## Promises Kept With Us

- A. Intro: Who makes you feel better and more confident when they are with you?
  - a. Deuteronomy 31:6 NLT <sup>6</sup> So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."
  - b. Proverbs 3:25-26 NLT  $^{25}$  You need not be afraid of sudden disaster or the destruction that comes upon the wicked,  $^{26}$  for the Lord is your security. He will keep your foot from being caught in a trap.
- B. Big Idea: God can be counted on to be with us through it all!
- C. Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-14 NLT <sup>10</sup> Later, the Lord sent this message to King Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> "Ask the Lord your God for a sign of confirmation, Ahaz. Make it as difficult as you want—as high as heaven or as deep as the place of the dead." <sup>12</sup> But the king refused. "No," he said, "I will not test the Lord like that." <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, "Listen well, you royal family of David! Isn't it enough to exhaust human patience? Must you exhaust the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup> All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').
- D. When can we expect God to be with us?
  - a. In the midst of our Darkness and Chaos
    - 2 Kings 16:1-4 NLT Ahaz son of Jotham began to rule over Judah in the seventeenth year of King Pekah's reign in Israel.
       <sup>2</sup> Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. He did not do what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord his God, as his ancestor David had done.
       <sup>3</sup> Instead, he followed the example of the kings of Israel, even sacrificing his own son in the fire. In this way, he followed the detestable practices of the pagan nations the Lord had driven from the land ahead of the Israelites. <sup>4</sup> He offered sacrifices and burned incense at the pagan shrines and on the hills and under every green tree.
    - ii. Isaiah 7:14 NLT ...the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').
  - b. In the midst of Anxiety, Fear, and Pain
    - i. Isaiah 7:2 NLT -2 The news had come to the royal court of Judah: "Syria is allied with Israel against us!" So the hearts of the king and his people trembled with fear, like trees shaking in a storm.

- ii. Isaiah 7:4-9 NLT <sup>4</sup> Tell him to stop worrying. Tell him he doesn't need to fear the fierce anger of those two burned-out embers, King Rezin of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah. <sup>5</sup> Yes, the kings of Syria and Israel are plotting against him, saying, <sup>6</sup> 'We will attack Judah and capture it for ourselves. Then we will install the son of Tabeel as Judah's king.' <sup>7</sup> But this is what the Sovereign Lord says: "This invasion will never happen; it will never take place; <sup>8</sup> for Syria is no stronger than its capital, Damascus, and Damascus is no stronger than its king, Rezin. As for Israel, within sixty-five years it will be crushed and completely destroyed.

  <sup>9</sup> Israel is no stronger than its capital, Samaria, and Samaria is no stronger than its king, Pekah son of Remaliah. Unless your faith is firm, I cannot make you stand firm."
- iii. Philippians 4:6-7 NLT <sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.
- iv. Proverbs  $28:1 \text{ NLT} {}^{1}\text{ The wicked run away when no one is chasing them, but the godly are as bold as lions.}$
- v. 2 Corinthians 6:2b NLT Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation.

## c. In the midst of all the Seasons of Life

- i. The Boy Samuel
  - 1. 1 Samuel 3:4 NLT <sup>4</sup> Suddenly the Lord called out, "Samuel!" "Yes?" Samuel replied. "What is it?" <sup>5</sup> He got up and ran to Eli. "Here I am. Did you call me?"
- ii. Mary
  - 1. Luke 1:26-28 NLT <sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup> Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

## iii. Simeon

1. Luke 2:25-32 NLT – <sup>25</sup> At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him <sup>26</sup> and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, <sup>29</sup> "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in

peace, as you have promised. <sup>30</sup> I have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared for all people. <sup>32</sup> He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

- E. Close: Where do you need assurance that God is with you?
  - a. Matthew 1:21-23 NLT <sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: <sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

## b. Next Steps

- i. Memorize: Matthew 1:23 NLT <sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.
- ii. Think: Where in my life, do I need a reminder that God is with me?
- iii. Action: When feeling alone, or in a dark place, remind yourself that God is Emmanuel God with me!