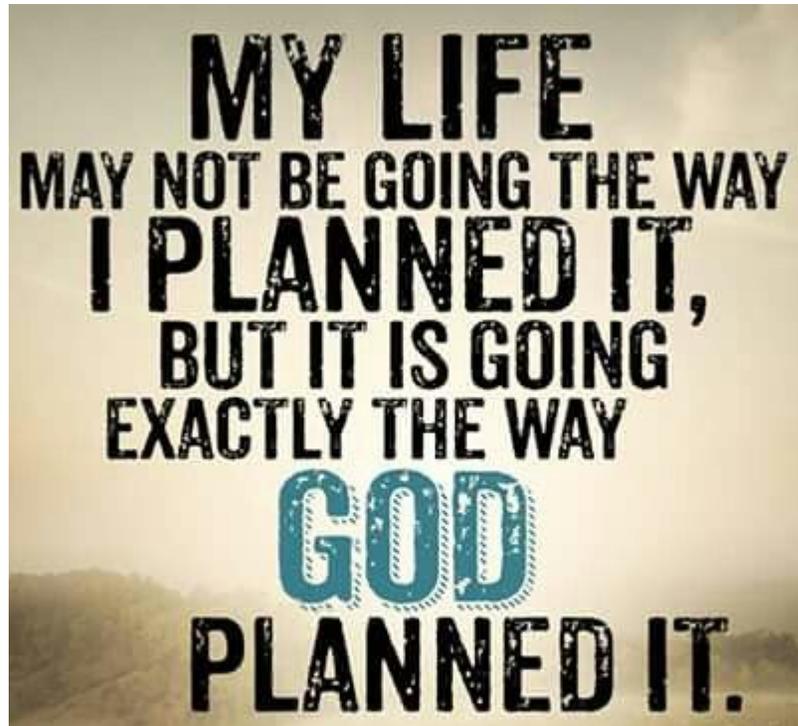




Today I want you to take a look at four people in the Bible that got real with God. It is my hope that God will speak to all of us today about always being real with Him. David cried cleanse me, Jacob cried bless me, Jonah cried help me, and Peter cried save me. In Psalms 51:10-12—David cried give me a clean heart, give me a right spirit. We know that this Psalm is a song of repentance. David had sinned against God and he wanted to be free again in his heart and spirit to worship God. Today, if you are feeling lost in sin, or trapped in a sinful situation, you really need to get real with God. We can see that David got real by revealing a simple point, it is miserable to be trapped by sin. It is a terrible place to be and he wanted to be free. I encourage you to get real with God and ask Him to clean you, renew you, restore your life. David realized even though he had sinned against others, His only hope for true forgiveness was through repentance to God. You can spend your life telling people you are sorry for this or that, but freedom will come as you confess your sins to God. David got real with God, and God used his life for good. There were still consequences for his sin, but God restored him.

In Genesis 32:24-26 Jacob cried bless me Lord. This is the only wrestling match between man and God in the Bible that is recorded. The earliest WWE wrestling match for sure! Jacob did pretty good, I think God was letting him win a little though, and Jacob got real

with God right there. He said, even though I have a lot of stuff, even though some would call me a success, my life is miserable, and unless you bless me Lord, I am not going to let go. Jacob had come to the point of no return and he was ready to yield his life to God. He was really saying, "I am tired of doing it my way, let's try to do it your way." Jacob knew the only way he would ever be blessed was if God blessed him with his presence, purpose and plan for his life.



Jonah cried help me—I guess this is the first time Jonah had gotten real with God in a long time. He got to the place where God was all he had, and he would find out that God was all he would need. So many people because they run from God's call and voice, hit bottom, and from the bottom they cry. Sometimes the bottom is the only place that will cause us to really look up, and the cry for help. Today some of us need to get real and say, only you God can get me out of what I have gotten myself into. I don't believe God causes bad things to happen in our lives but allows them to get our attention. He allows us to run and hide ourselves, but He always knows where to find us.

Finally Peter cried save me. Peter got real with God when he started to sink. That is the story of many people, they were walking fine, they were doing good, but they took their eyes off of Jesus and they started sinking. This is where we get real with God, when we say, we weren't doing it at all, it was always you, it was always your power. It isn't that God has walked away from you and me, it is that we have walked away from him. Peter came to that place where it was all about Jesus and not about Peter. When we get real with the Lord, it is all about us becoming nothing and him becoming everything. so today we discovered that David cried clean me, Jacob cried bless me, Jonah cried help me, and Peter cried save me. Today is the day to get real with God. If David never gets real with God then Israel misses it's blessing. If Jacob doesn't get real with God his children would suffer. If Jonah never got real with God, then Ninevah doesn't hear from God, if Peter doesn't get real with God, the early church would suffer without him. It is so important that you and I get real with God, for someone's blessing is dependant on us getting right with God.