

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

NOTE: This teaching on *God's Faithfulness* is to be used by National and Area Leaders during your yearly Leadership Development events. Feel free to make copies. Make the teaching personal and relevant for your leaders.

The Hebrew root from which the words translated "faithful" and "faithfulness" in the Old Testament means to prop, stay, or support. When applied to a person, it means *someone a person can safely lean upon*. The Greek word used in the New Testament means trustworthy or to be relied upon. (From Aglow's Bible Study, *God's Character*, p. 27)

Faithfulness implies stability, steadiness, certainty, and permanence. Faithfulness exudes from a place that is firmly established with endurance. Faithfulness is unchanging. Faithfulness never wavers. Faithfulness is a foundation that can be safely built upon with no concern for changes in the future. Faithfulness is a sure deal.

I Corinthians 1:9 says *God is faithful...* God is one who can safely be leaned upon. He is one who is steadfast in both affection and allegiance. He is firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty. When He says that He will do something, there is no doubt involved. There is no obstacle that can hinder Him from doing what He said He would do.

Once God has spoken, it is impossible for those words to return without completing the task they were sent to do. (Isaiah 55:11) He firmly adheres to His word. *Therefore, know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.* (Deuteronomy 7:9)

When God set the sun, moon, and stars in place, He was displaying His faithfulness. Without a doubt, we have day and night. The sun rises and sets. The moon provides light in the night. It is unchanging - relentless in the observance of duty. God established the order of the universe after Himself. He never changes. (Hebrews 13:8) He is the same, day by day, year by year, and generation by generation.

Psalms 89:1 gives instruction to us as followers of God, *"I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth, will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations."* We have a responsibility to allow the word of God to explode in us in ways that cause our minds to firmly grasp and understand that our God is faithful. Then, we are to turn and out of our mouths, we are to release into the world a loud sound that rings with the faithfulness of God. He cannot fail!

EXERCISE: See Handout God's Faithfulness – 15-20 minutes.
Provide instrumental music playing softly in the background

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HANDOUT

Reflect on times you have seen, firsthand, God's faithfulness to you and those you know. Write down a few instances that stand out in your mind. _____

Take the next 5-10 minutes to slowly read through each scripture, reflecting on God's faithfulness. Place a star besides those that have special meaning to you and record any thoughts the Holy Spirit is revealing to you about God's faithfulness.

- Psalm 36:5b "Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds"
- Psalm 89:24 "But My faithfulness and My mercy shall be with him"
- Psalm 119:86 "All Your commandments are faithful"
- Psalm 119:89-91 "Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides. They continue this day according to Your ordinances for all are Your servants"
- Isaiah 49:7b "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, because of the Lord who is faithful"
- Lamentations 3:22-23 "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness"
- Hosea 11:12b "But Judah still walks with God, even with the Holy One who is faithful"
- I Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able"
- I Thessalonians 5:24 "He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it"
- II Thessalonians 3:3 "But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one"
- I John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us"
- Revelation 19:11 "Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True"

(Over)

Take time to read through those scriptures, softly, and out loud, where you placed a star.

What do you think God wants to reveal to you about His faithfulness that He wants you to experience in the future? _____

How do you think He would want you to bring His faithfulness to those around you? _____

Take time to thank God for opening your eyes to His brilliant faithfulness in your life. Record any thoughts the Holy Spirit is showing you. _____

Purpose to revisit this handout within the next week and work through the exercise again.