

Overcoming the Darkness #2
“The Light of God’s Promise”

“I [Jesus] am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12

INTRODUCTION

The promises of God are gracious and abundant. He has revealed the light of these promises to us in His word from Genesis to Revelation. In this study we will examine many of God’s amazing promises to us, and consider how they can be realized in our own lives.

Ice Breaker (Optional): Was there ever a promise made to you that generated high expectations, and did *not* disappoint? What was it like to finally see the promise fulfilled?

STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN)

1. The God Who Promises

Q1. Read Isaiah 11:1-2, 10-11, 12:1, 3

The value of a promise depends on the character of the one who makes it. Many of God’s promises come through, and find fulfillment in the Messiah. What do these verses say about His character? What does God promise **will** happen in these verses?

Q2. Read John 4:10, 13-14, John 7:37-38

One of the promises of Isaiah is that water would be drawn from the wells of salvation with joy. How does Jesus explain what this water is, and what does He promise concerning it?

2. Promises and Covenants

Q3. Read Gen 2:16-17, Genesis 9:8-17

God entered into covenant agreements with several of the Old Testament patriarchs. In God’s covenant agreement with Adam, it was dependent upon man’s faithfulness. In His covenant with Noah, it was not. What has happened to the covenants that relied on Man’s faithfulness to uphold, and how did that influence the need for a New Covenant?

COVENANT - “A pact, treaty, alliance, or agreement between two parties

Q4. Read Matthew 26:26-28, John 6:33, 35

What is the promise of Isaiah 12:1 fulfilled in Mat 26:28? How would you describe the hunger and thirst that God satisfies in you (Jh 6)?

3. God’s Extends His Promise to Us

Q5. Read Galatians 3:13-14, 29

Have you ever wondered why God redeemed us? According to Galatians why did Christ 'become a curse for us' and how do we receive His promise (v.14)?

4. Applying God’s Promises

Q6. 2 Peter 1:3-4

These verses tell us how awesome and amazing God’s promises are to us. What has He given us through our knowledge of Him? And what is offered to us through these promises (v.4)? How might you see God’s divine nature revealed in your own life?

WRAP-UP

Christ came to us that we might see his light, choose it, and live in it. His light is filled with promise, and He is faithful to deliver all of it.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:23 NIV - *Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life: _____
Pray for your group members’ needs: _____

Challenge: We can count on the promises of God. Can He count on your promises? Consider any promises you've made that need re-visiting, then go to God or others to re-commit to living it out.

Scripture Verses

Q1.

Isa 11:1-2, 10-11 NIV - [1] A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. [2] The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- ... [10] In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. [11] In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea.

Isa 12:1, 3 NIV - [1] In that day you will say: "I will praise you, O LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. ... [3] With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Q2.

Jhn 4:10, 13-14 NIV - [10] Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." ... [13] Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, [14] but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Jhn 7:37-38 NIV - [37] On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. [38] Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

Q3.

Gen 2:16-17 NIV - [16] And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; [17] but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Gen 9:15-16 NIV - [15] I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the

waters become a flood to destroy all life. [16] Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

Q4.

Mat 26:27-28 NIV - [27] Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. [28] This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Jhn 6:33, 35 NIV - [33] For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ... [35] Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

Q5.

Gal 3:13-14, 29 NIV - [13] Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." [14] He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. ... [29] If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Q6.

2Pe 1:3-4 NIV - [3] His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. [4] Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

Prayers (continued):
