



Shepherd Care®

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To Care for People Where They Live and Work

COMMUNITY Care TOPIC

In Deep Water

When we are overwhelmed by the storms of life it can be like a flood. I remember one time as a kid, my friend Philip and I could not wait for the summer weather, so we bundled up and took some floats and tried to float down the creek. The problem was that the waters were in Spring flood stage and were very cold. I hit a patch of turbulence and was literally sucked under. As I was under the water for a few seconds I realized that I was powerless to get out of the flow. There was nothing that I could do. Then I shot out under a snag of limbs and was free! Well, we stopped right there. I went home and took a hot bath and we lived until the next adventure.

The power of the flood is dangerous because it overwhelms and surrounds a person. But there are other aspects of the situation. When we are surrounded by something that overcomes us for a longer period of time, the waters can soak in, saturate, and permeate our lives. The troubles outside sink in to our insides. The flood can then define us, change who we are, alter our purpose, and even change our identities. Also, when we are surrounded by something that overcomes us for a longer period of time, we can become weary of

treading water and the fight. We need to look to the Lord and hang in there. (*Galatians 6:9*).

Poor Peter was sinking on the raging waters until he cried out to the Lord and was saved from his situation. We need to look to the Lord constantly, as this will help keep our faith through life's storms. (*Matthew 14:28-31*).

We need to build our lives above the high-water marks. That means to avoid the areas where we could fall in our weakness and sin to the floods of temptation. (*Luke 6:48*).

And lastly, the most important thing to keep in mind is that the Lord is with us (*Isaiah 43:2*)!

Introducing your Community Chaplain

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(pronounced "key-sill-baa")

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"There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat. And we must take the current when it serves or lose our ventures."
William Shakespeare

"Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me."
Psalms 69:1-2

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