



#### Definition of promise:

**Promise:** an offer with a guaranteed result.

**A promise** is the assurance that God gives to His people so we can walk by faith while we wait for Him to work.

- Don't let what you are going through keep you from experiencing what God has for you.

Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. God always keeps his word.

Hebrews 10:23(MSG)

- God's promises remind us that something good from God is coming to us.

**The promises** we're looking at today is this:

- God's promise to you tells you of a place He has for you.
- God wants to spend eternity with you and He's done all He can to make that happen for you.

Jesus said, "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. John 14:1-2 (NCV)

- Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people.

**The reason we want to go to heaven is:**

- We will be together with God.

Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8 (NIV)

...people will worship God and will see him face to face. Revelation 22:3-4 (CEV)

... I am going to prepare a place for each of you... Then we will be together. John 14:2-3 (CEV)

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. Revelation 21:3 (NLT)

- We will be together with loved ones.

Someday I will go to him, but he cannot come back to me. 2 Samuel 12:23 (NCV)

And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 (MSG)

Oh, we'll be walking on air! And then there will be one huge family reunion with the Master. So reassure one another with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:18 (MSG)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. Revelations 21:1 (NLT)

- Heaven is a place of wholeness.

<sup>4</sup> 'He (God) will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" ... <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.' Revelation 21:1-5, 7

**Another promise that is tied to "Heaven" is this:**

- God's promise to you tells you that Jesus is coming back for you.

Jesus said, "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. John 14:1-3

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. 17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. 18 So encourage each other with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (NLT)

#### Action Step:

- Think about the place God has for you and let it change how you're living.

2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God... 5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you... 10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. Colossians 3:2-10

## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

#### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Read John 14:1-3; What does this promise mean to you?
- Do God's promises remind you that something good from God is coming to you?
- How often do you think of heaven? How does your awareness of heaven affect your daily life?
- What do you think heaven is like? Why is it important to know that heaven is a "prepared" place?
- How does it make you feel to know that God desires to spend eternity with you?
- How does being together with God in heaven bring comfort and strength to your life?
- What does it mean to you that heaven is a place of wholeness?
- How does being with family in heaven bring strength to your life?
- When you think about heaven what excites you most?
- How does God's promise to come back for you give strength to you?
- Read Colossians 3:2-10; How does this encourage you?

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*Today's promise:*

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