



Session 3: Commitment Kept
Suggested Week of Use: December 18, 2016
Core Passages: Joshua 10:6-14

News Story Summary

A wildfire from the Smoky Mountains spread out of control on Monday, November 28, threatening the towns of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge. So far, 14 people have died as a result of the fires.

While the fire raged, a five person fire crew from Oak Ridge, along with five Maryville firefighters fought through blocked roads and downed power lines to rescue 12 guests, who were staying in rental cabins near Dollywood. They had become trapped in three cars by roads blocked by debris. Oak Ridge Fire Chief Darryl Kerley said the rescue was one of hundreds happening throughout Monday night.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase “Oak Ridge chief recounts rescue.”)

Focus Attention

To replace the Focus Attention idea, ask the group what comes to mind when they hear the word “commitment.” Write their responses on the board. Read the news story summary, and ask: *How is commitment demonstrated in this story? What words would you add to the list on the board?* Lead the group to identify some of the commitments that are made by firefighters and the ramifications of them not keeping those commitments.

Explain that today’s session focuses on an occasion when God’s people honored a commitment they had made to assist the Gibeonites. Challenge the group to look for reasons the Israelites honored their previous commitment.

Challenge

To supplement the Summary and Challenge idea, remind group members of the news summary. Explain that had the firefighters not kept their commitment to rescue people, lives would have been lost. Not that had Joshua not kept his commitment, the Gibeonites would have lost a battle. But more than that God would not have been glorified by the victory that He gave them. Challenge group members to honor commitments they have made look for ways they can bring honor to God in keeping those commitments.