

God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

Marmot



The marmot looks like a large prairie dog or groundhog. Marmots live in groups in rocky areas near water. When the weather is either too hot or too cold, the marmot falls into a deep sleep (*like hibernation*) in the safety of its rocky home. When

danger is near, the marmot will make a squeaking sound which alerts all of its neighbors to the danger. When marmots hear this danger call, they all run to the safety of their rocky dens.

What can we learn from the marmot?

The rocky home of the marmot is very safe and very hard to find and destroy. The rocks protect the marmot from all danger. The Bible tells us in Psalm 18:2, *“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock in whom I take refuge.”* The marmot lives the way our faith should - trusting in the rock which is God.

Jesus teaches us the lesson of putting your faith in God’s word and the marmot reminds us of Jesus’ lesson. Jesus tells us in Matthew 7:24-25, *“Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose and the winds blew and beat against the house; yet it did not fall because it had its foundation on the rock.”* What Jesus means is that the word of God is powerful enough to support us throughout our lives. The word of God is full of hope, comfort and promises. If we read our Bible and follow its teachings, we will be saved from all of

life's dangers and sins. We will be living in a house built on the strength of God's love which is like a rock. Neither storm nor heat nor cold will be able to break down our house of faith built on God's word and love.

The marmot is not selfish but rather cares about its neighbors. When danger is present, it warns its neighbors. The marmot teaches us how to love our neighbor like ourselves just as Jesus taught us.

