

Session 5: Everyone Who Believes Suggested Week of Use: January 1, 2023 Core Passage: John 3:4-18

## **News Story Summary**

Last Thanksgiving weekend, two men and a dog set off in a small sailboat for a trip from New Jersey to Florida. However, off the coast of North Carolina, Kevin Hyde, 65, and Joe Ditomasso, 76, were swept off course and out to sea by a huge storm with "mountain-sized waves." The storm damaged their boat and destroyed the main mast. Eventually, they ran out of fuel and lost all power. They had no way to communicate or navigate. Joe said he prayed and asked the Lord to be able to see his granddaughter again. They were definitely in need of salvation from the ocean. That salvation came more than a week after their last message, when a tanker ship was able to rescue them with a large cargo net. The lead line in one story said the two men "relied on prayer and were miraculously saved."

For more about this story, search "Atrevida II lost at sea."

## **Focus Attention**

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, call for volunteers to share any experiences they've had where they have felt like they needed help or rescue in some fashion. Poll class members to determine if anyone read or saw the news story of the two men who were lost at sea in a sailboat for ten days. Share some of the highlights of the story. Say: *These men needed to be saved. They were in a situation that looked hopeless. Yet, they clung to their faith.* Explain that this session focuses on Jesus coming to provide help and salvation for all of us. Share the main theme for this session: *Jesus offers eternal life to all who believe in Him.* 

## **Summarize and Challenge**

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, read aloud the summary statement on page 46 of the Personal Study Guide: *Jesus offers eternal life to all who believe in Him.* Ask: *To whom did God send Jesus to provide salvation? (Answer: The world)* Explain that we may not find ourselves lost at sea, looking for physical salvation, but we are all the guilty of sin and separation from God. Emphasize that this is something we can't fix on our own—we need a Savior. Ask: *How do you think the two guys felt when the tanker rescued them? How should we feel (and respond) in light of what God has done to provide salvation for us?* Close in prayer thanking God for the salvation that He offers all of us through Jesus.