



# prayer *life!*

## Weekly Prayer Focus

November 24, 2019

### Faith and Fear

*Jacob said, "No, please, if I have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand. For I have seen your face, which is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. —Genesis 33:10*

*When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.  
—Proverbs 16:7*

Faith and fear are correlative. When Jacob first ran away from home, God met him on his way. His vision of God in heaven with angels ascending and descending between heaven and earth frightened Jacob, yet God's promise to bless him with abundant offspring and give him the Promised Land didn't calm his fears. Jacob wasn't really on speaking terms with God, because he hadn't learned to trust in His promises.

So Jacob kept his relationship with God on his own terms—"If you will ..., then I will ..."—a kind of *quid pro quo*. Jacob's story is a story of God's faithfulness and a lesson on the value of doing things on God's terms. Fearing God leads to obedience, which brings faith and peace.

Jacob's story resumes with him limping toward a confrontation with Esau. The last time the brothers had seen each other, Esau threatened to kill Jacob. Now, just before they met again, God put Jacob's hip out of joint. Physically, Jacob was helpless and had no choice but to trust the LORD. He was right where God wanted him.

Fear has a way of exposing our priorities. Jacob put his concubines and their children up front, making them the most vulnerable. Next was Leah with her six children. Last and safest, were his favorites—Rachel and Joseph. His first faltering steps of faith revealed Jacob's obvious partiality, but they also put on display God's amazing grace as He began to form His chosen people.

The meeting of the brothers was a blessed irony. Trusting but fearing, Jacob bowed repeatedly as he approached Esau. But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him. While Jacob addressed Esau as "My lord," Esau called Jacob "My brother." Jacob's story clearly reveals how God directly answered his prayer in 32:11. While Jacob was off pursuing his fortune, God had been blessing Esau and soothing his anger.

Now, Jacob the deceiver began to show a different side. An open honesty that hadn't been there before began to emerge. He presented his wives and children before Esau and frankly told his brother of his fears. And God had blessed him so abundantly, that he could insist that Esau keep the gift he'd sent him. In fact, God had blessed both Jacob and Esau, so both could say they had plenty. The God who filled the earth with a word never runs short of resources to enrich those He chooses to bless.

Fear of Esau no longer controlled Jacob. God's promise did. Esau wanted to travel together with Jacob back to his home in Mt. Seir, but Jacob declined. His home was the land God had promised him. Not entirely up front with his older brother, Jacob explained that driving his flocks, herds, and family might cause them harm, so he preferred to travel separately.

In the end, though, Jacob never followed Esau to his homeland in Mt. Seir. Ever the deceiver, Jacob said he would meet Esau there, but instead he went the opposite direction to Succoth. There he built himself a house and made booths ("Succoth") for his livestock. Then, like his grandfather Abraham, Jacob bought a parcel of the Promised Land.

Jacob's journeys ended in worship, when he built an altar to acknowledge the God, who had blessed and protected him. He had a new fear now—One he could trust. Jacob had prayed in faith, and in perfect faithfulness, God had answered. The fear of the LORD led Jacob to live on God's terms and receive His abundant blessing, for the salvation of the world and to the praise of His glory.

## From the Elders: Please Pray

Prayer keeps us connected to God in reverent fear. Learn to expect God to act specifically in response to your prayers. But prayer to a holy God requires divine cleansing.

When Isaiah saw the LORD High and lifted up, he confessed, *Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!*" (Isaiah 6:1, 5). Seeing God made him painfully aware of his sin.

But God graciously cleansed the prophet's sin. *Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for"* (Isaiah 6:6-7).

Pray for yourself and for Northpoint as a church. Ask God to ...

- Reveal Himself in new and unexpected ways through His Word and His Spirit
- Bring deep and genuine conviction of sin
- Draw us close to Him in humble, dependent prayer
- Make His call upon us clear

### Pray for ...

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Terilyn Brown, and Marti Wiegman.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Tim East, Steve Flood, Mark Kiker, Vinoj Zechariah, and new elders who will soon come onto the board.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, Chelsae Grant, Carolee Jefferson, Amber McEwen, Tamene Menna, Mark Norland, Corie Saunders, and Teri Vaughn.

Please continue to pray for Scott and Kim Williams and Geoff and Chelsae Grant and their families in their new areas lives that lay ahead. Ask God to make His calling clear by guiding them and providing for their needs. Thank God for the many blessings we have received through their ministries.

## Praise Record

Note when and how God answers your prayers. It will help you to see that He really is paying attention.

Date	Request	Date	Answer

*The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe. –Proverbs 29:25*

It's easy to be too comfortable. God's grace is so abundant and free that we forget the great chasm that Jesus crossed when He became a man. We overlook the miracle it took to give us peace with God.

We are no longer enemies with God, because He conquered us, and His work in our lives is an ongoing conquering work. In short, God is good, but we are not. And in His goodness, God is ruthlessly preparing us to be with Him forever.

Draw close to the God who came down to be close to you. Seek Him in His Word and in prayer. Make seeking him a habit.

Dave Dussault  
*Northpoint Prayer Ministries*

*A man wrestled with him (24b).* God started the wrestling match, which lasted all night and which Jacob “won” despite God’s ability to dislocate Jacob’s thigh with a mere touch. The wrestling match revealed (to Jacob and to us) that Jacob was constantly contending with God, and he never got what he was striving for until he lost and God won.

We can count on God, no matter what happens, to do as He says and accomplish His purpose for us.

Jacob strove with men (Esau, Isaac, and Laban). He strove with God by insisting on receiving the blessing God promised on his own terms. It took 20 years to break his will and teach him to submit to God and trust Him for His blessing.

Self will, pride, and self-reliance had ended in fear. Although God had consistently blessed him all along, He had to fight with and subdue Jacob in order to be Jacob’s God and the acknowledged Source of his blessing. Now that God had fought with Jacob, He would now fight for Jacob. The battle belongs to the Lord (Exodus 14:3-14; 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:47; 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 20:15).

It’s always best when God wins. Jacob won the match, was crippled by God, and then clung to God until He gave him a blessing.

God subdues Jacob even though he “won” the wrestling match, but Jacob would not let Him go until He blessed him. Jacob, who had spent his life striving and conniving to gain a blessing, now clung to the God who had promised to bless him all along. By touching Jacob’s thigh, God broke Jacob’s strength to “wrestle” and contend. All Jacob had now was God and His ability to bless Him. Totally dependent, Jacob was now totally dependent on God and had no other options.

Because of Jacob’s nature, God had to break him before He could bless him—before he could receive god’s blessing.

Self-confidence is the mother of all fear.

In wrestling with Jacob, God appeared in human form and deprived Jacob of his natural strength, but Jacob emerged the victor by clinging to God for blessing.

God dislocated Jacob’s hip, the wrestler’s pivot of strength (v. 31). Having previously depended upon his wits and strength, Jacob’s natural powers were now crippled. Every step he would take in the future would remind him of his dependence upon divine grace.

The Man (24) is God (28)

**Why is it that you ask.** In ancient times, a name was thought to express essential nature as well as identity. The divine name partakes of the sacredness of God’s being (Judg. 13:18), and was to be revered (Ex. 20:7). The pagans believed that knowing the name of a god imparted ability to invoke that deity’s power. Here, however, the divine name is withheld (cf. 28:13; Hos. 12:5), showing that the Lord’s revelation of His name is a gracious act of divine initiative, not a response to human effort to invoke and control God.

When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him (32:25).

God had to break Jacob before he would submit to His will. Jacob had to be broken to God's will.

The God changed his name (28).

Then, when Jacob asked God His name, God did not tell him but blessed him instead (29).

The man was God, who graciously allowed Jacob to see Him face to face and live (30).

This story is not an etiological tale about the beginning of some obscure Jewish custom. It's about the beginning of the nation Israel.

Jacob still feared (Fear not). That's why Jacob wrestled with God. One reason we wrestle in prayer is because we're afraid. But also, living in the two camps of heaven and earth is a daunting reality (Ephesians 6:12; cf. Daniel 10:12-13, 16-17). But Jacob's fear was legitimate from the human perspective, so Jacob prayed God's promise back to Him. Kneeling on the promises.

**Jacob's efforts to placate Esau were not necessarily sin or a lack of faith, Jacob was trying to get ahead of God and not letting God take care of him as He promised. God has to bring that self-initiative under His control. In the end, his efforts proved to be unnecessary.**

Jacob wrestled against God and would not give up until God (miraculously and apparently permanently) disabled him.

2 camps because of: God's presence (32:1-2) and because of God's blessing (32:7, 10).

To the praise of His glory.

*And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ... Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God.*  
—Genesis 28:13, 20-21

Prayer is how we lay hold of God and the blessings He gives to those who trust in Him. It's an active exertion of faith in the goodness and power of God in the midst of the challenges of life.

Prayer aligns our hearts with God's Word and our wills to His will

God's Word is truth (John 17:3). We know who God is and what we can expect of Him through the inspired Scripture. Prayer tunes our heart to receive God's Word and to understand life to be a walk with Him.

**?\*We look at a person's giftedness and give credit for what happens to the one who is gifted, instead of giving credit to the One who Gives those gifts, in order to do what He wants to do through them. Isaac and Jacob did not get this. Neither did the Jacob's sons, except for Joseph. He Got this fact, and it took him successfully through years of trials.\*?**

16:7-14; 24:62; 25:11

### **Taking the Baton** (Isaac's passive and imperfect faith)

Genesis 26:24; 28:13; Exodus 3:6:

These passages are NOT about the greatness of the fathers of the faith. They're about the greatness of the God their faith was in. God did as He had promised, DESPITE the faithlessness and failings of those He made the promise to. Salvation is 100% of God (Ephesians 2:8-9), despite human sin and lapses.

Same blessing: But more difficulty in his relationships with his neighbors.

The handoff of faith to the next generation—It's a matter of faith and trusting God in our sovereign and believing His promise. Isaac trusted God and so he obeyed God. Jacob made a deal with God to keep himself in control. But God sovereignly blessed Jacob as He had promised.

Receiving the Handoff means ...

- trusting God and His promise
- obeying God in faith

Because of Abraham's faith and obedience, Isaac inherited his blessing. v. 5

?No patriarch had perfect faith.?

Philistines: People are hostile. The disobedience and conflict among God's people reveals that by nature we are hostile apart from God's work in our lives.

Isaac moved away to avoid conflict, multiple times. When he finally came to a good place where there was no conflict, he gave God the credit (by faith).

God repeated his promise to bless and multiply Isaac, so Isaac "called upon the name of the Lord."

God's blessing on Isaac caused his neighbors to build a positive relationship with Isaac.

Trusting God to provide in the promised land during a famine. Didn't go down to Egypt.

God's blessing to Abraham passed on to Isaac (v. 3-5).

Lapse of faith in Gerar when he lied to Abimelech about his wife

*By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. —Genesis 22:16-17*

God forgives the sin of those He calls His friends, and He replaces it something better--something holy, eternal, and good.

Though God judges sin severely, He delivers His children from the fires of His judgment.

We pray for God's grace and His justice, according to His leading and let Him dispense each according to His plan.

Though His ways are far above our ways, God accepts our prayers that are based on our limited understanding of His righteous judgments.

Abraham pleaded /interceded for Lot based on God's justice, not Lot's righteousness. 25

God gave Abraham Lot's life in response to his persistent prayer. 19:29

God confides His plans with those who know Him by faith. 16-18

*No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15*

*Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness—and he was called a friend of God. James 2:23*

Though God patiently endures human wickedness, He will judge all sin completely and finally in His time. 19:27-28

And the road of faith is uncertain, because we don't know where we're going.

That's why it takes faith.

God calls/rescues us by His promise—a foreign land. Seeing that this world is not good enough.

Christians are called to lead people from things that are fatally familiar to a world that's strange but safe—the world of the Shepard they left behind long ago. The next world that comes after this one.

- Faith is our grip on a foreign world—better than this one but unknown and unfamiliar.
- God acts in this world in ways that help us to trust Him for the next. (danger of growing to comfortable in this one)
- Our salvation lies far ahead, but our safety is being with the Shepherd,
- Salvation means seeing ourselves as strangers in familiar the surroundings of this world. God often makes the familiar uncomfortable (like a mother bird kicking her chick from the nest)
- Salvation means learning (or God teaching us) to desire the better world He has for us in heaven

(a better country).

- “Not ashamed to be called their God.” I Am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God delights in His own and is preparing a place to be with them forever.
- Like a sheep that the shepherd lifts up on his shoulder to bring home, God carries His people through this life and out of this world, into the home He is preparing for us.

when they return to Him.

God reached out to Cain who murdered his brother, and Cain took advantage of grace and pursued life for his own purposes. *People began to call upon the name of the LORD* in the days of Enosh (Genesis 4:26b), but before too long, *The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually* (Genesis 6:5).

But God kept on hunting, and *Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD* (Genesis 6:8), and God rescued a tiny remnant—eight people—from all humanity for destruction in the flood. But there’s something in the creature God made in His own image that persists in going his own way.

The story of Abraham, the history of Israel, the Gospels, Acts, and the epistles all tell the story of God seeking in order to save.

And all of history lost humanity evading

God’s story ends well. He wins. And so do all who hope in Him.

To the praise of God’s glory!

*The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all* (Isaiah 53:6b).

God loves righteousness and sinful humanity. We either cling to justice and pursue standards of holiness, or we embrace fallen man and ignore his sin. God loves both humanity and holiness, so He paid the price for man to be forgiven and healed of sin.

God sought and saved the lost. And He calls His people to do the same

Our Role in the Rescue: How do we seek the lost?

- We engage them by identifying with our common humanity.
- We reach out to them by bringing God into our conversations with them.
- We present them with the truth by connecting them to what God has done to reach out to them and provide salvation.
- Sin is the problem and the answer is salvation through Christ. Connect that fact with the issues of their life.
- Help them to see the facts and God provides all that we need (specific to their lives).
  - Our sin separates us from the God we need more than anything else.
  - Help them to see their sin’s role in the disconnect between them (their need) and God.
  - Clearly convey the facts of what God has done to bring them salvation: taking on human flesh, living life among us as one of us and teaching us God’s ways, allowing Himself to be rejected, tried, and condemned to death on a cross for our sin. Being buried in a grave. Rising from the dead and presenting Himself to His disciples who were eyewitnesses of His life, death and resurrection. Ascending into heaven and handing off to us the mission of telling the world about salvation in His name.



lost by choice: just deserts (we get what we ask for) and just wrath  
undeserved love: The Father's running to welcome

We need to be careful not to think of the Pharisees as "those guys." The Pharisees are us

Rescue: The rescue of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the patriarchs (Joseph and Judah et al)

## Worth Remembering (?Reality Check?):

- How Great is our God
- How truly great is our sin
- The inevitable and approaching end of all things
- The inestimable glory, power, and love of Jesus Christ

And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

--Joshua 24:15

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

--Philippians 3:8-9

Christ is the infinite God in one human body. While He was on earth, He had the same physical limitations any human experiences. But when He returned into heaven, Jesus sent His Spirit to fill everyone who believes in Him.

We receive much from the Holy Spirit: Power, words to speak, boldness in speaking, and guidance to the right opportunities. But He also grants us compassion, a desire to see others saved, and confidence that He is mighty to save.

δεήθητε (beseech, pray earnestly; to ask for with urgency, to plead, to beg—because of presumed need. it can also mean “to pray” Luke 8:28)

ἐσπλαγχνίσθη (had compassion; to experience great affection and compassion for someone – Louw & Nida – deep affection

ἐσκυλμένοι (troubled, harassed, bothered Luke 7:6).

ἐρριμμένοι (cast down, dejected, implying a loss of hope –Louw & Nida)

**Good Shepherd:** Love. Selfless. Compassionate. Rescues. Grace loves people just as they are but doesn't leave them that way. Conviction and compassion. Bold and gracious. Pursues. *I came that they may have life and have it abundantly* (John 10:10b)

### Contrast

**Thieves, robbers, hirelings:** Indifference. Self interested. Go along to get along. Tolerant. Accepts people just as they are and leaves them as they are; leaves them to their fate. Accepts. Neglects. *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy* (John 10:10a).

5/12: Counter Culture

5/19: Proclaim the Excelencies

5/26: ??

6/2: ??

6/9: Pentecost Sunday (?Peter: “We are witnesses”?)

### Outline:

- Steering away from ungodly behaviors: *all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander*
- Feeding on the truth of God's Word: *long for the pure spiritual milk*
- Growing into our salvation: *that by it you may grow up into salvation*
- Living out God's goodness to us in saving us: *if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.*
- Resting in the Lord's goodness (v 3) and not striving for the advantages of this world

κακίαν: malice; a strong dislike that desires to harm

δόλον: deceit; trickery; falsehood

ὑποκρίσεις: Pretense; giving the impression of having one motive or purpose while really having a different one, AND ...

φθόνους: to come or do first or before others; the desire to get ahead (?motives?)

καταλαλιάς: “talking down, speaking evil of;

γάλα: Milk

ἐπιποθήσατε: deeply desire; have a great affection for (?affection?)

τὸ λογικὸν ἄδολον

λογικὸν: true to the real and essential nature of something (Louw and Nida); of or for speaking or speech; of or belonging to the reason, logical (Liddel & Scott). NT: rational, spiritual, pertaining to the mind and soul.

## **Lent Subjects 3/17/19, 3/24/19, 3/31/19, 4/7/19, 4/14/19**

**April 19** = Good Friday

**April 20** = Easter

*Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! –Psalm 139:23-24*

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities. –Psalm 130:1-8*

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. –Psalm 23:1-4*

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. –Hebrews 12:1-2*

*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. –1<sup>st</sup> John 1:5-10*

*“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.” – Augustine of Hippo*

YHWH: Cf. *I am the Alpha and the Omega,*” says the Lord God, “*who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty* (Revelation 1:8). “The “is-ness” of God is expressive both of his presence and his existence. Neither concept can be said to be more important than the other” (TWOT, v. 1, pg. 214; see no. 484a). YHWH either is or sounds like an ancient verb meaning “be” (lexical form = “he is”). In Exodus 3, God introduces Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The Lord is that and more, and He introduces Himself to Moses as, “I Am who I Am.” He is about to demonstrate through Moses, to Israel, and to all the world just what that means. He is far more than an ancient God of an ancient people. He is who He is. All that is and all that will be (such as the Exodus that is about to happen and

the redemption brought through Christ) come from Him. The LORD, the God we worship, is self-existent and the very ground of all that exists and all existence.

And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

--Mark 9:14-29

**All Things:** *He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:32)*

**Supply Our Daily Needs:** *Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase (Psalm 85:12).*

**Become Like Him:** *Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:2).*

- **Supply All Our Needs:** *Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's (Psalm 103:2-5). And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:8).*
- **Answer Our Prayers:** *Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours (Mark 11:23-24).*
  - **Escape Corruption:** *I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more (Jeremiah 31:33b-34).*

Here is a small sampling of God's promises that we can lay hold of.

What God the Father is doing ...

What the Holy Spirit does

?Son / Word? ?Expresses and effects the Father's will?

Our role in the process

Creation and the events of life

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