

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



The Greatest Promise

LG Questions for 12/05/10

Getting Started

1. **Promises:** How many times would it take for you to stop trusting someone who broke their promise to you? Why? What is it about a person's promise that makes it important to you?

Getting Into the Bible

2. **Read Revelation 21:3-4.** What great promise has God made to those who love Him? How does this fulfill the desires of your heart and reverse what all of humanity lost in the Garden? (Genesis 3:6-10, 24) God made a similar promise to the people of Israel in Exodus 29:43-36. What kept them from enjoying the presence of God? (See Hebrews 3:12-19.)
3. **Read John 1:14 and Matthew 1:20-23.** How was God's promise to be with us fulfilled in Jesus? What words did His disciples use to describe how close they felt to God when they were with Jesus? (See 1 John 1:1-3 and John 14:7-9) What was it about Him that convinced them that He was more than just a man? Examples: Matthew 2:1-2, Luke 2:8-14, Luke 2:41-47, Luke 3:21-22, Luke 9:28-35, John 7:45-46, and John 20:26-28.
4. **Read John 1:10-13 and 1 Corinthians 2:8.** How did the world in general and Israel in particular react to the presence of God in Christ? What action on the part of Jesus enraged the religious leaders and made them want to kill Jesus? See Mark 11:15-18. Describe a time in your life when the thought of God's presence made you uncomfortable. Why?

Getting Personal and Practical

5. **Read John 14:21-23 and 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.** What is the condition for enjoying God's presence today? Flagrant sins like drunkenness, sexual immorality, and stealing are obvious ways to quench His Spirit. But just as detrimental are sins of the heart like selfishness, pride, greed, bitterness, envy, laziness, a need to control, and a desire to win at all costs. Which of these sins do you need to repent of, so that Christ can fill that space with His presence?