

A Prayer for Deliverance **Based on Genesis 7:11-24**

O GREAT LOVE, let us re-member the story of Noah's ark—a life boat in the midst of great hardship and destruction. Through 40 days of flood, 150 days of isolation, and all manner of trials and tribulations, Noah's life boat delivered its inhabitants to safety and abundant new life in You.

O GREAT LOVE, on college campuses from New York to California, young adults yearn for the security of Noah's ark—a vessel of sacred voyage—a life boat of deliverance from anxiety, confusion, fear, cultural seduction, and depression. From North Dakota to the Gulf Coast our young people seek wise sages to guide them along the age-old passage called *coming-of-age*.

O GREAT LOVE, like all sacred passages, coming-of-age is a grueling voyage—a baptism with death before new life. Young travelers are tossed to and fro on raging seas of question and doubt. Independence comes at the price of their innocence.

O GREAT LOVE, let us build up our Wesley foundations and campus ministries to encourage, guide, and nurture our young people—let us be for them life boats—Noah's Ark. Let us strengthen Your campus churches to be the calm in the midst of turbulent university waters.

O GREAT LOVE, let our faith move us to action like Noah—to build seaworthy vessels for the coming deluge. As colleges and universities raise up national and international thinkers and leaders, let us equip those thinkers and leaders to pursue a passion for justice, to live lives of meaning and purpose, and to be disciplined citizens with high moral values and a sense of personal integrity.

O GREAT LOVE, in the image of the first ark, we pray that each campus ministry might be a wildly diverse *animal house* carrying every color of Your promising bow. Guide us, Great Love, to deliver young adults to lead us forward in faithful discipleship of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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