

# Life Group Notes

*These notes are to serve you as you lead your group.*

*Please feel free to select the passages and **only use the questions which are most relevant to your group** and for the way you want to lead the session. (There are more questions here than you'll need)*

- *Please choose (or adapt) the questions which you believe will **bring about the most honest, faith-building and life changing conversations**, and add others if you want to.*
- *The readings and questions develop from one section to the next. Please **take time to move through the ones you want to use, giving time for discussion and sharing - ideally leading to a response to God's word.***

# Life Group Notes

## Theme: Saying Yes Saying 'Yes' to God's Promises

There are many promises of God in the Bible (estimates vary, but there are lots!). These show us something important about the relationship we have with God, and the way he relates to his people. He is a promise-making, promise-keeping God. Today we are going to see more about this as we share together, and pray for faith to actively trust God as we wait on him.

### God's promises to Israel

On Sunday we were reminded of God's actions for Israel, and of the words in the book of Joshua which state: *"Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled."* (Josh 21:45).

#### 1. How does it inspire you to know that God was faithful to fulfil all his promises to Israel?

The people of Israel often didn't have an easy time, and at times needed to hold onto God's promises in tough circumstances.

#### 2. Have you been helped by holding onto God's promises in tough times? If so, how?

### God's promises to us

#### 3. Can you give examples of promises God has fulfilled in your life?

On Sunday we heard quite a few different promises which God made which are still relevant to us today:

- *If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **Romans 10:9***
- *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **1 John 1:9***
- *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. **James 1:5***
- *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." **Matthew 11:28-30***

#### 4. Which of God's promises (either these or others) are most significant for you at the moment?

- 5. Which promises of God do you find wonderful or even difficult to accept, because they are so amazing?**

There are times when we are waiting on God to fulfil a promise he has made.

- 6. Are you 'waiting on' a promise from God at the moment?**

**Read Hebrews 10:19-25, especially v23**

On Sunday we heard that waiting is *"An invitation to remain steadfast, believing that God is faithful to his word."*

- 7. How does seeing the waiting process as an 'invitation' rather than as an 'imposition' help you?**

**Read 2 Peter 1:3-8**

Here we read about God's promises AND about our response to them. This connects with what we heard on Sunday about the dangers of:

- Impatience - which can lead to us taking matters into our own hands
- Apathy - doing nothing, and passively expecting God to act

Ufuk spoke about actively 'waiting on' God, with continued prayer, trust and service, and 'attending' to God. He said: *"Waiting for the promise to be fulfilled ISN'T about what I get at the end, but about who I become while I wait"*

- 8. How are you encouraged and challenged by the connection between God's promises (v4), and our response (v5-8)?**

- 9. Who are you becoming as you wait on God?**

**Application**

- 10. How is God speaking to you today about his promises and about your response to them?**

- 11. What will you do about what God is saying?**