

## You're Safe With The God Of Grace

2<sup>nd</sup> Step - Lesson 8

*We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.*

A lot of people grow up without knowing what it's like to feel loved and safe. Home, for these people, was a place where you had to always be on your guard, ready to dive for cover whenever Mom or Dad would lose her or his temper and choose to focus the rage on one of the kids. Listen to one man's story:

*"I remember one time - I must have been six or seven - when I got up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom. When I was done and I opened the door, my father was there waiting for me. And what he did was smack me across the face - because I woke him up by flushing the toilet."*

People who grew up in a home like this have a hard time feeling loved and safe anywhere and with anyone.

The God who reveals himself in the Bible has good news for anyone struggling with this kind of situation: "You're safe with me."

- How do you know when you're **not** in a safe place or with safe people? How do you act when you're not safe?
- How do you know when you **are** in a safe place and with safe people? How do you act when you are safe?

### Isaiah 43:1-3

1 But now, this is what the LORD says - he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. 2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. 3 For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

1. If a person got used to getting humiliated and hurt when parents or other adults turned their attention on him, what do you think this person might expect to happen when **God** turns his attention on him?

What are the first two words God has to say to his people in verse 1? How do you feel when you hear your Creator telling you that?

2. In verse 1 God says, "I have redeemed you." "Redeem" means "pay a price to get something back." What do you know about the price Jesus paid to get us back when we'd left him? What does that tell you about how God looks at you?

3. God's next words in verse 1 are, "I have summoned you by name; you are mine." What does that tell you about how safe you are with God?

4. Look at verses 2-3. God doesn't promise to keep all troubles away from his people. What does he promise?

5. People who have felt unsafe are often scared to leave a place where they feel safe (church, hospital, drug rehab facility), and go back out into "the real world." What do verses 2-3 tell you about being truly safe, no matter where you are or what dangers you're facing?

6. How do you think it might change the way you think and act, to be sure of being safe and loved by God?