Right Person, Right Time

Lillie Vehling, a college student from California, traveled to Seattle, Washington in July to attend Seafair, the city's annual summer festival. Vehling especially wanted to watch the U.S. Navy Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron that was scheduled to perform during the festival.

While in Genesee Park, Vehling observed three girls struggling in the waters of Lake Washington. Sensing that they were in danger of drowning, Vehling jumped into the water to save them. Vehling was the right person for the rescue; she is a Division I water polo player at the University of California, Davis.

"They were already bobbing up and down, trying to get breaths, and one of the girls was actually drowning the others in order to breathe," she told FOX 13 Seattle. "That's when I knew I had to jump in." Vehling said that she saved the girl who was drowning the others first "so that the others weren't even in worse shape."

After rescuing the second swimmer, Vehling swam out to the third girl who was tangled in a buoy rope. "Unfortunately, by the time I had gotten to the third girl, it was just the top of her head that was there," Vehling said. "I just saw her black hair in the water barely floating and when I got to her, she was unconscious. I lifted her head up out of the water and had my arm underneath her armpit holding her up," she added. Vehling towed her safely to shore. The girl coughed up water and regained consciousness.

Seafair later honored Vehling for the rescue for being the right person at the right time that saved the lives of three girls.

When we were "drowning" in sin, Jesus came to our rescue. He was the right Person, in fact the only One, who could save us. "Therefore [Jesus] had to be made like His brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Hebrews 2:17 ESV).

He was the right Person who came at just the right time. "But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, … to redeem [us], … that we might receive the adoption as sons" (Galatians 4:4-5).

Only the sinless Son of God could pay the price for our redemption from sin (1 Peter 1:18-19). "He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

God will save from sin, adopt into His family, and give eternal life to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

When we needed Him the most, Jesus was the right Person who came at just the right time to save us. Won't YOU accept His offer of salvation and eternal life?

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from "Beach hero jumps into the water after spotting 3 girls in danger of drowning" by Andrea Margolis of Fox News, www.foxnews.com.