

Stranded

Several families that live in Mobile County were recently stranded when floodwaters washed away the only road into their neighborhood. It happened overnight due to heavy rains.

Residents that live on Spice Pond Drive in Eight Mile lost their only means of getting in and out of their neighborhood. The torrential rains created a washout that left a gully of water eight-foot deep where there was once a road.

Desperately needing food and supplies, residents managed to use a ladder and some wooden planks to create a makeshift foot crossing. However, the road will have to be repaired before vehicles can cross. It promises to be a costly venture for the residents on this private road. Members of the community have pitched in to help. *

These families' isolation from the outside world illustrates our own condition because of sin: separated from God and lost. "Your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). Isaiah's indictment of the Jews of old applies to every sinner. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

But God loves us and desires to save us. So, He "built a bridge" of reconciliation. The "Bridge" was none other than His own Son, Jesus.

Jesus provided the means of reconciliation with God by dying on the cross for our sins (see 2 Corinthians 5:17-21). "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

One may access the Bridge to God through His trusting obedience. Reconciliation becomes a reality 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). God will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

The Bridge to salvation and eternal life has been provided. Accept His offer on His terms. "We speak for Christ when we beg you to be at peace with God. Christ had no sin, but God made him become sin [i.e., an offering for sin] so that in Christ we could be right with God" (2 Corinthians 5:20-21 ERV).

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from "Families cut off after floodwaters wash away only road into neighborhood" by Ella Snapp of NBC15 News, www.mynbc15.com.