anyone up there
(a repeat daily)

a man named jack was walking along a steep cliff one day when he accidentally got too close to the edge and fell. on the way down he grabbed a branch, which temporarily stopped his fall. he looked down and to his horror saw that the canyon fell straight down for more than a thousand feet. he couldn't hang onto the branch forever, and there was no way for him to climb up the steep wall of the cliff. so jack began yelling for help, hoping that someone passing by would hear him and lower a rope or something.

"help! help! Is anyone up there? help!"

he yelled for hours, but no one heard him. he was about to give up when he heard a voice.

"jack, jack. can you hear me?"

"yes, yes! i can hear you. i'm down here!"

"I can see you, jack. are you all right?"

"yes, but ... who are you, and where are you?"

"I am the Lord, jack. I'm everywhere."

"the Lord? You mean, GOD?"

"that's Me."

"God, please help me! i promise if You'll get me down from here, i'll stop sinning. i'll be a really good person. i'll serve You for the rest of my life."

"easy on the promises, jack. let's just get you down from there; then we can talk. now, here's what I want you to do. listen carefully."

"i'll do anything, Lord. just tell me what to do."

"okay. let go of the branch."

"what?"

"I said, let go of the branch ... just trust Me. let go."

there was a long silence. finally jack yelled,

"help! help! is anyone else up there?"

have you ever felt like jack? we say that we want to know the will of God, but when we find out what it is, we can't handle it. it sounds too scary, too difficult. we decide to look elsewhere. when He says, "let go of the things that stand between you and Me, and trust Me with your life. it sounds pretty scary, but when we let go, we find freedom and safety in His hands."

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and no, there's nobody else up there. "nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." acts 4:12 there's someone in the down direction many are heading. but his goal is not to rescue you but to enslave you.

here we have the God of all creation, not only willing but anxious to save you. He will take firmly hold of your hand and pull you out of whatever mire you are wallowing in and lift you to heights unimaginable. i know some colleges have set up what they call "safe spaces". i hate to be the one to tell everyone - there are no "safe spaces". not for anyone in this world, believers and non-believers alike.

He has not promised us everything in this life. only in the next. that's something you can take to the bank, as they say. "we must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." acts 14:22 He can give you the peace and strength to face whatever comes against you. he may often offer a supernatural deliverance from something. He will definitely engage you a love affair, the likes of which you have never dreamed.

but i warn you ahead of time. "no one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." luke 9:62

"you shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." lev 19:2 God is righteous in judgment. He has rationed wrath and grace as that judgment dictates. the decision of where to stand, He has left to each of us. "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

jos 24:15 i will grasp His hand extended. i will let go of this world in hopes of the next. will you?