if you believed God was enough for you, you could trust him, and could embrace the truth that He intervenes with "dramatic up thrusts" of underlying Providence in our lives today?
4. How has God's intervention in the past prepared you for the current life struggles you are facing?
5. What is your "lion's pit"?

## Engaging with God Alone

Think of the biggest struggle you are currently facing. Write out everything you're thinking, feeling, and doing because of the struggle you're facing.

1. In this area of your life, are there any lies you are believing about who God is, who he is in you, and who you are in him (is there anything you're thinking or believing that doesn't line up with Scripture)?
2. Open your hands and offer all of this up to God, asking him to replace lies with truth - renewing your mind with truth ([Romans 12:2](#)).
3. Pause. Sit for a moment. Ask the Spirit to speak into your thoughts.
4. Pick up your pen and write the thoughts he puts in your mind.
5. Pray for whom you can share your "lion's pit."

## Closing Thoughts/Prayer

God is at work in your life! He is trustworthy and good and loves you deeply. He doesn't always save us by changing our circumstances. When he doesn't, we can trust in his divine providence! Write out on a notecard, "I can trust God today, because he's come through before." Throughout this week, read this over and over again as you face struggles or continue to live in the place of not knowing how things could get better.