The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- · What's your favorite rescue story from history, from a book, or from a movie?
- Look at the picture on the next page and talk about what it might have felt like to be the woman in the
 water that day.

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- Follow along in your Bible while you listen to the passage here (https://www.biblegateway.com/audio/mclean/esv/Gen.14)
- What is your **one thing** from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, an illustration, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

#1 - Christian, you must see yourself as in this world but not of this world (vs. 13)

- A. Abram is first called "The Hebrew" in verse 13. The term literally means "one from beyond" or "from the other side".
- B. What is your first reaction when you see Christians persecuted, marginalized, or ostracized around the world for their faith? Talk about a time when you felt personally persecuted because of your faith.
- C. Read Philippians 3:20. How might our reaction to persecution be different if we understood we are "heavenly citizens holding earthly visas"?
- D. How does that perspective change the way you look at this upcoming week?

#2 - If you're living in compromise, you're leaning toward capture

- A. Abram's nephew, Lot, is a picture of the danger of compromise. First, he <u>looked at</u> Sodom, then he <u>leaned toward</u> Sodom, then he <u>lived in</u> Sodom. How do Lot's actions compare with those of the blessed man in Psalm 1:1-2?
- B. In talking about the slippery slope of sin, Pastor Pat made this statement, "Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay." How have you found this quote to be true in your own life?
- C. If you are comfortable, share with your group some areas in your life where you may be in danger of being captured by sin. How can your Cell Group help you this week?

#3 - All of us need external help to rescue us from internal captivity

A. Only Jesus, the Great Rescuer, can free us from our sin. Take a few minutes to remember what your life was like before Jesus eternally saved you from your sin.

PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Confess any areas of your life where you find yourself looking at, leaning toward, or living in sin.
- · As a group, praise God for the great rescue mission that Jesus took to free you from sin and hell.

"Paths lead to places." - Pastor Pat





Jason Oglesbee, a construction worker who was working on a nearby project, helps pull Patricia Ralph-Neely from the Des Moines River near the Center Street Dam during the flood of 2009. He is hanging from a chain that is hooked to a construction crane.

Photo: Mary Chind/The Register