

God's love for you is unconditional – no matter what you've done. He loves you and longs to hear you call on Him. Like the father in the story of the prodigal son, He won't withhold His love but will enfold you in it:

*For thus says the Lord...seek Me and live.*

**AMOS 5:4**

*For whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

**ROMANS 9:13**

Will you accept Him today or will you miss what might be your only opportunity? Call on God today, admit your need of Him – He will hear you!

# The Miners' Prayer

Everyone knew Matt; he was a larger than life character, well respected in the mining community. He was passionate about his communist ideals. So much that he fought in the Spanish Civil War and came home a hero. Matt had “a heart o’ gold” for anyone in need. As the miners’ spokesman he often fought their corner against the company. But Matt’s patience was thin when it came to religion. He made no secret of his contempt for God and His church. “Keep your religious crutch!” he often rebuked any Christian who dared to talk of spiritual matters with him.

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Then on one cold September afternoon there was an ominous rumble, clouds of coal dust billowed from the pit. There had been a cave-in and the dayshift were trapped. The siren wailed and people started to gather at the pit from the surrounding villages, hoping and praying for their men.

As the rescue teams got to work on the surface, underground a small group of miners huddled together in the darkness behind a wall of rock. Some coughed and cursed the dust, others groaned in pain nursing their injuries. But in that awful desperate place a voice could be heard in the darkest corner slowly reciting “The Lord’s Prayer.” In a few seconds all who were trapped there joined in the prayer. The prayer was followed by a hymn and then another hymn. Eventually after some hours the rescuers broke through. On the surface the victims recounted the story of how “a Christian” led them in prayer and hymns keeping their hope of rescue alive. Then a tall familiar man passed through the crowd saying, “In that shaft I realised that Marx couldn’t save us – only God could.” Much to everyone’s amazement, it was Matt! From that day he was a different man; he replaced his passion for politics for faith in the God who heard his prayer of desperation down the pit that day in September.

Matt’s story is the same as many folk’s story the world over, who have rejected God but when they are in crisis they turn to Him. Someone once said of soldiers in World War One, “there was no atheists in the trenches.” They like Matt knew that when it came to the crunch, all the idealism in the world couldn’t save them – only God could do it.

Today we will not experience pit accidents or trench-warfare, but we may experience a crisis which threatens our health or life at some point. If and when you experience your crisis who will you call on to save you? Why wait until then? God is real and He loves you; He sent His Son Jesus Christ for you:

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us,  
in that while we were still sinners, Christ died  
for us.*

**ROMANS 3:8**