

God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

Lemming



The Norway lemming is one of several types of lemmings. The Norway lemming is the one that moves in large groups which often jump into the sea and drown. It is not true that lemmings commit suicide; they will swim across streams and ponds without difficulty. They simply do not realize that the sea is too large to swim across.

Lemmings enjoy two or three years of prosperity and they reproduce rapidly. When there are too many lemmings for the land to provide food for, they go on large migrations in search of new places to live and eat.

What can we learn from the lemming?

The lemming teaches us the danger of following others without thinking for ourselves. Lemmings will follow the crowd without thinking and, sadly, many will drown doing this.

The Bible is full of examples of people following their neighbors and leaders rather than following God. Like the lemmings, this often led to sad results. In the Old Testament, ten of the twelve tribes of Israel followed false gods rather than thinking for themselves. They no longer exist. The two tribes that followed the true God lived and still exist.

In the New Testament the Jews living in Jerusalem followed the Temple leaders rather than thinking for themselves. They rejected Jesus as the Savior without even knowing why they should not believe in Him. Some of the Jews did not follow the crowd and thought for themselves. They became

the first Christians and spread the good news of the gospel all over the world. They did not drown (*like the lemmings*) in their sins, but live forever in heaven because of the salvation that Jesus has earned for all of us who believe He is the Savior.

