

An example of a “God Talk” used during an evening sports program

Help

by Barry Beeler



Materials: fire extinguisher

Time: 10 minutes

Introduction questions:

- How many of you like asking for help?
- Why do you find it difficult to ask for help?

Answer: because it shows that we have a need/it reveals weakness in us (fear & pride)

Illustration:

Two summers ago I was hired at a local sawmill to be on fire watch for a huge burn pile of scrap wood. The pile had burned down a lot from when it was started the previous day. My job was to watch for little spot fires that get started from sparks. I was filling up a large gas powered fan that produced oxygen to help the fire burn hotter when I noticed a spot fire. About 100 ft. away there was a small fire in some sawdust underneath the conveyor going into the shake mill. The conveyor is a big electric powered chain that carries logs into the shake mill. It stands about 10’ high and 30’ long.

Both fire extinguishers I took over to the fire were duds (similar to this one here). I thought I might be able to get the fire out with a garden hose so we wouldn’t need to phone the fire department. I told Dave, the night watchman, that we had a fire and he phoned the fire dept. When they arrived I was barely keeping the flames from entering the shake mill with a garden hose. Meanwhile the massive wooden beams on the conveyor were crackling away. The fire department did their job very well and saved the mill.

What would happen if neither Dave nor I called for the fire department's help?

- The whole mill could have burned down.

Application:

The same is true for our lives. **We often need help.** Sometimes I think I need to make myself into "the man," perfect in every way. I feel I need to provide all the resources, training, come up with all of the ideas for my life. This is pride. God tells us in the Bible that apart from Him we can do nothing.

We were born in need of help. But God provided the help we need. He gave up his Son, so that we can experience eternal life. This does not mean our lives are free from troubles and hardships, but that we learn to rely on God's help to get through them.

A huge way God has shown his help to me is through the people He's placed in my life; to guide me and give me good advice. When I look back on my past I can see how God has provided certain friendships at the exact times that I needed them. These people include my family, friends and older people I can learn from. A verse in the Bible says that, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can **help** him up" (Ecc. 4:9-10). God has given us each other to walk through life together because we need help.

We need help from **God** and from **each other**.

A question we can ask ourselves tonight is, "We need help, where will you get it?"