

LG | LeaderGuide

[Primary Text: Hebrews 6:13-20]

PRAY

Pause. Acknowledge that you are about to open God's word.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate His word.

WARM-UP

Prepare our minds to receive God's word.

- When reflecting on the message this past Sunday, what most resonated with you?
- What would you say was the most important thing the church as a whole could take away from Sunday's message?

ILLUMINATE

Open your Bibles to the primary text. If you do not have a Bible, your leader can provide one.

- Let's read together our primary text. What major themes do you see here?

God's promises, God's matchless character, Patience, Jesus our forerunner, etc.

- What was an oath in the Old Testament? How was it different than how people swear/promise today? Do we still use oaths today?

An oath in the Old Testament was very serious. It was not guaranteed by a signature, it was guaranteed by that individual's word, their character. People today swear and promise flippantly only to break their promise if things do not go in their favor. In our courtrooms today, humans swear and invoke the name of God. [Oath – I swear that the evidence I shall give, shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God.]

- In the Old Testament, did the disobedience/doubt of Israel cause God's plans to be thwarted? What specific examples come to mind?

God's promises are always yes and amen (2 Cor. 1:20). In their barrenness, Abraham and Sarah doubted God's promise that a great nation would come from them through their very own child. After waiting 25 years, at 90 years of age, Sarah gave birth to Isaac. From the offspring Abraham a great multitude came. God's promise, fulfilled.

- What are some other promises of God that can give us strength and encouragement today? There are many, but let's look up a few. What are the promises of God that you often reflect/meditate on?

Matthew 6:33 – But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you.

2 Timothy 1:7 – For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Hebrews 4:16 – Let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find help in time of need.

- God knows we are not easily convinced (v.17), so God gives us two unchangeable things to reflect on in this text. What are those two things? Define them.

1) God's promise/purpose. God's character is Holy, therefore He does not lie, therefore His promises are sure. God would cease to be God if He could lie. **2) The oath.** God's promise(s) rest on His name and His unchangeable character.

- What is a forerunner (not the car)? What does it mean when verse 20 says that Jesus is our forerunner? What does that specifically mean for you and I today?

When Jesus died on the cross, scripture tells us that the veil was torn. This veil represents the Old Testament tabernacle veil that separated the people from God's holy dwelling place. When Jesus tore the veil by sacrificing his life for ours, he gave us "the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). To those who believe, He becomes our advocate and clothes us with righteousness permitting us to draw near to God. He went before us, making atonement for our sin and conquering death, which makes Jesus Christ our forerunner. Because Jesus was fully human and was raised from the dead, God brought him behind the heavenly veil, assuring us that in Christ it is possible for us (being human) to also share this same eternal destination. Jesus was our "proof text". This is why the Bible calls him the "firstborn of creation" and the "firstborn from the dead" (Col 1:15-18).

- What is your anchor for the soul? Aside from your church answer, what tends to be your worldly anchor? Are you anchored up, with your gaze on heaven or are you anchored to this world?

Worldly anchors are those things that anchor us to our current world, not our heavenly citizenship. Those things can consist of the excess of; working, social media, watching TV, video games, shopping, etc. Those things that distract us from the most important things.

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. What does tonight's conversation lead you to pray for?