

Three Promises for the Journey

Hebrews 8

12-7-14

1. Read Hebrews 8 aloud. Pastor Tom mentioned that the Old Covenant had two main problems. First, it gave no power or ability to enable the people to keep the law. Second, it did not provide for the full forgiveness of sin, it only covered up sin through a sacrificial system. The law cannot deliver us from the guilt of sin. What is the promise of God for those plagued with guilt? (See Romans 8:1; Hebrews 10:22; James 5:16; 1 John 1:9). What does freedom from guilt mean to you as a believer? Do you know someone who suffers from guilt and condemnation and how can you encourage them with the promises of God?
2. Pastor Tom mentioned that the New Covenant does not depend on the faithfulness of man, but on the faithfulness of God. In these promises it is God who acts. It is God who reaches down and seeks relationship. Does the fact that God seeks relationship with you change the way you view God at all? Why is this a key element in Christianity and how does it differ with other religions of the world?
3. In the New Covenant, God promises an inner understanding of truth (Heb. 8:10). How does He accomplish this and what does that mean about our ability to obey His commands apart from Christ? (See 2 Corinthians 3:1-11).
4. By grace we are brought into the family of God. What are some the benefits and privileges of being a son or daughter of the King? How does each of these benefits bring blessing and life? (Read Romans 8:14-17; 1 John 3:1; Hebrews 12:5-6; 1 Timothy 5:1-2; and Ephesians 5:1).
5. Take time to pray and reflect on the benefits and beauty of the New Covenant: God himself promises us an inner understanding of truth by putting his law in our minds and writing it on our hearts, an intimate relationship with Him and an absolute forgiveness of all sins. Pray for those you know who are outside of the family of God that they may come to know the love of the Father in Christ!