



Behold - Trust God's Word

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// **Bible References:** Matt 1:18-25; 28:20; Prov 14:30; 1 Cor 15:14; Jer 17:9; 29:11; Phil 1:6; 4:13; Deut 6:3; Is 40:31; 55:8-9; Heb 13:5; 2 Cor 12:9; Rom 8:1,28;

// **Community Question:** 21 days till Christmas, discuss.

// Discussion Questions

1. Jesse talks about two different postures toward God's Word - being over it or under it. What are the key differences between these two approaches, and why does it matter which one we choose? In what areas of your life do you find yourself struggling to submit to God's Word rather than trying to make it fit your preferences?
2. How does Joseph's story of accepting shame that wasn't his parallel with Jesus's larger story, and what does this teach us about God's character? When have you experienced God's faithfulness even when following Him came at a personal cost to your reputation or comfort?
3. Why does Jesse say we can't claim the promises of God if we won't follow the commands of God? How are they connected? What promises of God do you want to experience, and what commands might you need to follow more faithfully to see those promises fulfilled?
4. **Going Deeper:** Looking at Matthew 1:20-21, why is it significant that the angel specifically said Jesus would 'save his people from their sins' rather than save them from Roman oppression? Do you sometimes find yourself wanting Jesus to fix your external circumstances more than addressing your spiritual needs?

// **Challenge:** What is a passage/command of scripture that you struggle with? Look at the passage as a group to confirm its meaning and discuss why it is difficult.