



DEPENDING ON GOD'S PROMISES

TEACHER'S LESSON

- ***Unmasking Sin's Promises***

- Sin's promises are
- Sin's promises are
- Sin's promises are not to be

- ***Depending on God's Promises***

- God always provides a promise
- God's promises always have
- Belief in God's promise is the of every struggle

- ***Examples of Depending on God's Promises***

- Depending on God's promises to fight
 - Sin's promise:
 - God's promise:
- Depending on God's promises to fight
 - Sin's promise:
 - God's promise:

- Depending on God’s promises to fight

- Sin’s promise:

- God’s promise:

WORD POWER

- **Promise**—a pledge that someone gives that he will do what he says
- **Temptation**—an allurement to do evil; a test of your love and loyalty to God
- **Lust**—a strong desire
- **Idol**—something other than God that you depend on to help make life work

STUDENT’S LESSON

This lesson has focused on how we fight sin. We don’t simply say “No” to sin. We, by faith, believe that God’s promises to us are better and will make us happier than giving in to sin. Sin’s promises never really satisfy. In this student’s lesson, you will look more fully into what sin’s promises are really like and what God’s promises are really like. You can be confident that sin cannot keep its promises, but God always will.

The Nature of Sin’s Promises

Read Psalm 115:1-9. This passage gives a vivid contrast. On the one hand is the true God, who can truly help His people. On the other hand are the idols that people have made that can’t help anyone. In fact, they need help themselves.

People in Bible times often looked to false gods or idols to provide for them, to protect them, and to make life work. But they had put their trust in little hunks of wood or metal that couldn’t do anything for them. Whatever the people had thought these idols had promised them wasn’t going to happen. These idols couldn’t deliver on any promise.

According to Psalm 115:4-7, write down at least seven different ways that these idols are limited.

- What are these idols really like?

These idols looked like they could see, hear, feel, and speak. But they couldn't do any of that!

- How are sin's promises the same?

- Read Psalm 115:8. If you start believing sin's promises, what will giving in to temptation do to you as a person?

- Read Psalm 115:4. Why is it that these idols (and any sin) cannot deliver what they promise? What is the core problem?

No sin or temptation is as powerful as God. They don't have the ability to deliver anything worthwhile. Only God, the powerful Creator, can make good on His promises. So, let's turn from sin's weak promises to God's mighty promises.

The Nature of God's Promises

Read Romans 4:16-25.

- According to Romans 4:18, what had God promised to Sarah and Abraham?

- According to Romans 4:19, what appeared to be obstacles to God's keeping His promise? List at least two.

- According to Romans 4:20, how did these “obstacles” affect Abraham’s faith in God’s promise? Restate the entire verse in your own words.

- Read Romans 4:16-25 again. What verse gives two truths about God and His ability to do the impossible? What are the two truths?

- Write a paragraph contrasting the false idols (in Ps. 115:1-9) and the true God (in Rom. 4:16-25).

Project on God’s Promises

1. Identify one specific sin that someone your age may struggle with.

2. Think through and write down three or more lies this sin promises. What does this sin or temptation want people to believe that it can give?

3. List from the Bible three better promises God makes to those who obey Him and don't give in to temptation? In other words, what promises from God should a person believe instead of sin's promises?

(Hint: you may want to use a Bible dictionary to look up the particular sin you may be struggling with. It will give you ideas about what the Bible says about this sin and God's right way to live.)