

FAITH PROMISE - FAQs

"They gave of themselves as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability . . . See that you also excel in this grace giving . . . Your plenty will supply what they need." -- 2 Cor. 8:3, 7, 14



WHAT IS FAITH PROMISE?

Faith Promise is a way of giving to First Baptist Church's missions ministry. We ask the Lord how much we should give to missions over the next year. We then commit to that annual total as a "Faith Promise." Faith promise thus makes missions giving systematic rather than sporadic. The money received is then used to send monthly support to almost 70 missionaries and ministries throughout Faulkner County, our nation, and more than 30 countries around the world. God has blessed us with the ability to support our entire mission's budget through Faith Promise giving.

WOULD DO YOU MEAN BY A "FAITH PROMISE"?

Faith promise is one of the most meaningful methods for supporting missions. It is not a pledge. A "faith promise" is exactly what it says – a promise made in faith between an individual and God. That promise is based on what the giver believes God wants him or her to give to ministries beyond their other tithes and offerings. Giving through Faith Promise is an adventure and an opportunity to allow God to show how He can provide when we open our hearts and our pocketbooks to do generous things for His kingdom.

WHO SHOULD GIVE TO FAITH PROMISE?

Everyone who wants to trust God and who wants to be used of God to get the Good News to the unreached can make a Faith Promise commitment (Luke 6:38; Proverbs 11:24-25). Youth and children are encouraged to participate in Faith Promise giving.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAITH PROMISE AND PAYING A TITHE?

Faith Promise giving is over and above the tithe. Tithing is a clear scriptural principle, dating back to the earliest parts of Genesis. Tithing recognizes God's ownership over us and all that we have. In practical terms, tithe money runs the local church and its ministries. Faith Promise is a way for us to give specifically to reaching the unreached of the world. Giving through Faith Promise tangibly expresses your desire that the whole world knows the Good News.

IS THERE A SCRIPTURAL BASIS FOR FAITH PROMISE MISSIONS GIVING?

- Faith Promise giving is systematic (1 Corinthians 16:1-4)
- Faith Promise giving is more than one can afford. (2 Corinthians 8:2-3; 9:6-15)
- Faith Promise giving reflects our personal commitments. (2 Corinthians 8:5)
- Though Faith Promise is optional, it does clearly demonstrate your love. (Philippians 2:1-4; Luke 6:38; Romans 12:9-10)

HOW MIGHT I GET THE FUNDS TO FULFILL MY FAITH PROMISE?

- God may increase your income.
- God may decrease your expenses.
- God may lead you to sacrifice.

HOW DO I GIVE MY FAITH PROMISE?

Give regularly if you can. Missionaries need regular support. Some Faith Promises, however, depend on annual, one-time income. These can be paid when those monies are received. This is a promise to God, not a pledge to the church. Your Faith Promise amount is between you and God. No one will notify you or keep track of your progress.

HOW LONG DOES MY FAITH PROMISE COMMITMENT LAST?

Faith Promise commitments are made once a year during our missions conference or “Global Outreach Sunday.” These weekly, monthly, or annual commitments extend for one year from that time.

IS FAITH PROMISE THE ONLY WAY I CAN PARTICIPATE IN MISSIONS GIVING?

Although we encourage you to systematically give through Faith Promise, you can at any time designate additional gifts through the church for a specific missionary or missions project.

CONCLUSION:

Faith Promise is simply one way of doing what we feel God wants us to do in order to spread His Good News around the world. Scripture tells us in a variety of ways that He wants us to be a giving people. Our involvement in Faith Promise grows from a response to God’s desire that all nations come to know Him.

