

Promises, Promises, Feb 18/19-March 4/5

Series Focus: To help people distinguish between the promises of God and empty cliches of culture

Tagline: Real hope for when life is hard

Feel: Think pinkie promise or pinkie swear like we used to do as kids

Why: The Scriptures are filled with promises, but do we know them? Since one of Jesus' promises is that we will all face difficult seasons, it's important our church knows the real promises of God that will sustain them and give them hope when life is hard.

Response Stations: No

Invite Pitch: Has anybody ever given you advice that was meant to be helpful, but it just wasn't? Advice like: 'Good things come to those who wait', 'What doesn't kill you makes you stronger'. It's easy to do. We all do it and we all mean well when we do it! But when someone is hurting or going through something really difficult, oftentimes these feel like just empty cliches. Sometimes we can do that with Bible verses too. 'God won't give you more than you can handle', 'Everything happens for a reason' - they sound like something that would be in the Bible, but are they? So what is from the Bible and what isn't? What's a promise God has made, and what's an empty cliché? Know the real promises of God and how they can help when life is hard.

Key Verse: 2 Peter 1:4, 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.

Weekly Topics and Content Goal:

Week 1: Feb 18/19, God will never give you more than you can handle, Ben

Verse: 2 Corinthians 12:5-10; Philipians 4:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13

Goals: Our whole life is more than we can handle, strength made perfect in your weakness, when overwhelmed meet you right where you are

Week 2: Feb 25/26, Guest Speaker, Everything happens for a reason, Andy

Verse: Romans 8:28

Goals: God is in control but he's not prescribing everything

Week 3: March 4/5, Hate the sin, love the sinner, Ben

Verse: Romans 5:6-8; John 3:16-17; 1 John 3:4; 9-10 Hate what is evil, hate lawlessness

Goals: Grace of God acknowledges our reality, but doesn't give us what we deserve

Goals:

What next steps will we ask people to take?

- Receive a one-time resource on the promises of God via text or email
- GrowthTrack (He promises purpose)

How are we measuring success?

- Total number of people who engage with resource - 900
 - Offer this 1 resource all 3 weeks
- GrowthTrack measured by churchwide dashboard - 58 per week

Ministry Calendar and Holidays:

Feb 25/26 - Group Leader Training

March 1-April 31 - DreamTeam Team Meetings

March 4/5 - Baptism

Series Resources:

Next Steps

Family Ministries

Preschool – Every month we equip parents with a Parent Cue resource giving them a summary of the monthly Bible stories, the memory verse and some easy ways they can continue the spiritual conversation at home; reinforcing God’s truth and his promises. This monthly content can be found at CedarCreek.tv/Preschool

Elementary – Every month we equip parents with devotions called, “God Time Cards.” These are quick but meaningful ways children (and whole families) can dig deeper into the teaching to discuss and apply the truth’s being taught each week. This monthly content can be found at CedarCreek.tv/Elementary

Students - How to See God: A 4 Week Guide for Teenagers

<https://store.thinkorange.com/collections/middle-school-curriculum-resources/products/how-to-see-god>