

## How to Live by God's Unfailing Promises

Max Lucado

When I was around twelve years old, I tagged along with my father as he went to buy new tires for the family car. Dad was from a small town and simpler times. He was unadorned of fancy dress or wealth. He was a reliable oil field mechanic who loved his family, paid his bills, and kept his word. He was insulted by those who doubted his integrity. He was certainly insulted that day in the tire shop.

He selected the tires, and we waited as they were being mounted. When it came time to pay the bill, I stood by Dad's side at the counter as he wrote the check. The salesclerk looked at the check and then requested that my father produce some identification. Such a practice is common and

unquestioned today, but in the 1960s a merchant seldom asked for verification.

Dad was taken aback.

"You don't believe I am who that check says I am?"

The clerk was embarrassed. "We require this of all customers."

"Do you think I am dishonest?"

"It's not that, sir."

"If you don't think I am good for my word, you can

remove those tires."

I remember a long moment of awkward silence as the clerk weighed his options.

We went home with the tires. And I went home with a lesson on integrity- Good people are serious about keeping their word. How much more serious would a good God be? What was said about God's

> faithfulness to Israel can be said about his faithfulness to us. "Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled" (Josh. 21:45).

From the first chapter of Scripture, the Bible makes a case for the dependability of God. Nine

times the text reiterates "God said." And without exception when God spoke, something happened. Something wonderful happened. By divine fiat there was light, land, beaches, and creatures. God consulted no advisers. He needed no assistance. He spoke, and it happened. The reader is left with one conclusion: God's word is sure.

One student of Scripture spent a year and a half attempting to tally the number of promises God has made to humanity. He came up with 7,487 promises! Some of the promises are positive, the assurance of blessings. Some are negative, the guarantee of consequences. The bottom line is this- God is not just a promise maker. He is a promise keeper.

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# The ROAR of the Crowd



On a balmy

October afternoon in 1982, Badger Stadium in Madison, Wisconsin was packed. More than sixty thousand diehard University of Wisconsin fans were watching their football team take on Michigan State University. It soon became obvious that MSU had the better team. What seemed odd, however, as the score became more lopsided, were the burst of applause and shouts of joy from the Wisconsin fans. Even though their team was being pummeled on the field by the opposing team, they were smilling and high-fiving each other as if they were winning rather than losing. How could this be?

It turned out that seventy miles away, the Milwaukee Brewers were beating the St. Louis Cardinals in Game Three of the 1982 World Series. Many of the fans in the stands were listening to portable radios—and responding to something other than what they saw on the field.

How is it that Paul could write, "...For I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties" (I Corinthians 12:10)? He always seemed to have a positive attitude when things were going badly. Did he enjoy pain? Did he enjoy losing? No, not at all. But he was tuned in to another reality—he knew that even though he was experiencing bad news, he was in

touch with the good news about Jesus Christ.

If your only reality is the world—what you see and hear all around you—you will become discouraged and begin to feel like a loser. But if you listen to the voice of God, you will be aware of a different reality—one that is cause for rejoicing. God is in control. In the midst of problems and difficulties, we know that "all things work together for good" to those who are tuned in to God. Romans 8:28

This month we are looking at "God's Amazing Promises", which we will find out are "Faithful & True". There is a different reality, and if you choose it can be your REAL REALITY.

Pastor Greg



### "This is What We Still Do!"

No matter what changes around us...

- We still worship Jesus together.
- We still **teach God's Word** to all ages.
- We still **serve our neighbors** with love.
- We still invest in the next generation.
- We still **pray for revival** in our city.



This is who we are. This is what we still do.





Your faithful giving makes this possible. Every gift changes lives, strengthens families, and spreads the hope of Christ.

Join us in giving and make your pledge for the new year - because together, this is what we still do!





#### How to Live by God's Unfailing Promises

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The question is will we build our lives upon them?

The heroes in the Bible came from all walks of life: rulers, servants, teachers, doctors. They were male, female, single, and married. Yet one common denominator united them: they built their lives on the promises of God. Each of their stories were different, but the theme was the same: God's promises were polestars in their pilgrimages of faith."

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family...

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going... And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise...

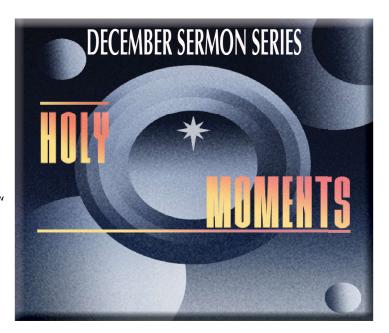
By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son" (Heb. 11:7–17).

Because of God's promises, Joshua led two million people into enemy territory. Because of God's promises, David conked a giant, Peter rose from the ashes of regret, and Paul found a grace worth dying for.

One writer went so far as to call such saints "heirs of the promise" (Heb. 6:17 nasb). It is as if the promise was the family fortune, and they were smart enough to attend the reading of the will.

Just as Abraham depended on God's promises while wandering in a foreign land, we must cling to his promises while navigating a modern cultural landscape that is pocked with uncertainty and fear. What is shaking in your world today? Could you use some unshakable hope?

If so, you are not alone. We've never been more educated. We are saturated with entertainment and



recreation. Yet more people than ever are struggling with depression, anxiety and despair.

People are dying for lack of hope. Our modern secularism sucks the hope out of society. It reduces the world to a few decades between birth and hearse. Many people believe this world is as good as it gets, and let's face it. It's not that good.

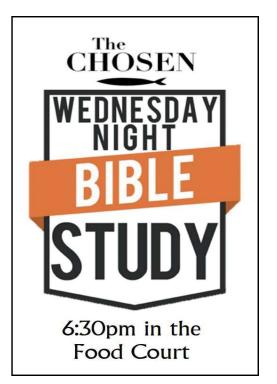
But People of the Promise have an advantage. They filter life through the promises of God. When problems surface they determine to ponder, proclaim, and pray the promises of God. They are like Abraham who "didn't tiptoe around God's promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong" (Rom. 4:20 msg).

After forty years of ministry, I've discovered that nothing lifts the weary soul like God's promises. We desperately need them. We do not need more opinions or hunches; we need the definitive declarations of our mighty and loving God.

Picture God's words falling like rain from heaven on you. Imagine these promises as gentle spring showers. Receive them. Allow them to land on you, to soak you. I'm trusting that God's words will prosper in your life. Will you join me in believing this promise?

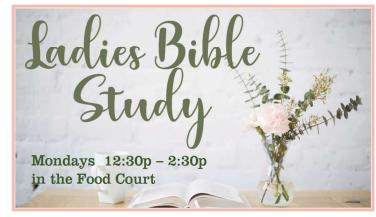








Memorial service for Neta Garza-Ortiz Friday, November 7, 2025 10:00am at Will Rogers Church







1138 South Yale Tulsa, OK 74112-5395 (918) 834-0891

**Return Service Requested** 

November 2025

#### WILL ROGERS CHURCH

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAY @ 10:15AM

Everyone's Welcome Nobody's Perfect Anything's Possible

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:00AM

Church website: http://www.wrctulsa.org

facebook.com/Will Rogers Church Tulsa OK

**OFFICE HOURS:** 

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 12:00pm - 1:00pm - 4:00pm

#### Service times:

10:15am - Blended Worship
Livestreaming
Find link on Facebook or www.wrctulsa.org

9:00am - Sunday School