



## *12. Seeing the Lost*

As a certified lifeguard, I saw a young boy drowning. I saw that he was going under. And spiritually, a man said to me, "I want to believe ... sell me." He was spiritually drowning and knew it ... I could see it too. A lifeguard sees when a person is drowning. Do you see that your lost friends and family are spiritually drowning? Here's how the Bible describes them.

They are spiritually **blind**, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 ...

Satan has blinded them to the light of the Gospel.

They're spiritually **dead** in their sin, Ephesians 2:1.

They're held **captive** by Satan, 2 Timothy 2:26.

They are **robbed** ... Satan snatches away the Gospel words they've heard, Matthew 13:19.

They're **separated** from God by their sin, Isaiah 59:2 ... eternally separated from God if they don't believe in Christ.

They're **judged** by God because they have not *believed in Jesus*, John 3:18.

They're **lost**, Luke 19:10 ... spiritually slipping below the waters of an eternity without Christ.

The Bible says that your spiritually drowning family and friends are blind, dead, captive, robbed, separated, judged, and lost. Have the vision and heart of a lifeguard. Be like Jesus who said, in Luke 19:10, that He came "*to seek and to save that which is lost.*"

Do you want to be like Christ? Then see the lost as spiritually drowning. Do everything you can do to save them. Be like the Apostle Paul who said, "*I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. I do all things for the sake of the gospel.*" That's 1 Corinthians 9:22-23. As a spiritual lifeguard, see the lost as spiritually drowning ... and do all you can to save them.