

## Keeping Promises

2 Samuel 9:1-9

How many people are still living in the shadow of our unkept promises? Is it too late to go back now and try to make it up to them?

King David had made a promise to his friend Jonathan. "One day David asked, 'Is anyone in Saul's family still alive - anyone to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?'" (2 Samuel 9:1). Jonathan's only living son, Mephibosheth, had lived a long time with the pain of David's unkept promise. It had shaped his lifestyle, his emotional condition, and the way he thought about himself. His grandfather, King Saul, had mistreated David before David became king. Perhaps Mephibosheth was afraid that David would mistreat him because of his grandfather. Perhaps he had begun to take the guilt of his grandfather's sins upon himself. Generations of fear and guilt had been laid upon Mephibosheth - until David remembered and fulfilled his promise.

There are probably people we know who have been affected by promises we have failed to keep. It is important that we try to fulfill whatever promises we have made. When we can't, the least we can do is ask what our neglect meant to those we disappointed and apologize for not keeping our promise.

## Not Too Late

2 Samuel 9:1-7

David had promised to treat Saul's family well for the sake of his friend Jonathan. Though many years had passed since the promise had been given, David was true to it. He honored the memory of Jonathan by offering Mephibosheth a place in his household. David stood by his word and did what he could to set right a painful conflict from his past. Being responsible for our promises and dealing with past conflicts are important aspects of the Christian life.

## Accepting Repentance

2 Samuel 10:1-5

Hanun was needlessly suspicious of the motives of David's men. As a result, he treated them shamefully and brought a great deal of needless bloodshed upon his people. Hanun's suspicions led him to distrust others and negated David's attempts to forge a productive relationship. Allowing our fears to shape our conclusions can often lead to unnecessary conflict and a disruption of possible positive relationships. Much time, effort, and energy are wasted when we respond with suspicion and fear to the friendly overtures of other people.

## Recovery Follows Failure

There is life after failure; David's biography proves that fact. His list of sins included murder and adultery, not to mention neglect of his family. If anyone should have been written off in God's plan, it was David. But David's important place in history proves that God uses fallible people to work his will. God's grace is adequate for even the greatest failures.

## Justice with Mercy

David was a just king, and his justice was always tempered by mercy. He demonstrated this when he refused to strike back at Saul, even while being chased by him. He revealed it when he punished the murderers of Abner and Ish-bosheth, even though these men had been his enemies. He never rejoiced in wrongdoing - even when it brought him personal advantage. And when David himself sinned, he accepted God's judgment as right and just. David's attitudes and actions were grounded in his relationship with our just and merciful God. God had been fair with him, so David was fair with his people. God had been merciful toward him, so David freely dispensed mercy to others.

## Weekly Calendar

Sunday	10:00 am	Bible Study At the building and live stream
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship At the building and live stream
Wednesday	10:30 am	Breakfast At Perkins
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Bible Study – at the Allbrittens
Thursday	6:30 pm	Hymnburgers At Bob & Brenda's

## Prayers and Praise

- Prayers for Darcy's sister Nia, who is trying to find a nursing home for my dad, Jack, who is an escape risk? He has dementia.
- Prayers for all in our congregation and extended family dealing with Covid.
- Prayers for Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- Praise for Chris Langford's recovery – he was released by his doctor this past week.
- Prayers for continued healing for Kay's nephew Jeremy.
- Prayers for Gary, Rob, Kyle & Andy as they lead our congregation.
- Prayers for health for Anna's Nana, Bonnie Borgstrom, and for her caregiver Barb
- Prayers for Ryan Burns, Jordan Allbritten, and Thomas Mullinaux, serving in the armed forces.
- Prayers for our widows: Myrna, Ella, Miriam, Louise, Sallye, Millie & Carolyn.



**Leadership** Web Page: [Idahofallschurchofchrist.org](http://Idahofallschurchofchrist.org)

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**Supported Missionaries and Works**

Glenn Langston - Blind Ministry	Nathan and Alvin Luther – Philippines	Caleb Odle - Arlington, Texas
Ghana West Africa Water Project	Cimi Kafexhiu - The Church in Durres, Albania	

**Events Calendar**

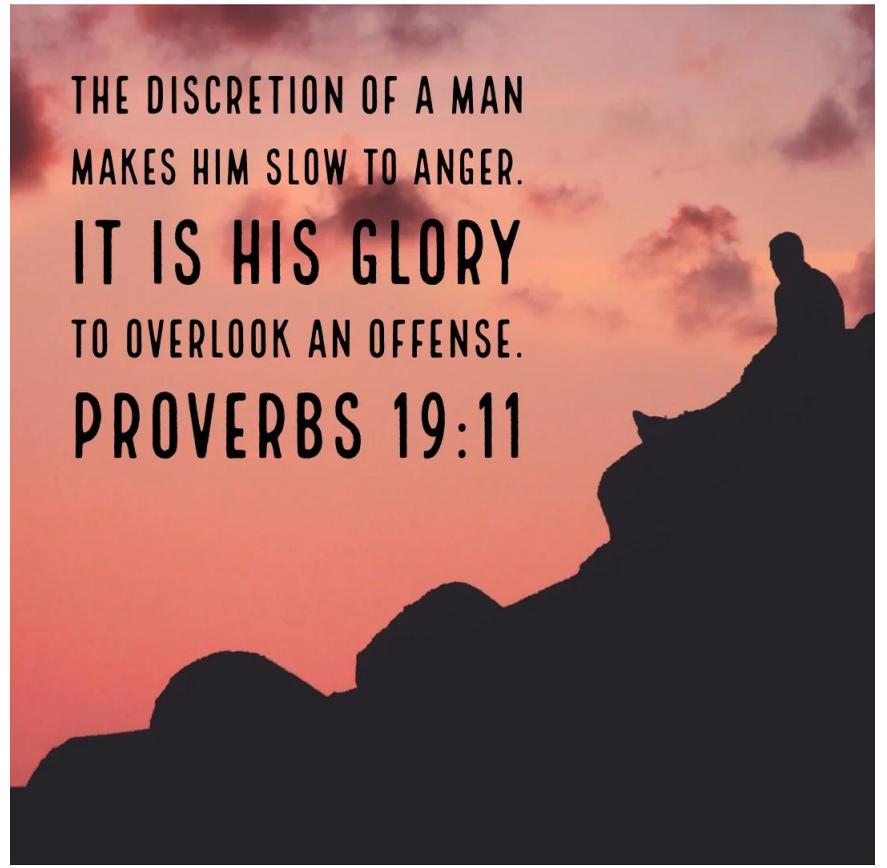
- Aug 11<sup>th</sup> **Hymnburgers** at the Queenans – 6:30 pm.
- Aug 14-17<sup>th</sup> **Salmon Gospel Meeting** – “Faith Under Fire”, timely lessons from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter from Jason Jackson, *Christian Courier*, Jackson Tennessee. 720 Bryan Ave., Salmon ID. 7:00 pm.
- Aug 20<sup>th</sup> **Senior Breakfast** 10:30 am at the building – all seniors, pre-seniors, and caregivers are invited! [3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday]
- Sep 16-18<sup>th</sup> **Idaho Falls Youth Rally** – see Andy for details. We will need host families for our September 16 Youth Rally for 45+ teens, so if you are available to host in your home, it would be greatly appreciated. Details to follow.
- Dec 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> **West Yellowstone Winter Retreat** is BACK!! We have joined an effort with a few congregations in Wyoming and Montana to bring back the Winter Retreat in December. You must register - registration information is on the table in the foyer.



The Church of Christ in Idaho Falls

# Welcome!

We’re a bible-based congregation of Christians meeting in Idaho Falls to praise and worship the one God and to support and encourage each other. All are welcome!  
Please join us in our worship services and classes.



**Meditation for Today**

You should never doubt that God’s spirit is always with you, wherever you are, to keep you on the right path. God’s keeping power is never at fault, only your realization of it. You must try to believe in God’s nearness and the availability of His grace. It is not a question of whether God can provide a shelter from the storm, but of whether or not you seek the security of that shelter. Every fear, worry, or doubt is disloyalty to God. You must endeavor to trust God wholly. Practice saying: “All is going to be well.” Say it to yourself until you feel it deeply.

I pray that I may feel deeply that all is well. I pray that nothing will be able to move me from that deep conviction.