

YOOF Sunday 7th January 2007

Promises Promises 2 Big Deal

WHAT'S ON @ YOOF

Yoof tonight – Alpha 1 – Alpha starts tonight – you'll remember that it's especially for s3-4's – it will happen every Sunday – it will be in here, (the YOOF room) at 5.30 – there will be food and then a session and discussion led by Alan or one of the other leaders – and you can come and ask any question you like about the Christian faith over the course. It finishes by 7 so you can stay on for the rest of the YOOF evening. Remember too that though it's *particularly* for the S3-4's if you're an s5 or an S2 and you want to come – please do it's for you too! Tonight the theme - WHO is Jesus?

And then at 7pm **Beach Party** – a beach party and summer fun – Beach Volley ball – Beach games, limbo dancing – summer music etc Calum and Lesley are arranging – (pass over to them) what are we to bring?

Coming Soon Monopoly as you've never played it – in a few week's time we're going to be playing MIDI Monopoly – a big game with big dice in the hall one evening – and then we'll be planning and playing Mega-monopoly – a game for the church to play walking round the town. Start thinking about how the rules might work.

Don't forget the times – Alpha at 7 for s3-5 and those of the rest who want to come too – and Beach fun at 7

RECAP

Last week we started thinking about promises – we thought about :

How good we are at making promises?

How good we are at keeping them?

How good we are at trusting people who promise you things or to do something for you?

And we thought about whether there were some people who's promises mean very little? They are not to be trusted.

THINK for a moment have you made any promises to other people this week – something you would do for them, an arrangement to meet them or get them something. Did you keep it or break it.?

Memory verse 1 - Psalm 145 :13 can anyone remember it?

This is the most important thing about a promise – the trustworthiness of the promise keeper.

Have any of you played
Balderdash?
Risk?
Poker?

Discuss how the rules of these games are placed on tricking or kidding people to believe something that isn't true and this can be fun for a while....and how different that is from God's ways – His promises are to be trusted his Word is sure.. When he says something we know that it can be trusted.

So that is the *first principal* with God's promises. *We can take him at his word.*

Interlude 1

Memory Key Rings (Anne will explain and demonstrate)

Principal 1 . *We can take him at his word.*

Principal 2 – the one we're looking at this week is that *His promise are a deal – a two sided deal.*

Get into groups and discuss :

What is a deal? *Discuss how it is a TWO Sided agreement. The guy gives you a car – and you agree to pay him money over three years.. You get to go out to that party or that outing IF you tidy your room.*

What deals have you made in your life?

What was the best deal? The worst?

Were you ever let down in a deal?

Have you ever broken your part of the deal?

Activity 1

What's the Deal? To understand the principal of a bargain or an agreement the kids pull a deal card out of the deal box and then if they fulfil the task (their side of the deal) they are rewarded in true Youth Group style with a sweetie. (Don't tell the resident dentist).

Read the following verses

James 4 vs. 8 – What's the promise? What's the deal? *The deal is that God will come close to us IF we come close to him. How could you give someone a hug if they keep walking away?*

Jeremiah 29 vs. 13 What's the promise? What's the deal? *God promises to 'be found if we search for him with ALL our heart.*

What do you think closeness to God really is?

How do you think you could get closer to God this week?

Don't accept read the Bible pray every day etc as the answer here. Try and get a bit more practical. Okay how/when/where ar you going to read your Bible? For how long? How are you going to remember more of it (maybe keeping notes about things you want to ask one of the leaders here)

You might like to discuss what half heartedness and whole heartedness is

If we have time.... Look at the whole story in Jeremiah. The situation here is that the people of God are in exile. They far away from their country – lost and unhappy. They had been driven out of Jerusalem. Can you really imagine what it would be like if we were all uprooted and taken away to live in say a grotty bit of France? Through Jeremiah God promises even more than we've looked at so far. He says he has a plan for them. Read Jeremiah 29 vs. 1 and then vs. 10-14

What is the plan?

What is the promise?

Do you think that you can read these words and they speak directly to you?

What do you think about God having a plan for your life?

What is it?

How can you find out?

Interlude 2

Promise Box (Anne will explain and demonstrate)

Principal 1 – Psalm 145 : 13 – God's words are absolutely trustworthy

Principal 2 – God's promises are a two way thing – a deal.

This week then – make your deal with God based on James 4 vs 8