

YOM KIPPUR

- Can you recall a time when you felt as if you had been rescued from a difficult or even potentially deadly situation? What was that like?
- 2. Pastor Mark suggests that we all resonate with rescue stories because deep in our soul we know that we need to be rescued from something. Do you think that may be true?
- 3. The Hebrew Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) recognizes that something is broken in our relationship with God, and we need to be rescued, reconciled and restored in that relationship with God. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- 4. Why do you think it was so important for animals to be sacrificed at the Temple in Jerusalem?
- 5. Pastor Mark describes the ritual of the scapegoat (found in Leviticus 16). How does this help us understand the modern day use of the term "scapegoat"?
- 6. Pastor Mark explains that the High Priest went to God on behalf of the people, but Christians now view Jesus as the Great High Priest, so we no longer need human priests and we can go to God directly ourselves. How does this better help you understand the expression, "Christianity is not just a religion, it is actually a personal relationship with God" ?

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- 7. When Christians see the Jewish Day of Atonement, they also see Jesus. Jesus is the blood sacrifice for our sin, Jesus is the scapegoat, and Jesus is the High Priest. How does Jesus fulfill all three of these roles? Why do Christians declare "Good Friday" as our Day of Atonement?
- 8. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How does Jesus help us gain confidence in our relationship with God?
- 9. How does the tearing of the curtain in the Temple on Good Friday support the idea expressed in Hebrews 4:14-16?
- 10. How does gathering together with other Christians for worship on Sundays help us stay connected to God ?

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