



# The God Who Is Our Refuge

JOSHUA 20:1–9



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## **WELCOME:** Fixing Our Focus

### **Suggested icebreaker:**

Ask each GG member to share what specific place comes to mind when they hear the word “refuge.” Let each share a memory of their specific place that made them feel safe and protected.

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## **WORSHIP:** Adoring Our God

### **Suggested songs:**

- [Lilim](#)
- [Psalm 121](#)

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### LESSON AIM

1. GG members will see more of God's perfect wisdom in how He provides instructions for His people's good and well-being.
2. GG members will remember the refuge they find in God, glorifying Him, as they remember the grace and mercy they find in Him.

### INTRODUCTION

Chapter 20 of Joshua remains situated in the section of the narrative that records the apportioning of the Promised Land between the tribes of Israel. After the people of Israel and Joshua himself had received their land, the Lord appointed cities of refuge according to what He had spoken in His Word.

### Cities of Refuge are appointed across the Promised Land (vv. 1-9)

The Lord commanded Joshua and the Israelites to designate particular cities across Israel that would serve as Cities of Refuge. Upon receiving instruction, the people of God did as they were told.

1. What had God previously spoken to Moses regarding manslaughter and the Cities of Refuge? (cf. Exodus 21:12-14, Numbers 35:9-15)
2. Who was the avenger of blood according to the Law? What was his duty? How would a City of Refuge protect the manslayer from the avenger of blood? (cf. Deuteronomy 19:11-13, Numbers 35:22-29)
3. What were the six cities that were set apart as Cities of Refuge? Which of them were west of the Jordan River, and which were east? Why do you think these specific cities were selected? It may be beneficial to examine a [map](#).
4. What does God's provision of Cities of Refuge for the Israelites teach you about His character and nature? What do His instructions for the manslayer and the avenger of blood teach you about His Word?

### Application

As the people of God then found refuge from the avenger of blood, believers today find refuge in Jesus through His shed blood on the cross. It is the example by which the Church is also called to be a place of refuge for those in need of Christ. What are some of the subtle ways we make our churches today places of vengeance instead of refuge? Which practices do we need to confront, and which practices do we need to begin in order to more fully extend the refuge Jesus Christ offers?

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### PRAYER ITEM

Heavenly Father, in Your perfect wisdom and sovereign will, You have ordered all things for Your glory and for the good of those who love You. I thank You that You have become my refuge, my hiding place, my fortress, and my shelter. I am sorry for the times I refuse to be a safe space for others. Help me to be so saturated with Your grace and mercy that the lost may come to discover refuge in Christ. This I pray in Jesus' Name. Amen. ■



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**Greenhills Christian Fellowship**

**Know Christ and Make Him Known**

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