

Why God's promises are important:

God is only as good as His word.

Trust requires <u>reliability</u>.

19 God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through? Numbers 23:19 (NLT)

Discovering God on a deeper level:

God cannot <u>lie</u> because He is <u>truth</u>.

18 ...God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. Hebrews 6:18 (NLT)

44 ... He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44 (NLT)

We have confidence and hope because of God's character.

18 ... it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. Hebrews 6:18 (NLT)

3 True, some of them were unfaithful; but just because they were unfaithful, does that mean God will be unfaithful? 4 Of course not! Even if everyone else is a liar, God is true.Romans 3:3-4 (NLT)

23 Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. <u>He (God) always keeps his word</u>. Hebrews 10:23 (MSG)

If we're going to trust God:

We have to <u>know</u> God's promises.

4 And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. 2 Peter 1:4 (NLT)

20 God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us... Ephesians 3:20 (MSG)

 $27\,$ "I am the LORD, the God of all the peoples of the world. Is anything too hard for me? Jeremiah 32:27 (NLT)

24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:24 (ESV)

We have to **pursue** God's promises.

20 Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. 21 He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. Romans 4:20-21 (NLT)

We have to **believe** and **act** on God's promises.

2 We received the same promises as those people in the wilderness, but the promises didn't do them a bit of good because they didn't receive the promises with faith. Hebrews 4:2 (MSG)

Genesis 15:5-6 (NLT) (Abraham and Sarah - Genesis17-22)

How to receive God's promises with faith:

We receive everything from God through our <u>relationship</u> with Him.

- We make His word the <u>foundation</u> of our lives.
- I <u>believe</u> that what God says will happen even when <u>nothing</u> is happening.

17 While God was testing him, Abraham still trusted in God and his promises... Hebrews 11:17 (TLB)

50 These words hold me up in bad times; yes, your promises rejuvenate me. Psalm 119:50 (MSG)

We <u>hold</u> tightly to what we believe <u>deeply</u>.

What is a promise, a scripture, you are holding on to?

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What's one idea from the talk that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- Are you currently holding on to a promise of God, that you need in your life? How do you continue to hold on during difficult times?
- Look at the points and scriptures under the subheading "Discovering God on a deeper level". Why is it important to discover God on a deeper level? What does it mean to you that God is truth?
- · How do we discover God's promises?
- What does it mean to believe and act on God's promises? (Can you give and example from your life or a story in the Bible?)
- · How do you make God's Word the foundation of your life? What does that mean?
- Read Psalm 119:50 Do you find that God's promises encourage you and give you strength? Why doe this happen?
- If you can share, what is a need in your life and the promise you are holding onto?

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